

Who Is This "Jesus"?

by Bill Crews

Matthew identifies Him as *"the son (descendant) of David, the son (descendant) of Abraham,"* Matthew 1:1. *"Born of the seed of David according to the flesh,"* Romans 1:3.

Mark identifies Him as *"Jesus Christ* ("the anointed one," the promised Messiah of the Old Testament; Messiah also means "the anointed one"), *the Son of God,"* Mark 1:1.

John identifies Him as *"the Word"* that *"was in the beginning with God"* and that *"was God,"* the *"him"* through whom *"all things were made"; "and without him was not anything made that hath been made"* John 1:1-3; *compare* Genesis 1. *In him was "light and "life"* John 1:4-9. *This Word became flesh and dwelled among men, possessed glory, and was "the only begotten from the Father"* John 1:14. *John the baptizer said, "He was before me," even though John was born six months before Jesus,* John 1:15; Luke 1:26, 31, 36. *Grace and truth came through Jesus, and God was declared or made known to men by Him,* John 1:18.

The angel Gabriel, talking to Zacharias, called Jesus *"the Lord";* his son, John, was *"to make ready for the Lord a people prepared for him"* Luke 1:16-17.

The angel Gabriel, speaking to Mary, called Jesus, *"the Son of the Most High"* (Luke 1:32) and said, *"The holy thing which is begotten shall be called the Son of God"* Luke 1:35.

Elisabeth, by the Holy Spirit, referred to Mary as *"the mother of my Lord,"* and the babe in her womb, who was to *"be filled with the Holy Spirit, even from his mother's womb"* (Luke 1:15), leapt with joy at the sound of Mary's voice, Luke 1:41-43.

The angel informed Joseph that Mary's child was to be named *"Jesus"* (a shortened form of a Hebrew name meaning "Jehovah's salvation") because *"it is he that shall save his people from their sins,"* Matthew 1:21. Furthermore, He would be called *"Immanuel,"* a name meaning *"God with us,"* Matthew 1:23.

Zacharias, by the Holy Spirit, referred to Jesus as *"the Lord"* (Luke 1:76), as *"a horn of salvation"* (Luke 1:69) who would bring *"redemption"* (Luke 1:68).

The angel of the Lord to the shepherds called Jesus *"a Saviour, who is Christ the Lord"* Luke 2:11. Simeon had been told by the Holy Spirit that he would not die till he had seen *"the Lord's Christ,"* Luke 2:26. And by the Holy Spirit he addressed God and called Jesus *"thy salvation,"* Luke 2:30.

The wise men called Jesus *"the King of the Jews"* (Matthew 2:2), and Herod the King acknowledged Him as *"the Christ"* (Matthew 2:4).

The chief priests and scribes, who were asked by Herod where the Christ should be born, answered, *"In Bethlehem of Judaea"* and quoted Micah 5 :2, a passage that also says, *"Whose goings forth are from of old, from everlasting."*

When the wise men finally found the young child Jesus, they fell down and worshiped Him and offered Him gifts, Matthew 2:11. A mere man is not to be worshiped (Acts 10:25-26). An angel of God is not to be worshiped (Revelation 22:8-9). Only God is to be worshiped (Matthew 4:10; Revelation 22:9). Therefore, Jesus is God!