

What shall I do then with Jesus which is called Christ?

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Matthew 27:22

The question just given you, "**What shall I do then with Jesus which is called Christ?**"- Matthew 27:22, is the most important question that you will ever answer. You see, how you respond to this question will not only determine how your time will be spent here on earth in this life, but where and how it will be spent in that which is to come.

Jesus is the subject of the bestselling book in the world, the Holy Bible. In the Old Testament book of Deuteronomy 18:18, God spoke to Moses of Jesus coming to earth and of our need to obey his words. He said, "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.**" And, so there would be no mistake as to whom he would be when he came, he wrote many marvelous prophecies of his first coming, which have all been fulfilled in JESUS. One such prophecy foretold his crucifixion, a Roman death sentence, before the Roman nation was ever in power, and 1,000 years before his death - "...they pierced my hands and my feet." -Psalm 22:16b. When he did come, he told us of our sin, and of its penalty, and of God's remedy for it. His coming to earth split the history of the world into two parts - B.C./A.D.

"Okay", you may ask, "**What shall I do then with Jesus which is called Christ?**" "What is it that He requires of me to do with him?" Well, first we must understand why it is that he came. When speaking to Joseph about Jesus' birth, the angel of the Lord said of Mary, "And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name JESUS: **for he shall save his people from their sins.**" - Matthew 1:21. So this is why he came, to save us from our sins. We learn from the Bible what sin is, namely, not achieving God's perfect standard that He has for us. If we are to be accepted by God and allowed into his heaven, we must meet this perfect standard. We, however, come short of this standard by doing those things that are wrong, and by not doing those things that are right. If we will be honest, every one of us must confess that we have come short of living a perfect and sinless life. The Bible says, "**For all have sinned, and come short...**" - Romans 3:23a. The Bible also teaches us that there is a penalty for our sin (coming short of this perfect sinless standard); this penalty is death - the "second death". The Bible says that all who attempt to be accepted by God by the works that they do in this life will be found to have come short, will be rejected by God, and will experience the second death. Let's read Revelation 20:13-14: "And the sea gave up the dead which were in it; and death and hell delivered up the dead which were in them: and **they were judged every man according to their works. And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death.**" But, since

we have all sinned, how can we escape this – God's judgment? This is where JESUS comes in. God loves us so much, that he took on human flesh (I Timothy 3:16), and was born into this world as our **substitute** – Yes our **substitute**! He came to live the perfect sinless life for us, which we [through our disobedience] have failed to do. He was "**...in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin.**" – Hebrews 4:15. Do you see it? Do you see how it works? He lived this perfect life for you, so that you may get credit for it. But, not only was he your substitute for a *sinless* life, but his great love made him your substitute for a *sinful* life as well. His holy law called for your *condemnation*, and justly so; but his holy love called for your *salvation*, which he provided on the cross. There, on the cross, JESUS hung before God as you, and paid your penalty with his death and blood, by dying in your place. Do you see it now? When Jesus was on the cross, God credited His Son JESUS with your sin, so that He may credit you with JESUS **righteousness**. The Bible puts it this way, "**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.**" – II Corinthians 5:21. God accepted the death of the Lord JESUS as payment for our sin, and raised him up from the dead to be the Judge of all men. – Acts 10:40-43.

You may now say, "I understand this! But, '**What shall I do then with Jesus which is called Christ**'? How may I have this salvation for me?" You may have it by doing with Jesus what God the Father did with Jesus: He made him to be your savior, and you must make him to be your savior too. You must agree with God (repent) about what He says about your sin, and about His Son; and you must believe this Good News (gospel), believing (trusting) in JESUS as your only hope for heaven and forgiveness for your sins. The Bible says of Jesus, "**...that through this man is preached unto you the forgiveness of sins; And by him all that believe are justified from all things...**" – Acts 13:38-39. Will you believe this Good News, and abandon all hope for salvation in anything but Jesus?

"Oh," you may say, "I have been deeply religious toward Jesus." Yes, but **what have you done then with Jesus which is called Christ**? God made JESUS to be a substitute for you; just be certain that you make nothing to be a substitute for JESUS. You see, though some religious things may have *their* place, none can take his. So, you must take care that you do not place your faith in *these* things, and fall short of placing it in *him*. Your attempt to live a good life, taking the mass, asking Jesus "into your heart", asking God to "save you", your baptism, your priest, or even yourself – none of these can take away sins – only JESUS can do that. Therefore, you must not rest your hope in these things, but stake all hope for Heaven in JESUS alone, dying as your substitute on the cross. Friend, if you will repent, and believe only in JESUS as your savior, you cannot go to Hell. God will not require the penalty to be paid by JESUS, and then require it again from you. JESUS said, "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." – John 3:16.

What shall you do then with Jesus which is called Christ? Remember, what you do with Jesus will determine what God shall do with you. Meet us in heaven.

WE WANT TO HELP YOU! If you have questions, if you doubt your salvation, or if you have trusted in Christ after reading this and would like to learn more, please contact us any time.

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