

**Jesus Christ
Lord God and Savior**

Jesus Christ Lord God and Savior

Dr. Patrick R. Briney

Mission Boulevard Baptist Church
Fayetteville, Arkansas

Published in the United States of America in
2004

Mission Boulevard Baptist Church

P.O. Box 2935

Fayetteville, Arkansas 72702-2935

(479) 442-2565

mbbc@mbbc.us

<http://www.mbbc.us>

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Scripture quotations are from the King James
Version of the Bible.

Library of Congress Cataloging in Publication
Data

Briney, Patrick R.

Jesus Christ, Lord God and Savior

1. Jesus Christ 2. God 3. Apologetics 4. Chris-
tianity

I. Title

Printed in the United States of America.

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Preface

Isaiah 9:6 For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counseller, The mighty God, the everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.

God's Spirit continues to work in hearts convicting men of sin, righteousness, and judgment (John 16:7-11). My prayer is that you will allow the Word of God to instruct you concerning the identity of Jesus Christ as Lord God and Savior and open yourself to the guidance of the Holy Spirit who will guide you into all truth.

Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us. -Matthew 1:23.

Why is it important to know who Jesus Christ is?

Jesus warned that false prophets would come claiming to be Him or to know Him.

Matthew 24:24, “For there shall arise false Christs, and false prophets, and shall shew great signs and wonders; insomuch that, if it were possible, they shall deceive the very elect.” A false Christ claims the name of Jesus Christ but is not the same person.

Matthew 24:4 5, “And Jesus answered and said unto them, Take heed that no man deceive you. For many shall come in my name, saying, I am Christ; and shall deceive many.” Deception occurs when we are made to think wrong about who Christ really is.

Matthew 24:11, “And many false prophets shall rise, and shall deceive many.”

Believing in the real Christ is essential for salvation.

John 3:18, “He that believeth on him [Jesus] is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.”

Acts 4:12, “Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby

we must be saved.” Salvation comes only through the real Jesus Christ.

People must be saved from their sins and be born again in their souls, and Jesus Christ alone makes this possible. Jesus said in John 14:6, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life: No one comes to the Father except through me.”

Receiving another rather than the real Jesus Christ is rejection of God.

John 5:42 “But I know you, that ye have not the love of God in you. I am come in my Father’s name, and ye receive me not: if another shall come in his own name, him ye will receive.” Jesus is saying that people will more easily accept someone else as a false Christ than to receive Him as the real Christ.

John 8:44, “Ye are of your father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it.” Though the Jews were God’s special people, Jesus told them that they were not of God. Knowing God’s name and being religious in God’s name does not make one a child of God.

Jesus is God the Creator

Colossians 1:16 17 says of Jesus that, “For by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him: And he is before all things, and by him all things consist.” This shows that Jesus is both the Creator and the Sustainer all things (“*all things consist*”). In other words, without Him nothing would exist.

God alone is the Creator, therefore Jesus must be God.

Genesis 1:1 says, "In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth."

Nehemiah 9:6 says, "Thou, even thou, art LORD alone; thou hast made heaven, the heaven of heavens, with all their host, the earth, and all things that are therein, the seas, and all that is therein, and thou preservest them all; and the host of heaven worshippeth thee."

Isaiah 44:24, "Thus saith the LORD, thy redeemer, and he that formed thee from the womb, I am the LORD that maketh all things; that stretcheth forth the heavens alone; that spreadeth abroad the earth by myself."

Malachi 2:10 Have we not all one father? hath not one God created us?"

If God alone created us, and Jesus Christ is said to have created us, then Jesus must be God.

Jesus is God the Savior

Jesus Christ is appropriately named because the name "Jesus" means: "Salvation," or "the Lord is salvation," "the Lord Saves."

Matthew 1:21 and 25 say that His name is Jesus because He is the Savior of the world.

First Timothy 2:3 says, "For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Saviour."

Jude 1:25 says, "To the only wise God our Saviour, be glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and ever. Amen."

Second Peter 1:1 calls Him: "God and our Saviour Jesus Christ."

God alone is the Savior, therefore Jesus must be God.

Isaiah 43:11, “I, even I, am the LORD; and beside me there is no saviour.”

Isaiah 45:21 Let them take counsel together: who hath declared this from ancient time? who hath told it from that time? have not I the LORD? and there is no God else beside me; a just God and a Saviour; there is none beside me.

If God alone is the Savior, and Jesus Christ is said to be our Savior, then Jesus must be God.

Jesus is God the Redeemer

Colossians 1:20 says that Jesus, “made peace through the blood of his cross, by him to reconcile all things unto himself; by him, I say, whether they be things in earth, or things in heaven.” Why are all things reconciled to Jesus unless He is God?

Titus 2:14 speaks of Jesus saying, “Who gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works.”

God alone is the redeemer, therefore Jesus must be God.

Psalms 49:15 “But God will redeem my soul from the power of the grave: for he shall receive me.”

If God is the redeemer of our souls, and Jesus Christ is said to be our redeemer, then Jesus must be God.

Jesus is God the Almighty.

One may ask how it is possible that Jesus can die on the cross, sustain all things, and be God all at the same time. Consider Jesus' words as an answer when He says in Luke 18:27, "The things which are impossible with men are possible with God." We should not reject Jesus because He can do things that men cannot do. Rather, we should accept Him as God because He can do all things.

Isaiah 9:6 prophesied of Jesus saying, "For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counseller, The mighty God, the everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace." Among many other things that Jesus is, He is "the mighty God."

Jesus claims the divine name of God

John 8:58 records that the Jewish leaders wanted to stone Jesus because He said, "Before Abraham was, I am." Jesus was not using bad grammar. He was identifying Himself as God by claiming the eternal and divine title "I am."

God used this title to identify Himself to Moses. Exodus 3:14 says, "And God said unto Moses, I AM THAT I AM: and he said, Thus shalt thou say unto the children of Israel, I AM hath sent me unto you."

If God is "I AM," and Jesus Christ is "I AM," then Jesus must be God.

Jesus claims to be equal with God

In John 10:30-31, Jesus says "I and my Father are one." (Notice in verse 31, the Jews wanted to stone Him for claiming to be one with the Father.)

In John 5:23, Jesus says, "all men should honour the Son,

even as they honour the Father.” Jesus is worthy of equal honor with God only if He is God.

Philippians 2:6 refers to Jesus saying, “Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God.” Jesus was not claiming to be more than He was by being equal with God because He was God.

Jesus knows God as well as God knows Him.

In John 10:15, Jesus says “As the Father knoweth me, even so know I the Father.”

God has perfect and complete understanding of all things. To know an infinite God perfectly and completely would require the infinite mind of God. Therefore, in order for Jesus to have perfect and complete knowledge of God, Jesus must be God.

To know Jesus is to know God the Father.

In John 14:8-9, after Philip asked Jesus to show him the Father, “Jesus saith unto him, Have I been so long time with you, and yet hast thou not known me, Philip? he that hath seen me hath seen the Father; and how sayest thou then, Shew us the Father?” Seeing Jesus was the same as seeing the Father. This could only be true if Jesus was God.

To see Jesus Christ is to see the Father, and to see the Father is to see God, therefore to see Jesus is to see God. Jesus must be God.

Jesus accepts worship as God.

In John 20:28, Thomas realizes who Jesus is and says, “My Lord and my God.” Jesus accepted Thomas’ acknowledgment and blesses Thomas rather rebukes him.

Matthew 8:2, “...there came a leper and worshipped him.”

John 9:38, a healed blind man said to Jesus, "Lord, I believe. And he worshipped him."

Philippians 2:10-11 says, "That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father."

Hebrews 1:6 records that God the Father Himself commands worship of Jesus saying, "...let all the angels of God worship him."

Jesus said in John 5:23, "All men should honour the Son, even as they honour the Father."

God only must be worshipped, therefore, Jesus must be God.

Exodus 20:5, "Thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve them: for I the LORD thy God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation of them that hate me."

Exodus 34:14, God says, "For thou shalt worship no other god: for the LORD, whose name is Jealous, is a jealous God."

Matthew 4:10, Jesus rebukes Satan saying, "Then saith Jesus unto him, Get thee hence, Satan: for it is written, Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and him only shalt thou serve."

Worshipping any other but God should be rebuked.

Revelation 22:8 9, And I John saw these things, and heard them. And when I had heard and seen, I fell down to worship before the feet of the angel which shewed me these things. Then saith he unto me, See thou do it not: for I am thy fellowservant, and of thy brethren the prophets, and of them which keep the sayings of this book: worship God.

God alone should be worshipped and uniquely honored. Jesus accepts worship and says He is to be honored equally as God. Therefore, Jesus must be God.

Jesus proves He is God by forgiving sin.

Mark 2:5 12 says, "When Jesus saw their faith, he said unto the sick of the palsy, Son, thy sins be forgiven thee. But there were certain of the scribes sitting there, and reasoning in their hearts, Why doth this man thus speak blasphemies? who can forgive sins but God only? And immediately when Jesus perceived in his spirit that they so reasoned within themselves, he said unto them, Why reason ye these things in your hearts? Whether is it easier to say to the sick of the palsy, Thy sins be forgiven thee; or to say, Arise, and take up thy bed, and walk? But that ye may know that the Son of man hath power on earth to forgive sins, (he saith to the sick of the palsy,) I say unto thee, Arise, and take up thy bed, and go thy way into thine house. And immediately he arose, took up the bed, and went forth before them all; insomuch that they were all amazed, and glorified God, saying, We never saw it on this fashion."

Only God can forgive sins, and Jesus proved that He could forgive sins by healing the sick man. Jesus must be God.

Jesus the Son of God is God

Being the Son of God makes Jesus God.

John 5:18 says, "Therefore the Jews sought the more to kill him, because he not only had broken the sabbath, but said also that God was his Father, making himself equal with God." The Jews rejected Jesus' claim that He was God, so they considered His claim to be blasphemous and worthy of the death penalty.

In John 10:36, Jesus points out that being the Son of God is the same as being God: "Say ye of him, whom the Father hath

sanctified, and sent into the world, Thou blasphemest; because I said, I am the Son of God?" The Jews were threatening to stone Him during this incident because Jesus claimed to be God (John 10:33). They understood what He was saying and refused to accept Him as God.

John 19:7 shows us that being the Son of God is indeed the same as being God, and for this reason, Jesus was accused of blasphemy and worthy of the death penalty. During Jesus' trial, "The Jews answered..., We have a law, and by our law he ought to die, because he made himself the Son of God" (John 19:7). The Jews had no law that required killing someone because he claimed to be important. The Jews knew that Jesus was claiming to be God. They wanted to stone Him for blasphemy because He referred to Himself as God (John 10:33; John 5:18).

Jesus the Only Begotten Son of God is God

According to John 3:16, Jesus is the only begotten Son of God. He is uniquely the Son of God and different from the rest of us who have been born into the family of God (John 3:1-6).

Matthew 1:20 says that Jesus was conceived of the Holy Ghost not of a man. The meaning of this is clear in Matthew 1:23 which says, "Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us." Jesus is the only begotten Son of God because He is the only one conceived by the Holy Ghost and therefore God. Being begotten of God indicates Jesus' role as redeemer of man (begotten of flesh) not His origin (See "*Jesus is God is eternal*" below).

He is uniquely the Son of God because He is God manifest in the flesh having a human body prepared for Him for the purpose of offering a sacrifice for sins.

First Timothy 3:16 declares, "And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: God was manifest in the flesh."

Hebrews 10:5 explains why Jesus had a body prepared for

Him saying, "Wherefore when he cometh into the world, he saith, Sacrifice and offering thou wouldest not, but a body hast thou prepared me." And Hebrews 10:10 says, "By the which will we are sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all."

Hebrews 4:15 explains what it was like for Jesus to be in a human body saying, "For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin."

Second Corinthians 5:21 explains why a human body was made for Jesus saying, "For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him."

Jesus is God manifest in the flesh

First Timothy 3:16 says, "God was manifest in the flesh."

John 1:1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God, and John 1:14 And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth.

The Holy Ghost is God

Jesus is called the Son of God. Matthew 1:20 says, "for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Ghost." Because Jesus is called the Son of God and was conceived by the Holy Ghost, the only conclusion one can come to is that the Holy Ghost must be God.

The Holy Ghost conducts the business of the Father on earth, however, He is not a force. He is a person. Acts 5:1-4 indicates this clearly by saying, "But Peter said, Ananias, why hath Satan filled thine heart to lie to the Holy Ghost, and to keep back part of the price of the land? Whiles it remained, was it not thine own? and after it was sold, was it not in thine own power? why hast thou conceived this thing in

thine heart? thou hast not lied unto men, but unto God.” Two things can be observed in this passage. First, it is impossible to lie to a force. You can lie to a person not a force, in this case, to the Holy Ghost. Second, lying to the Holy Ghost is synonymous with lying to God. Therefore, the Holy Ghost must be God.

Three persons, but one God (Trinity)

The indisputable teaching of the Bible is that Jesus Christ is God. Understanding how He can be God is a separate issue altogether. One’s lack of understanding of how Jesus can be God does not alter the fact that the Bible teaches that He is God. Likewise, one’s lack of understanding of how God created the world does not alter the fact that He did create the world.

The Bible says that “the Father” is God, “the Son” is God, and “the Holy Spirit” is God. It also states that there is only one God. This means that the definition of the one, true God must include all three persons. Excluding any one of these three would require redefining who God is. Likewise, to say that all three persons of the trinity are three individual Gods (polytheism) would be incorrect. There is only one God. Therefore, all three individual persons (not more and not less) of the trinity must be thought of as one God.

There is one God

Isaiah 45:5 “I am the LORD, and there is none else, there is no God beside me.” Therefore, the one, true God is and includes the three persons: Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Second Samuel 7:22 Wherefore thou art great, O LORD God: for there is none like thee, neither is there any God beside thee, according to all that we have heard with our ears.

First Chronicles 17:20 O LORD, there is none like thee, neither is there any God beside thee, according to all that we have heard with our ears.

The word *trinity* is appropriate for the Biblical description of God because the word refers to three people considered as a single unit. The

Greek form of the word was first used by Theophilus (A.D. 168-183).

Luke 3:22 describes the individuality of the trinity (Father, Son, Holy Ghost) at Jesus' baptism saying, "And the Holy Ghost descended in a bodily shape like a dove upon him, and a voice came from heaven, which said, Thou art my beloved Son; in thee I am well pleased." Also, Jesus' individuality in contrast to the Father is seen each time He prayed to His heavenly Father. Likewise, in Hebrews 1:8, God the Father calls Jesus God saying, "But unto the Son he saith, Thy throne, O God, is for ever and ever: a sceptre of righteousness is the sceptre of thy kingdom."

Thus, the Bible says of God that He is only one, but this one God includes three individual persons who are each called God. This indicates that the three persons possess all the qualities attributed to God but are not independent of each other.

The three persons of the trinity are identical in every way and personify the qualities of God. When Philip asked Jesus to show him the Father in John 14:9, Jesus said, "Have I been so long time with you, and yet hast thou not known me, Philip? he that hath seen me hath seen the Father." There is no difference between Jesus and the Father, and they do not act independent of one another. This means that each is infinitely loving, just, and righteous. Each one feels, thinks, and concludes exactly the same. Each one is omnipresent, omniscient, omnipotent, and omnificent. Each one is eternal, majestic, sinless, and perfect. They are identical in every way and cannot be distinguished except for the roles they assumed for the purpose of redeeming man. Because they are identical, to know one, is to know the other, and to see one is to see the other. Therefore, it is appropriate to refer to each one as God because each one perfectly represents what God is.

The three persons of the trinity are identical, and together they are one God. They are distinguished by name and responsibilities because of the different roles they have assumed for the redemption of man. The different roles do not mean they possess different qualities or have added new qualities. Obviously, being God means that there is nothing new to Him. Instead, the differences between the persons of the trinity are characterized by the particular attributes they have chosen not to manifest. The Father's role preserves the Holy, judgment qualities of God. The Son's role is to be as man, identify with sinful man, and to be his Savior. The Holy Ghost's role is to convict men and to lead them to the Savior. These different roles allow them to maintain the full integrity of the Godhead while working among sinful men.

Philippians 2:5-8 explains why Jesus' role restricts Him saying, "Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus: Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God: But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men: And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross." First, Jesus did not think it robbery to be equal with God because He was God. He could only rob the position of God if He was not God and if the position did not belong to Him. Second, Jesus' role as a man required that He become a servant. As Hebrews 2:9 explains, Jesus "was made a little lower than the angels for the suffering of death, crowned with glory and honour; that he by the grace of God should taste death for every man." To fulfill His role, He surrendered the personal exercise of some of His qualities, which could and are none the less be exercised on His behalf through the Father and the Holy Ghost. Thus, Jesus is omniscient and omnipresent by means of the Father and the Holy Ghost.

In spite of becoming a man, Jesus was still God as First Timothy 3:16 says, "God was manifest in the flesh." The Bible is very clear that Jesus is God in the flesh. Becoming man required self-imposed limitations on Himself, but Jesus is still God and no less than God. Further, the only difference between Him and the Father is His role as a man. John 14:9 reminds us that seeing Jesus was the same as seeing the Father. Regardless which person of the trinity became a man, the result would have been the same because they are identical.

Jesus is eternally God

It is important to note that the Biblical designation of Jesus as "the Son" in contrast to "the Father" describes their roles not the origin of Jesus or their independence of each other (See "*Jesus the Only Begotten Son of God is God*" above). All three persons of the trinity are eternal without beginning or end.

In John 17:5, Jesus says that He existed before the world was created saying, "And now, O Father, glorify thou me with thine own self with the glory which I had with thee before the world was."

In John 8:58, Jesus claims the divine title of eternal, ever-

present existence saying, “Verily, verily, I say unto you, Before Abraham was, I am.”

Jesus indicates His eternal existence in Revelation 1:17 18 saying, “I am the first and the last: I am he that liveth, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive for evermore, Amen;” and in Revelation 1:11, He says, “Saying, I am Alpha and Omega, the first and the last.” And in Revelation 1:8 “I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the ending, saith the Lord, which is, and which was, and which is to come, the Almighty.”

Additional verses showing the deity of Jesus Christ.

A four point argument for Jesus being God the Savior.

1. Jesus is the Savior.

Luke 2:11, “For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.”

Philippians 3:20, “ For our conversation is in heaven; from whence also we look for the Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ.”

Second Timothy 1:10, “ But is now made manifest by the appearing of our Saviour Jesus Christ, who hath abolished death, and hath brought life and immortality to light through the gospel.”

2. God is the Savior.

Luke 1:47, “And my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour.”

Titus 1:3, “But hath in due times manifested his word through preaching, which is committed unto me according to the commandment of God our Saviour.”

First Timothy 4:10, "For therefore we both labour and suffer reproach, because we trust in the living God, who is the Saviour of all men, specially of those that believe."

3. There is only one Savior

Isaiah 43:11, "I, even I, am the LORD; and beside me there is no saviour."

4. Therefore, Jesus is God, the Savior.

A four point argument for Jesus being God the Shepherd

1. Jesus is the Shepherd.

John 10:11, "I am the good shepherd: the good shepherd giveth his life for the sheep."

Hebrews 13:20, "Now the God of peace, that brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant."

2. God is the Shepherd.

Psalms 23:1, "The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want."

3. There is one Shepherd.

John 10:16, "And other sheep I have, which are not of this fold: them also I must bring, and they shall hear my voice; and there shall be one fold, and one shepherd."

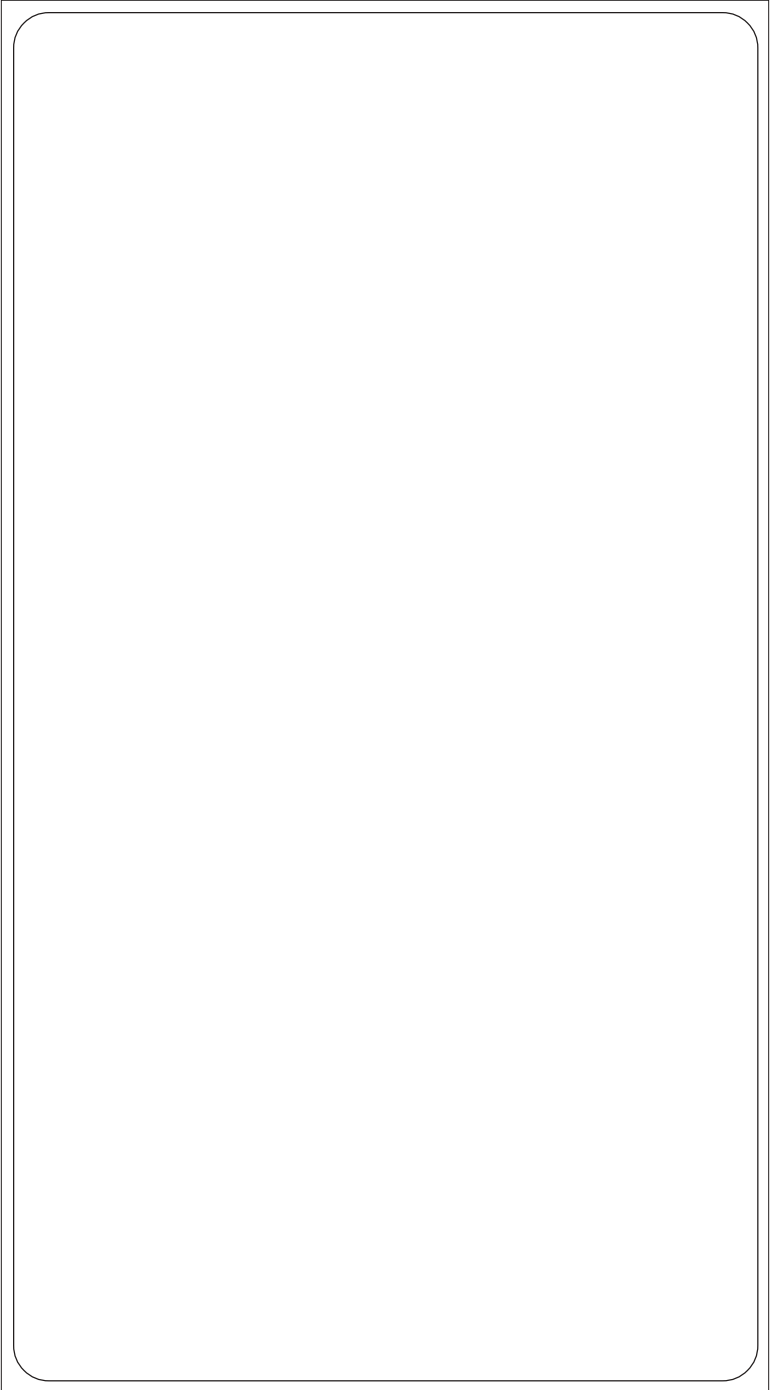
4. Therefore, Jesus is God, the Shepherd.

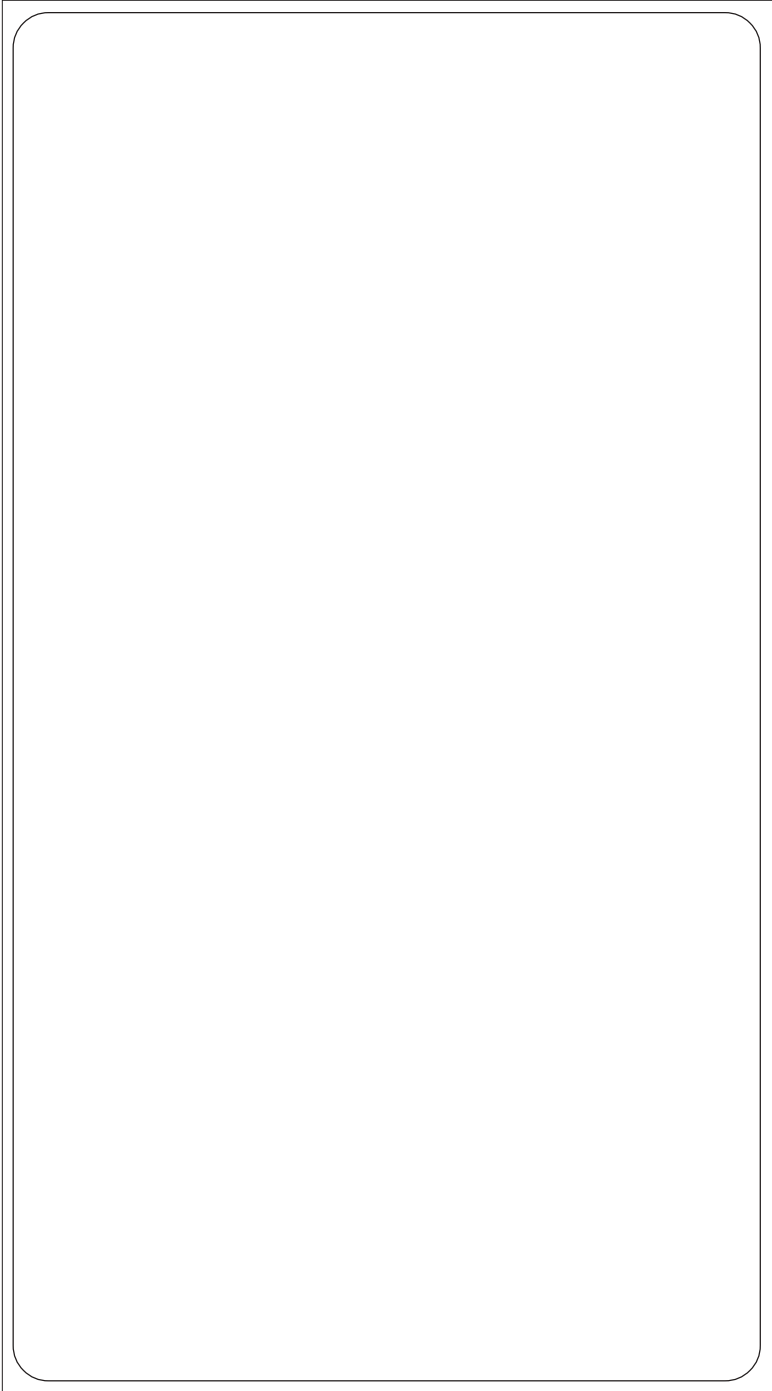
Only God could die for our sins

The Bible says that the wages of sin is death. And obviously we all die giving us the evidence that we are all sinners. But this is more than a physical death, it is a spiritual death (Romans 6:23; Revelation 21:8). It involves a death that equals the crime against an infinite God and an infinite moral law. It is an infinite death of separation from God. A payment less than this would be insufficient to fully pay for sin. For this reason, Jesus died, not for Himself but for us. He died as a substitute in our place, because only He was qualified: the infinite for the finite, the Creator for the created, God for man, the innocent for the guilty, the sinless for the sinful, and the helper for the helpless. God alone could take the full infinite weight of sin of every sinful soul and pay it in its entirety to an infinite degree. No angel, no man, no prophet, no animal could be worthy or capable of accomplishing this. If Jesus is not God, then no sufficient payment for sin has been made, and there is no salvation.

Honoring Jesus as Lord God and Savior

We honor Jesus Christ properly as our Lord God and Savior when we accept His work and His effort to save our souls without attempting to taint His work with our own. God does not want arrogance and vanity in our attempts to please Him. He wants simply humble dependence on Him, acknowledging that we desperately need Him. John 3:16, perhaps one of the most familiar verses of the Bible says, "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life."





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