

# The Glory that Is Christ

by Jeremy James



The enemies of Christianity have conducted a long campaign down the centuries to convince the world that Jesus was a very good man – possibly the most righteous, most holy, and most excellent man who ever lived – but that he was not divine. We need not concern ourselves here with the countless ways they have tried to do this. However, despite the continued allegiance to the doctrine of the divinity of Christ among true believers, the campaign has had an impact on the way the church, in its institutional form, has presented the person of Christ to an unbelieving world.

Where the church should have been celebrating the kingship, priesthood, and divine sonship of Christ, not to mention the absolute authority granted him by his Father in all things and his imminent return to earth to assume the throne of David, the church has been largely content to focus primarily on his role as Savior. This, of course, is a truth beyond measure but, unless it is expanded to express the fullness of Christ, it tends to portray Jesus as a person who manifested briefly on the world stage and, having completed his difficult mission, disappeared from the earth.

## **The immensity of Who He Is**

In a sense, they have taken their portrait of Jesus primarily from the gospels of Matthew, Mark and Luke, and forgotten the incredible elaboration of his divine nature which may be found elsewhere in the Bible. The Old Testament is taken as an introduction to the four gospels, while the remaining New Testament writings are treated largely as a commentary on the earthly mission and teachings of Jesus.

This is perfectly fine as far as it goes, but it does not go far enough. It leaves many believers with a picture of Christ which consists mainly of miracles and parables. In doing so it misses, at least in part, the great truth to which Jesus alluded when he said: **“lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world [age].” (Matthew 28:20)**

Christians who speak of Jesus in these terms – and there are many – are greatly understating his astounding spiritual status! After all, he is the one by whom and for whom all things were made! He is the one who sustains all things and who, through his work on Calvary, redeemed the whole of creation from destruction. He is the one who came as a Lamb at his first coming and who will shortly return as a Lion, the eternal undisputed ruler of the entire earth.



**“...for the joy of the LORD is your strength.”**

**- Nehemiah 8:10**

The Enemy wants us to think of him primarily as the man from Nazareth and to forget that the man from Nazareth is the Son of God from heaven.

We know that our Savior is King of Kings, the creator of heaven and earth, and the Son of our Heavenly Father, but, generally speaking, we fail to convey this to others as we should. In an age when discipleship is sorely neglected and doctrine is poorly understood, we may even struggle with this ourselves!

We are given glimpses here and there in God’s Word which suggest the immensity of Who he is. One of the most startling may be found in the book of Revelation:

**“And the city had no need of the sun, neither of the moon,  
to shine in it: for the glory of God did lighten it,  
and the Lamb is the light thereof.”**

**(Revelation 21:23)**

What a remarkable statement about our Savior. We know well the scene with Elijah and Moses, on the mount of Transfiguration, where Jesus is shown in his glory – **“And was transfigured before them: and his face did shine as the sun, and his raiment was white as the light.” (Matthew 17:2)** – but the scene in Revelation, where a vast area is irradiated with the exceeding brightness of his Person, is far more startling: **“and the Lamb is the light thereof.”** The sun is no longer needed!

### **Reflecting on the glory and magnitude of Christ**

We need to meditate on verses like this in order to comprehend, if it were possible, the glory and magnitude of Christ as he will manifest to our eyes in the age to come.

In our sin-damaged condition we can perceive this light only through the eyes of faith. Alas, those who lack faith must walk in darkness. The Word of God tells us that those who reject Christ are rejecting the light that would expose their deeds and reveal their inner corruption. John the Baptist was the forerunner of Christ, the one who called men to repent, to turn their backs on darkness and ask the LORD to send His wonderful light into their lives. Only when we see our need for a Saviour can we find Christ. And when this happens we are born again.



**The false light of mysticism.**

Satan hates the Light, but in order to inveigle man, he must offer a false light. This is the counterfeit light of mysticism, the so-called light of Freemasonry and Kabbalah. The coming One World Religion will draw men further and further into this false light. The path of Gnosis, of self-illumination, is a ghastly lie which binds the minds of men and makes it next to impossible for them to hear or even tolerate the Gospel. As the Apostle Paul said:

**“...the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them. (2 Corinthians 4:4)**

It is significant that the very first words spoken by God were **“Let there be light.”**

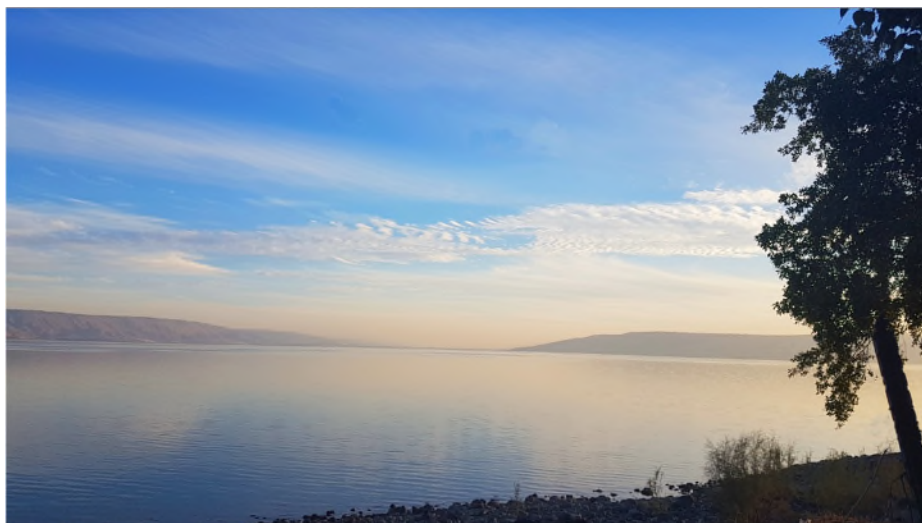
Jesus said: **“As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.” (John 9:5)**

After he left this earth he sent **“another Comforter”** to live and abide within us until the end of the age. As true believers we are sealed with the Holy Spirit. The church itself is the light of the world, a light which shines more brightly as the world sinks further into darkness:

**“But the path of the just is as the shining light, that shineth more and more unto the perfect day.” (Proverbs 4:18)**

### **The night cometh, when no man can work**

Believers at this time are greatly grieved that the light of the church is seemingly eclipsed by the spiritual darkness that now envelops the earth, but this is how it must be. Recall what Jesus said, not to the Pharisees, but to the plain people of certain villages around Galilee: **“Woe unto thee, Chorazin! woe unto thee, Bethsaida!” (Matthew 11:21 and Luke 10:13)**. The invitation had been offered and all the evidence they could ever need was made freely available, but they rejected the gift. Not even the presence of Jesus in their midst, the living light of our salvation, could lead them to repent.



**Sea of Galilee**

Bethsaida, which means “house of fish,” was a small fishing village on the western shore of the Sea of Galilee and home to several of the Apostles. Chorazin was another small village, not far from Capernaum. Both were in the region of Zebulun and Naphtali to which Isaiah was referring when he said: **“The people that walked in darkness have seen a great light: they that dwell in the land of the shadow of death, upon them hath the light shined.” (Isaiah 9:2)** Matthew later cited this passage, as follows:

**“The land of Zabulon, and the land of Nephthalim, by the way of the sea, beyond Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles; The people which sat in darkness saw great light; and to them which sat in the region and shadow of death light is sprung up.”  
(Matthew 4:15-16)**

To those who have found Christ, none of this is easy to understand! Why on earth would anyone knowingly reject the gift of salvation?



The author of the Epistle to the Hebrews touched on this when he said:

**“How shall we escape, if we neglect so great salvation; which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord, and was confirmed unto us by them that heard him; God also bearing them witness, both with signs and wonders, and with divers miracles, and gifts of the Holy Ghost, according to his own will?” (Hebrews 2:3-4)**

## Millions of lonely souls

We are surrounded by millions of lonely souls who continue to walk in condemnation, beguiled by the glitzy baubles that the Enemy is using to entice and enslave his victims. Nevertheless, the Apostle Paul clearly states that the witness of God is readily seen in the works of creation that surround us and that those who refuse to pursue Him are without excuse.

If the hour we are now in can teach us anything, it is the horrifying power of sin.

It reveals also the awful pride of man. The wicked king, Ahab, was so shocked by the judgment set before him by Elijah that he repented:

**“And it came to pass, when Ahab heard those words, that he rent his clothes, and put sackcloth upon his flesh, and fasted, and lay in sackcloth, and went softly. And the word of the LORD came to Elijah the Tishbite, saying, Seest thou how Ahab humbleth himself before me? because he humbleth himself before me, I will not bring the evil in his days: but in his son's days will I bring the evil upon his house.” (1 Kings 21:27-29)**

We would never have expected a man such as Ahab to set aside his pride in this way, but he did. What is more, despite the wicked nature of his deeds, the LORD heard his prayer and said to Elijah: **“Seest thou how Ahab humbleth himself before me?”**

So great is His mercy!



**Elijah on Mount Carmel**

## **An army of men like Ahab**

The whole world today is controlled by an army of men just like Ahab, all working together to enslave mankind. But it is difficult to see how many of them will do as Ahab did and humble himself before God. Perhaps one or two will, but the rest are implacably bent on doing what Nimrod attempted shortly after the Flood. They want to rule the world and satisfy their ruthless ambitions. They glory in their pride and foolishly believe all the lies that Satan has used to ensnare them.

They like to imagine they are “enlightened” or “illuminated” and that they have a special connection with the “Ascended Masters”, when in reality they have fallen under the influence of powerful demons. Directed by their master, Satan, these demons will exploit the Illuminati until they have served their purpose.



**Few seem to know how late it is.**

## **The children of wickedness are obsessed with death**







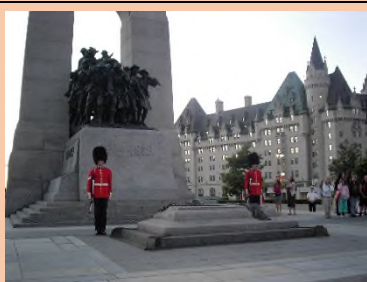


As we noted in several of our previous papers, the Illuminati are obsessed with death. The Word of God tells us that they have made a covenant with death and aligned themselves with the rebellious hoards of hell:

**“We have made a covenant with death,  
and with hell are we at agreement”  
(Isaiah 28:15)**

They expect this demonic covenant to protect them from the fierce retribution of God when Christ returns to the earth!

Those who are planning monstrous acts of genocide – as the Illuminati are today – like to celebrate death. There is only one national monument which is common to virtually all nations on earth – the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. These high-profile monuments are dedicated to the unidentified remains of the countless soldiers butchered in the senseless wars waged by the servants of Satan. For this purpose they select just one victim, “the unknown soldier,” and inter him with high ceremonial honors.

The public perceive this as some kind of distinction, when in reality, in the strange world of occult symbology, it is a mockery of the ‘cannon fodder’ whose shed blood keeps the machinery of power in motion. One nameless, random victim represents all the victims who have been sacrificed for no purpose. Even the dignity of a name, the emblem of our humanity, is stripped away.

		
<b>USA</b>	<b>Germany</b>	<b>India</b>
		
<b>Australia</b>	<b>United Kingdom</b>	<b>Russia</b>
		
<b>Canada</b>	<b>Italy</b>	<b>France</b>
<b>Tomb of the Unknown Soldier – just a few examples.</b>		

### The ritualization of death

In his fine study, *British Butchers and Bunglers of World War One*, Australian historian John Laffin describes the bizarre procedure by which the corpse of the “unknown” soldier was selected:



As the war ended there came the poetic idea of the ‘Unknown Warrior’, the victim who would forever represent all the dead servicemen of the war. A blindfolded British officer ‘of very high rank’ – a general, in fact – was led into a hut containing the remains of six unidentified soldiers brought from the various battlefronts. He then groped about alone until he touched a coffin. This was the one taken back to Westminster Abbey and buried with all the honours that the nation could provide. [p.17]

This strange ritual reeks of Freemasonry: The blindfold; the uniform; an officer of high rank; a man alone in a room; blind searching (for death!); the coffins; the dead bodies; and a scene forged in violence and bloodshed.



The ritualization of death is pleasing to the Wicked. As the Word of God says: “... **he that sinneth against me wrongeth his own soul: all they that hate me love death.**”

But Christ came to destroy death! He triumphed over all the works of darkness and made it possible for all who repent to attain eternal life.

The prophets said in advance that he would do this:

**“He will swallow up death in victory” (Isaiah 25:8)**

**“I will ransom them from the power of the grave;  
I will redeem them from death:  
O death, I will be thy plagues;  
O grave, I will be thy destruction”  
(Hosea 13:14)**

Paul, the apostle to the gentiles, confirmed in glowing terms that our Saviour, Jesus Christ, had done as the prophets foretold:

**“The last enemy that shall be destroyed is death...  
So when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption,  
and this mortal shall have put on immortality,  
then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written,  
Death is swallowed up in victory...  
O death, where is thy sting?  
O grave, where is thy victory?”  
(1 Corinthians 15)**

**“Who delivered us from so great a death, and doth deliver:  
in whom we trust that he will yet deliver us”  
(2 Corinthians 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 Timothy 1:10)**

The Apostle Paul also referred several times to **“the day of Christ.”** He was referring to Resurrection Day, when those who are in the grave, having died in Christ, will be raised unto eternal life, followed thereafter by believers who are still alive on the earth when Jesus returns. Jesus himself spoke of these remarkable events as follows:

**“And this is the Father's will which hath sent me, that  
of all which he hath given me I should lose nothing,  
but should raise it up again at the last day... And this  
is the will of him that sent me, that every one which  
seeth the Son, and believeth on him, may have  
everlasting life: and I will raise him up at the last  
day... No man can come to me, except the Father  
which hath sent me draw him: and I will raise him up  
at the last day... Whoso eateth my flesh, and drinketh  
my blood, hath eternal life; and I will raise him up at  
the last day.” (John 6)**

**“Jesus said unto her, I am the resurrection, and the  
life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet  
shall he live: And whosoever liveth and believeth in  
me shall never die. Believest thou this?”  
(John 11:25-26)**

Yes, it is our great joy and privilege to believe this! Jesus is referring to the Rapture when he says: **“And whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die.”**

He later referred three times to this incredible achievement in his revelation to John:

**“I am he that liveth, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive for  
evermore, Amen; and have the keys of hell and of death.”  
(Revelation 1:18)**

**“Blessed and holy is he that hath part in the first resurrection:  
on such the second death hath no power” (Revelation 20:6)**

**“And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away.” (Revelation 21:4)**

Jesus Christ of Nazareth destroyed death and the power of death. Through him all things will be renewed. All who died in faith will be restored to life, dwelling eternally thereafter with Christ in immortalized bodies.

### **Sharing the Gospel**

When we share the Gospel with unbelievers, we are blessed beyond measure. We are offering the greatest invitation that anyone could ever offer another person, holding forth the unbreakable promise which Christ himself expressed in those glorious words: **“and I will raise him up at the last day.”**

The Enemy tries to make death seem a natural part of life, as though life could not exist without death. But this is a lie. Life comes only from life. Death, on the other hand, is produced by sin. After sin has run its course, death is inevitable.



**“Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.” (Matthew 4:19)**

We need to remember that God hates death. Pastors who are faced many times with the difficult task of comforting bereaved parishioners may be tempted to gloss over this awful truth. After all, if God hates death, then why did He permit my loved one to die? But we need to step back and see that God addressed the horror of death, once and for all, on Calvary. The death that sin produces is permanent and irreversible. Unless someone takes our place, we are destined to die. This leads to the wonderful truth which we call the substitutionary atonement. Christ died in our place. The death we experience in due course in this life is therefore temporary and reversible. At the time appointed, all who died in Christ will be resurrected.

## God hates death

We can see from the book of Leviticus how God hates death. The High Priest, who is a figure of Christ, the perfect High Priest, was not allowed to attend the funeral of his mother or father. He was not even allowed to express his grief, for example by rending his clothes:

**“And he that is the high priest among his brethren, upon whose head the anointing oil was poured, and that is consecrated to put on the garments, shall not uncover his head, nor rend his clothes; Neither shall he go in to any dead body, nor defile himself for his father, or for his mother” (Leviticus 21:10-11)**

The LORD God has no respect for death. This is why He sent His Son to destroy death and all its works. Calvary changed everything, forever.

We think of this as an event in time – which it was – but we may miss the meticulous steps that were taken to make it possible. Christ in his pre-incarnate form had guided the destiny of mankind up to the time of his physical birth. After Pentecost, the Holy Spirit assumed this role.



**The Enemy hides himself extremely well.**

## The Angel of the LORD

When the Bible tells us that Adam and Eve walked with God, it could only be referring to the Second Person of the Holy Trinity, the pre-incarnate Christ. It was Christ who spoke to Abraham and led him out of Chaldea (see John 8:56). It was Christ who spoke with Abraham and Sarah in the plain of Mamre and who sent the two angels to lead Lot and his family out of Sodom. It was Christ who spoke to Hagar and wrestled with Jacob. It was Christ who appeared to Moses in the burning bush. It was Christ who resided in the Holy of Holies, between the cherubim of the mercy seat. The mercy seat itself represented Christ.

It was Christ who led his people out of Egypt and manifested to them as a pillar of cloud by day and as a pillar of fire by night. As the Apostle Paul says, he was the Rock that followed them: **“for they drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them: and that Rock was Christ.” (1 Corinthians 10:4)**

Christ appeared to Joshua and declared himself to be the “**captain of the host of the LORD**” (**Joshua 5:14**). He later appeared to Manoah and his wife and counselled them regarding the birth and upbringing of their son, Samson. It was Christ, too, who appeared to Gideon and showed him what he must do to free the children of Israel from the yoke of bondage.

Christ appeared to his people at Bochim and later showed David where to build the Temple. He also protected Jerusalem from the army of Sennacherib in the reign of King Hezekiah and killed 185,000 of his men.

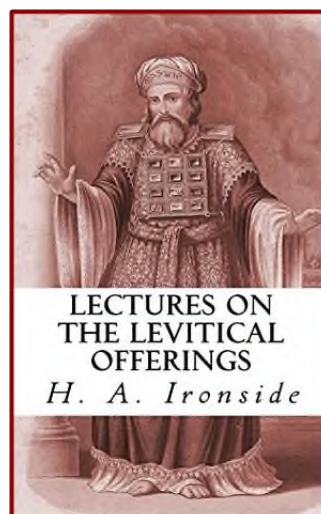
In most of these encounters Christ was called “**the angel of the LORD.**” We know that this heavenly being must have been divine since both Moses and Joshua were instructed to remove their shoes in his presence.

He is the LORD of Hosts (or armies), “**captain of the host of the LORD**”. He is the one whom the Father will send to bring judgment upon the earth. Jesus identified himself with this role when he said: “**When the Son of man shall come in his glory, and all the holy angels with him, then shall he sit upon the throne of his glory:**” (**Matthew 25:31**)

Clearly, Jesus was referring to himself as the king of glory. And Psalm 24 identifies the King of glory with the LORD of hosts: “**Who is this King of glory? The LORD of hosts, he is the King of glory.**” (**Psalm 24:10**)

Thus the Angel of the LORD, the LORD of Hosts, and the King of Glory are the same Person, namely the Second Person of the Holy Trinity, Christ Jesus of Nazareth.

In his lectures on *The Levitical Offerings* (p.19), Harry Ironside said: “It is of inestimable value to the soul to dwell upon God’s estimate of His Son.” I believe he captures here the very core of our Christian experience. The Father made everything through and for His Son. His Son, in turn, loves and obeys his Father to the absolute degree.



We approach the Father through His Son. There is no other way. Jesus did everything that was necessary to make this possible, not only on Calvary but from the very dawn of creation. To our Father, therefore, it is unthinkable that anyone should reject the glory that is Christ.

As the author of Hebrews put it: **“How shall we escape, if we neglect so great salvation...?”**

## **CONCLUSION**

We are entering a time of great turmoil, where the expectations of countless millions will be dashed and innumerable lives turned upside down. Many will die. In the frailty of our fallen nature we may be tempted to buckle under the burden of fear and uncertainty. But there is no need for this. We are living cells in the body of Christ and enjoy his loving presence with us at all times. All we need to do is trust him.



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**“A thousand shall fall at thy side, and ten thousand at thy right hand;  
but it shall not come nigh thee.”**

**- Psalm 91:7**

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