

The Central Idea of the Bible

by Benjamin Franklin

“Simon Peter answered and said, ‘You are the Christ, the Son of the living God’” — Matthew 16:16

What, then, is the great affirmative proposition, lying at the bottom of all faith, and hope, and everlasting consolation? What, then, is the great truth of all truth, that is under all and supports all?

It is the truth concerning the Christ, the Anointed of the Father, full of grace and truth; that He is the Christ, the Son of the living God.

It is not that he is anointed. Aaron was anointed, David was anointed, and so were many others; but Jesus is **THE CHRIST**, or **THE ANOINTED**, in a sense above all others.

He is not simply Son of God, or a Son — there were many sons of God —but he is above all these; he is **THE SON**.

But this is not all; he is not only the Son of God, but of **THE LIVING GOD**. There were lords many, and gods many; but **THE LIVING GOD** is above all, and through all, and in all.

This proposition concerning Christ is one of the most complete propositions ever uttered, and has the definite article inserted in three of the most important places in it possible. He is the Christ, the Son of the living God. All rests on this. This is the central idea of the Bible. It is the center of attraction in the spiritual system, as the sun is of the solar system, and everything else revolves round this.

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