

What We Believe Series

Part 3: In Jesus Christ His Only Son our Lord

Isaiah 43:1-7 RSV, Matthew 16:13-16 RSV

I. What's in a Name?

- the Christ (Greek word: *Christos*- Anointed one, Messiah)

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- Uses the definitive article “the”. (Not “A” christ, but “THE” Christ) In grammar (definitive article is), an adjective used before nouns, to limit or define their application -Noah Webster's 1828 Dictionary of American English

- Only (singularly begotten) Son “the” (definitive article) Son of the living God

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- Our Lord (Greek word: *Kurios*- supreme in authority, master. Translation from OT Hebrew word *Yahweh*)

II. Who is Jesus?

1. The _____ disagreed about who Jesus is.

John 8:51-53 (RSV) ⁵¹ Truly, truly, I say to you, if any one keeps my word, he will never see death." ⁵² The Jews said to him, "Now we know that you have a demon. Abraham died, as did the prophets; and you say, 'If any one keeps my word, he will never taste death.' ⁵³ Are you greater than our father Abraham, who died? And the prophets died! Who do you claim to be?"

Mark 6:14-16 (RSV) ¹⁴ King Herod heard of it; for Jesus' name had become known. Some said, "John the baptizer has been raised from the dead; that is why these powers are at work in him." ¹⁵ But others said, "It is Elijah." And others said, "It is a prophet, like one of the prophets of old." ¹⁶ But when Herod heard of it he said, "John, whom I beheaded, has been raised.

2. The _____ declared who Jesus is. (Matthew 16:16)

Matthew 16:16 (RSV) Simon Peter replied, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God."

- How did they know who Jesus was?

Matthew 4:18-22 (RSV) ¹⁸ As he walked by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon who is called Peter and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea; for they were fishermen. ¹⁹ And he said to them, "Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men." ²⁰ Immediately they left their nets and followed him. ²¹ And going on from there he saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee and John his brother, in the boat with Zebedee their father, mending their nets, and he called them. ²² Immediately they left the boat and their father, and followed him.

Matthew 16:17 (RSV) And Jesus answered him, "Blessed are you, Simon Barjona! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father who is in heaven.

John 6:67-69 (RSV) ⁶⁷ Jesus said to the twelve, "Do you also wish to go away?" ⁶⁸ Simon Peter answered him, "Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life; ⁶⁹ and we have believed, and have come to know, that you are the Holy One of God."

- a. They heard about him and accepted his invitation to follow him.
- b. It was revealed to them who Jesus was.
- c. They believed the revelation and continued to followed him.
- d. They came to know him for themselves in a deeper way.

- Jesus did not want people to be confused about his identity.

III. Final considerations
