

The Doctrine of Christ

Jerry Bridges

I. Introduction.

A. Jerry recommends two books on the gospel.

1. "The Gospel For Real Life" by Jerry Bridges.
2. "The Cross of Christ" by John Stott.

B. The gospel is the central message of the whole Bible. (Genesis 3:15; Luke 24)

II. The person of Christ is fully God and fully man.

A. Jesus is God in the flesh and was not "of the seed of Adam." (John 1:1ff, 14; John 1; Luke 1; Genesis 3:15)

1. He did not have the sin nature.

III. The work of Christ can be summarized in three things outlined in this passage: 2 Corinthians 5:21.

A. He knew no sin. He was sinless even though He grew up in a normal family. (Matthew 13:55)

B. God made Jesus sin so that he could be our substitutionary atonement. (Isaiah 53:4-6, 10)

C. We become the righteousness of God as Jesus became sin for us. (2 Corinthians 5:21; Philippians 3:9)

1. Jesus lived a perfect life that God credits us for.

2. Our sin through Adam and our own actions are charged to Christ's account. (Romans 5:12; Ephesians 2:1-3; 1 Peter 2:24)

a) Adam is the sinner representative of all people.

b) Jesus is the sinless representative of those who trust in Him. (Philippians 3:9; Galatians 2:20)

3. We are united to Christ in two ways.

a) We are united to Christ in a living way through the Holy Spirit. (John 15:5; 1 Corinthians 6:19)

b) We are legally united to Christ. See above. This makes the living union possible.

1) Jesus takes our moral penalty and gives us His perfect righteousness. (Romans 1:17, 3:21-22)

2) God does require absolute righteousness, but He takes Christ's righteousness and credits it to us. This satisfies God's justice.

Application questions:

1. Why is the gospel important?

2. What are three essential elements of the gospel?

3. What is the result of the gospel?
