

INTRODUCTION

1. Christmas as such has been set aside by the world as a day when the world, at least that one day, would acknowledge that Christ was born. The Bible knows nothing of Christmas as a special day of worship one time year.

2. The Christian every first day of the week acknowledges that Christ was born, that he died, that he arose from the grave, that he ascended back to sit at the right hand of God.

THE GREATNESS OF CHRIST1. HOW DO WE DETERMINE THE GREATNESS OF ANY MAN?

1. In this instance Christ, How great is Christ anyway?

2. I say; He is the greatest person who has lived or ever will live. I am obligated to prove this to you.

2. There are at least two ways to determine the greatness of Christ:

1. We must understand the situation into which he came and the appalling need of that situation.

2. To properly assess the greatness of Christ then, we must know the full measure of his achievement in that situation.

3. A look at the back ground of the situation:

1. During the long period between the breakdown of the first man and the coming of Jesus:

1. Limited contacts between God and men were almost all made with one particular group, the children of Israel.

2. There is a long record of failure occasionally interrupted by the shining obedience of:

1. An Abraham, Gen. 12:1-3; Heb. 11:8-10. Abraham was a great man but Christ was greater.

2. A Moses: Moses was a great man but Christ was great yet.

3. Caleb and Joshua on the border of Canaan. Num. 13, 14. Christ greater.

4. David going to meet Goliath. w/ Samuel 17 David a man after God's own heart but Christ was greater than David.

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SOME REASONS FOR THE GREATNESS OF CHRIST1. JESUS WAS DIFFERENT FROM ALL OTHERS

1. He was subject to the same laws as the people of his day.
 1. Unlike man of his day, he never came in conflict with those laws.
 2. False charges were necessary to secure conviction for his crucifixion. Matt. 27:20-23
2. He was exposed to the same temptations as man then and man today. Hebrews 4:15
 1. No man other than Christ can boast of that record.
3. He was opposed by the same pressures, yet he over came them all. In the gospels we see Jesus confronted with the same obstacles before which the human race had fallen. He overcame!
 1. Situation by situation, problem by problem, He went over the ground which had been lost showing that what man needed He had.

2. CHRIST WAS GREAT BECAUSE HE WAS NO RESPECTOR OF PERSONS.

1. He did not dabble in the political affairs of his day nor set one person above another.
2. He did not foment the Jew-Gentile nor Slave-master relationship of his day.
 1. He endeavored to teach men right relationships in all the relations of life. Acts 10:34,35

3. CHRIST WAS GREAT BECAUSE HE HAD POWER TO CHANGE MEN INTERNALLY. Two ways to change men:

1. Externally - Internally; therefore,
 1. Jesus did not come to get men out of hell but to get hell out of men;
 2. He did not come to get men into heaven but to get heaven into men.

4. PRESENT DAY EXAMPLE OF THE GREATNESS OF CHRIST

1. Guns of war silenced on Christmas Day.
2. Business has ground to a halt and there is an usual hush over the land.

5. CHRIST IS GREATER THAN ANY MANY BECAUSE:

1. He had power to change men internally so as to break down "the middle wall of partition between us," (Eph. 2:14) so making one new man

Neither Greek nor Jew, circumcision nor uncircumcision etc. nor black nor white nor red nor yell
in Christ Jesus. Col. 3:11.

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