



Jesus reveals who God is

Through the life of Jesus we learn who God is. In the OT we see many characteristics of God. However one key characteristic is still missing. Namely that God wants to be our Father. We can be His children and heirs. Jesus says here that if we know Him, we also know the Father. Jesus and the Father are one.

John 14: 7

The expected Messiah

We discovered that a Kingdom of peace was predicted. In the OT this Kingdom is also known as the coming Kingdom or the day of the Lord. Many Jews await this day and know that the Messiah will come on that day. The Messiah shall come as a king and establish the Kingdom of peace. The NT says in many places that Jesus is that awaited Messiah.

Matt 16:16,17

Jesus asks Peter who he thinks He is. Peter then says: "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." Jesus said that only the Father of Jesus could reveal such things. Jesus sees Himself here not as the son of Joseph but as the Son of God.

This means that Jesus, as the Son of the Almighty, has also come to restore the dominion over earth. He is not only the Son but also the expected, anointed King.

Jesus, from the kingly line of David, the King

Both Mary and Joseph, Mary's husband, are descendants of David. David was the king of Israel. Mary and Joseph are also descendants of Abraham, the man with whom God made a covenant. Joseph is not the biological father of Jesus but he is the one whom God had chosen to look after Jesus.

Luke 2:48,49,50

The Jews knew that the awaited Messiah would come from the line of Abraham and David. They knew that He would be born in Bethlehem and would die on a cross.

What do the prophets say about the Messiah?

Gen 22:15-18

Isaiah 11:1,2

Micah 5:2

Isaiah 53:5-9

Yet still the Jews did not recognize Jesus when He came to earth. The Jews possibly had another understanding of the awaited Messiah or anointed King.

Servant

Before Jesus came to earth, Jesus was with God, and Jesus was God. He was in the heavenlies. From there He came down to earth.

What was Jesus' status when He came from heaven down to earth?

Philippians 2:5-8

The power of Jesus on earth was not in His appearance. He was a humble man. A servant of men. He had laid down His godliness and became a man.

How could Jesus become the son of a person?

We have learned that God made a covenant with Abraham. Through Abraham being willing to sacrifice his son, God chose Abraham's line to bring His presence on earth. Just as Abraham was willing to sacrifice his son Isaac, so was God willing to sacrifice His Son for the descendants of Abraham. The sacrifice of Jesus would reconcile mankind to God and break the power of Satan.

Mary was a descendant of the line of Abraham. She was a young girl, still a virgin. God chose her to get pregnant by His Spirit. The baby in Mary's womb came about by a miracle. Jesus was now coming to earth as a man. God came to earth in the body of a human.

What is Mary and Joseph's reaction when they hear from God about what is going to happen?

Luk 1:30-32,35

Matt 1:18-24

Jesus, Son of Man

Jesus was to live as a man on earth. He would feel and experience what people feel. He would be tempted, but would not sin. He hungered and thirsted. He was rejected. He had fears. He cried. He did not know everything and had to grow in knowledge. He would suffer pain and die as a person.

Matt 16:13-17



EXERCISE:

Have you gained an impression of Jesus through the last two studies? Write down for yourself what you believe about Jesus at this moment in time. Have you experienced Him?

Tell Jesus what has become clear to you and ask him to show more of himself to you, so that you can understand more of him and experience him. Tell him that you would like to meet him as He is (if you can pray this from your heart).

Discuss each part of the study with your mentor and tell your mentor what is not clear to you about Jesus.

PRINCIPLE 9

Jesus came to earth as a human being to let everyone hear and see who God the Father really is.



A large, empty rectangular box with a thin black border, intended for writing or drawing.

Joh 14:7

If you really know me, you will know my Father as well. From now on, you do know him and have seen him.

Matthew 16:16-17

16 Simon Peter answered, You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God. 17 Jesus replied, Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah, for this was not revealed to you by flesh and blood, but by my Father in heaven.

Genesis 22:15-18

15 The angel of the Lord called to Abraham from heaven a second time 16 and said, I swear by myself, declares the Lord, that because you have done this and have not withheld your son, your only son, 17 I will surely bless you and make your descendants as numerous as the stars in the sky and as the sand on the seashore. Your descendants will take possession of the cities of their enemies, 18 and through your offspring all nations on earth will be blessed, because you have obeyed me.

Isaiah 11:1-2

1 A shoot will come up from the stump of Jesse; from his roots a Branch will bear fruit. 2 The Spirit of the Lord will rest on him—the Spirit of wisdom and of understanding, the Spirit of counsel and of might, the Spirit of the knowledge and fear of the Lord—

Micah 5:2

2 But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, though you are small among the clans of Judah, out of you will come for me one who will be ruler over Israel, whose origins are from of old, from ancient times.

Isaiah 53:5-9

5 But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was on him, and by his wounds we are healed. 6 We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to our own way; and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all. 7 He was oppressed and afflicted, yet he did not open his mouth; he was led like a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before its shearers is silent, so he did not open his mouth. 8 By oppression and judgment he was taken away. Yet who of his generation protested? For he was cut off from the land of the living; for the transgression of my people he was punished. 9 He was assigned a grave with the wicked, and with the rich in his death, though he had done no violence, nor was any deceit in his mouth.

Philippians 2:5-8

5 In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus: 6 Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage; 7 rather, he made himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. 8 And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death — even death on a cross!

Luke 1:30-32, 35

30 But the angel said to her, Do not be afraid, Mary; you have found favor with God. 31 You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you are to call him Jesus. 32 He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, 35 The angel answered, The Holy Spirit will come on you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God.

Matthew 1:18-24

18 This is how the birth of Jesus the Messiah came about: His mother Mary was pledged to be married to Joseph, but before they came together, she was found to be pregnant through the Holy Spirit. 19 Because Joseph her husband was faithful to the law, and yet did not want to expose her to public disgrace, he had in mind to divorce her quietly. 20 But after he had considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. 21 She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins. 22 All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: 23 The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel (which means God with us). 24 When Joseph woke up, he did what the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took Mary home as his wife.

Matthew 16:13-17

13 When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, Who do people say the Son of Man is? 14 They replied, Some say John the Baptist; others say Elijah; and still others, Jeremiah or one of the prophets. 15 But what about you? he asked. Who do you say I am? 16 Simon Peter answered, You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God. 17 Jesus replied, Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah, for this was not revealed to you by flesh and blood, but by my Father in heaven.