

## Near the Cross

03-Jul-09

Dear Brother Scott,

You wrote to Dave several references seeking to explain from Scriptures that Jesus is the same person as Christ suggesting the doctrine first canonize by the Emperor Constantine, that Jesus pre-existed as Christ. You have deployed your references to counter the *mustard seed's* doctrine, advocated by Dave, that Jesus was begotten by God and that Christ, a different person, is the Eternal Son of God without beginning (conception) of days. Some may be impressed with your dissertation; however, like any witness on the stand in a court of law, credibility and freedom for the accused cannot be measured until testimony is placed under cross examination and passes that test. Therefore, to preserve us, we need to hear the Lord's side as He unfolds the Scriptures. Remember He said, "**he that receiveth whomsoever I send receiveth me...**" —John 13: 20. Sadly, the forum, by their excessive love for the men whom the Lord deployed yesterday through His Spirit of Prophecy (SOP), has left their first love and has lost the benefit of the "cross". Everything that they teach is skewed by the influence of the partial prophecies of EGW, VTH, and even the Papacy making them search the Bible from those 'darkly-stained glasses' seeking only to validate the themes of their second and third lovers. This adds new meaning to the familiar rhapsody, *Jesus Keep me Near the Cross*. To avoid the benefit of "cross examination", you present your case via the forum which has excommunicated or disfellowshipped my work therefrom by blocking it and all who support it. In essence, your dissertation only has validity when presented in that vacuum. Resultantly, to the superficial reader, your arguments may seem plausible.

All your references showing that Jesus and Christ were names that were used synonymously have been thoroughly addressed. *Deut 18* explains that the Prophet would not use His identity but that Christ would put His words in the Prophet's mouth and that the Prophet was to speak His, Christ's words, in His, Christ's name. Moses taught and **◆◆◆WROTE◆◆◆** the following:

**"The Lord thy God will raise up unto thee a Prophet from the midst of thee, of thy brethren, like unto me; unto him ye shall hearken. According to all that thou desiredst of the Lord thy God in Horeb in the day of the assembly, saying, let me not hear again the voice of the Lord my God, neither let me see this great fire any more, that I die not. And the Lord said unto me...I will raise them up a Prophet from among their brethren, like unto thee, and will put my words in his mouth and he shall speak unto them all that I shall command him. And it shall come to pass that whosoever will not hearken unto my words which he shall speak in my name, I will require it of him"** —Deut 18: 15-19.

Notice, Jesus, the self-defined Fulfiller of this prophecy was scheduled to speak using Someone Else's name. The only other name that He used was Christ proving that He and Christ were different personalities. Remember, Jesus was given His name from Gabriel who "**stand(s) in the presence of God**". Accordingly and by all rights, everyone who honors the Father should refer to Him as Jesus. If the One conceived in the womb was Christ, then Christ—not Jesus, not Jesus Christ, or even "the Christ", but Christ— should have been His designated name. The Gospel of Luke explains, "**And when eight days were accomplished for the circumcising of the child, his name was called Jesus, which was so named of the angel before he was conceived in the womb**" —Luke 2: 21. Remarkably here, we are not only reminded that Jesus began His life in the womb or was conceived and that His name was—not Christ but— Jesus, we are also shown that He was only eight days old—not eternal— and that His flesh came forth like that of all males: It was imperfect, Jesus needed to be circumcised. Had He pre-existed as Christ, then Christ having mandated the custom of circumcision some 1500 years beforehand, would have certainly complied with His own law. Beyond that, we must not allow the simple point to be missed: You vacuously argue that Jesus was called Christ and that this proves that they were one and the same people. But your argument ignores the command of Gabriel, a

## THE MUSTARD SEED CHRONICLE 03-Jul-2009

---

command which Mary and Joseph honored. Had Mary been commanded to give to Him another name, Christ, then such a mandate should have been likewise recorded so that humanity may honor heaven's designated name. Remember, the MSA proves that Christ was a different person with a different name; consequently Moses' promise must apply: Jesus, the promise Prophet, was scheduled to teach in the name of another, Christ, at a time when He could teach, the day of His anointing. So, in final analysis, the mandate for the name, Jesus, was conveyed to Mary before Jesus was "CONCEIVED" (begun) in her womb. This fact, one which you conveniently and perhaps even deceptively ignored—a fact which demands that you hide from the cross—answers all of your supposed Bible evidence. In fact, Jesus Himself used this God-given name after Calvary when He met Paul on the road to Damascus. He said, "**I am Jesus whom thou persecutest**"—Acts 9:5.

If you are not yet convinced, then you must explain who was the power that descended like a Dove upon Jesus and Abode upon Him. It could not have been the Comforter, for by Jesus' own Testimony, the Comforter could not come to do His work until after the time when Jesus/Christ left. This was not just necessary; it was "expedient" for all true disciples. He said, "**Nevertheless I tell you the truth: It is expedient for you that I go away: for if I go not away, the comforter will not come unto you; but if I depart, I will send him unto you...he will guide you into all truth**"—John 16:7, 13. Yet, with the arrival and the continued abidance of the Dove throughout the duration of Jesus' ministry (John 1:32), Jesus taught truth and righteousness; He also began to perform miracles. The only reason for the expediency of His departure was so that another Power, the Comforter, could bless the Disciples. So, you must answer the question, if not Christ, who was the Dove who aided Jesus in His work? Moses' Testimony delivers the answer, an answer first revealed by none other than Derek, the Mustard Seed, whom you oppose. He told us that Christ would hide Himself upon the Prophet and use His body as a shield to teach making the conclusion that Christ was the Dove. Thus does this explain why the Bible credits Jesus' work to Christ calling Him Christ or Jesus Christ, the only names that Jesus used. He was never called Jesus Father or Jesus Holy Spirit. Putting it succinctly, we need to read and believe Moses' testimony in order to discern the name, the identity of Jesus and Christ. The Lord validated this conclusion by defining the only true Christians showing that they are those who believe on Him as He was defined—not by Paul, Peter, John, the Pope, etc, but—by Moses. He said, "**For had ye believed Moses, ye would have believed me: for he wrote of me. But if ye believe not his writings, how shall ye believe my words**"—John 5:46,47. With this reality now brought to view again by those who allow Jesus to keep them near the cross, you personally must now be asked, "why do you present yourself on a Christian forum when you are not a Christian, you are not one who believes the *Testimony of Jesus* as promised in Moses' writings?"

In your zeal without knowledge, you continue to make the following claim:

*"The Scriptures show through more than one author of Holy Writ the same thing. Jesus IS Christ. Please note that CHRIST suffered, which is Jesus. ACTS 18:5 & ACTS 18:28 are similar to this verse also."*—Your E-mail Thurs, July 02, 2009, 8:40 PM

Your quandary is made plain today by the true embrace of the Gospel that was taught by the Comforter-inspired disciples. It teaches a dual revelation of the identity of Christ, one, a milk application, and the other, a strong-meat application. Paul tells you that when the church matures in the day of perfection the righteous will leave the milk doctrine and embrace a strong-meat definition of Christ. This was the Gospel that the NT Church taught and in *Gal one* a warning is issued for any who deviate from that Gospel pronouncing a curse on any such teacher. Such a cursed damnation applies to all who ignore the fact that they, during the NT age, only had a partial understanding of Christ. Christ affirms this concept by telling us, "**No man knoweth who the Son is, but the Father, and who the Father is but the Son, and he to whom**

**the Son will reveal**” —Luke 10: 22. Quite humorously, your litany of Bible verses, defeats your argument. This is so since you show that all the Apostles taught the same doctrine of Christ, as evident by the Scriptures that you cite. The humor and the irony is that, since they all also taught the Gospel of partial understanding, showing that their definition of Christ would change in the perfect day, then we can safely conclude that Christ did not reveal His identity to them, and they fall under the Lord’s definition of “no man knoweth”. This point is made doubly certain by virtue that they did not use Moses’ definition of Christ, the definition which the Father handed to us through Christ so as to define a true Christian. Thus, you are cast in a very serious dichotomy: Either you must look for the man to whom Christ promised to reveal His identity (the Mustard Seed), or you must face the Lord’s rejection for refusing to grow from childhood to maturity. Paul defines this dichotomy well. He said,

*“For when for the time ye ought to be teachers, ye have need that one teach you again which be the first principles of the oracles of God, and are become such as have need of milk, and not of strong meat. For every one that useth milk is unskillful in the word of righteousness: for he is a babe. But strong meat belongeth to them that are of full age, even those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil. Therefore LEAVING the principles of the doctrine of Christ, let us go on unto perfection...”*—Heb 5: 13,14, 6: 1.

Dave, a man whom you audaciously seek to teach when instead you should be seated and silenced so as to be taught by him or his teacher, men who are indeed, by Paul’s validation, ones that are **“skillful in the word of righteousness”**, he has given to you the Lord’s perfecting light, and has rightly defined for you Christ’s identity. You too can be identified as a Bible-honored, Paul-lauded teacher of the divine oracles by simply discerning the answer to one easy question: What doctrines of Christ have you **“LEFT”** to exemplify your skill in the Word? Regrettably, the answer, based upon the self-defeating Scriptures that you offer to Dave, is that you have no doctrinal substance; you cannot **“rightly divide the word of truth”**; you have not **‘left the principles of the doctrine of Christ’** in order to receive the Lord’s highly-valued perfection. Instead, to avoid the sting of careful scrutiny, you and the forum find yourselves running and hiding from the truth acting—not like mature, spiritual adults but instead— like **“babes”**, like a child with his hand over his ears refusing to hear while he loudly, repetitively, and quickly utters his simple belief so as to drown out the unpopular truth being delivered to him. Such will not win for you favor from the Lord. To win His approval, instead of being locked in spiritual immaturity, you need to hear your views under careful inspection. When you change, if it is still possible, you will not hate doctrines that disagree with your age-old, inherited presumptions about the Bible. Instead, you will live out the theme of that old gospel song, ***Jesus, keep me near the cross; there a precious fountain, Free to all, a healing stream, Flows from Calvary’s mountain.*** All men, in every age of the church, had to suffer the sting of cross examination; the righteous chose to divest themselves from doctrines which they perceived to be fundamentally right and immoveable for doctrines of the Bible. They all thought that their prophet was the last one to be sent by heaven. But with the saints, men who embrace the *mustard seed*, they begin to love **“cross examination”**. Instead of closing all channels of light, they recognize that it was ***at the cross, at the cross where they first saw the light and the burden of their heart rolled away, it was there by faith they received their sight, and now they are happy all the day.***

You too can have your burdens rolled away. You too can rejoice as the MSA’s literature is available to you free of charge. It will remove your burden of sin, your burden of sickness, your burden of vegetarian pretention, your burden of death, and your burden to receive divine approval. By hearing these words from Christ, you can escape the curse of *Gal one*, and you can see the perfection of the Gospel which the apostles promised to us.

Sincerely yours to grow in grace and in truth,

Derek