

Apply The Word

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Message Info

Title:

Explore Pt. 6 -
Understanding Jesus Christ

Speaker:

Peter Privitera

Date:

December 16, 2012

Scriptures:

Col. 1:15-20

Download Explore outline:

<http://crosswaylife.files.wordpress.com/2012/11/explore.pdf>

Kid's Corner

1. Why is important to believe that Jesus is fully God and fully man?
2. Why do you think God chose to put the sins of the world on Jesus and not a goat or a cow?

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Explore Part 6: Understanding Jesus Christ

Notes: The words of Paul in Col. 1:15-20 are some of the most magnificent, descriptive, hallowed and attention-getting statements we have in all of Scripture regarding Jesus. This passage provokes both wonder and consternation. We are at the same time moved to worship and to scratch our heads. We should not be hindered but should press into understand what has been revealed. **Proposition:** Since the Son is worthy to receive all exaltation we must know why.

1. Who he is – His nature

- a. He is fully God and fully man. This concept is called the “hypostatic union” which is a Greek term used to describe the union of the two natures or essences, God and man, in Jesus Christ.
- b. The Definition of Chalcedon from 451:

We, then, following the holy fathers, all with one consent, teach men to confess one and the same Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, the same perfect in Godhead and also perfect in manhood; truly God and truly man, of a reasonable soul and body; consubstantial with the Father according to the Godhead, and consubstantial with us according to the Manhood; in all things like unto us, without sin; begotten before all ages of the Father according to the Godhead, and in these latter days, for us and for our salvation, born of the Virgin Mary, the Mother of God, according to the Manhood; one and the same Christ, Son, Lord, Only-begotten, to be acknowledged in two natures, inconfusedly, unchangeably, indivisibly, inseparably; the distinction of natures being by no means taken away by the union, but rather the property of each nature being preserved, and concurring in one Person and one Subsistence, not parted or divided into two persons, but one and the same Son, and only begotten, God the Word, the Lord Jesus Christ, as the prophets from the beginning have declared concerning him, and the Lord Jesus Christ himself has taught us, and the Creed of the holy Fathers has handed down to us.

2. What he does – His work

- a. John 3:16 says that the main reason why Jesus came. He lived a life of perfect obedience. He did what Adam could not do *and* what we could not do ourselves. He lived a life a perfect obedience, took the punishment for our rebellious sin and was raised to life again, the victor over sin and death forever.

Questions:

1. What do you think about the orthodox belief that Jesus Christ is fully God and fully man? Why is it critical that we understand and believe this truth? Which is harder for you to believe? *(See Definition from Chalcedon)*
2. Who is Jesus Christ? How have you responded to the message of his life? What difference has it made in your life? Can you describe in your own words how Jesus Christ brings you comfort?