

## TRUTHS WE LIVE BY (3)

# About Jesus Christ

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"We believe that Jesus Christ is true God and true man having been conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He died on the cross as a perfect sacrifice for our sins and He rose bodily from the dead, later ascending triumphantly into heaven where He intercedes for us in God's presence."

### ◆ What we believe

—The story of Jesus is the greatest \_\_\_\_\_ ever \_\_\_\_\_. The \_\_\_\_\_ is the \_\_\_\_\_.

—The central question: \_\_\_\_\_?

1. "We believe that Jesus Christ is true God and true man having been conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary."

—God entered our world of \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_—on a specific \_\_\_\_\_ in a specific \_\_\_\_\_.

—Jesus was a real \_\_\_\_\_, taking up an \_\_\_\_\_ humanity. Although He could not \_\_\_\_\_, He was truly \_\_\_\_\_, and He also knew the grief and pain of \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.

—He was \_\_\_\_\_ born, showing the \_\_\_\_\_ nature of the incarnation.

—Jesus Christ was fully \_\_\_\_\_ and fully \_\_\_\_\_, two \_\_\_\_\_ (each real and complete without dilution) permanently \_\_\_\_\_ in one person, without forming some \_\_\_\_\_ nature (a hybrid). (The Chalcedonian Formula)

—1Tim 2:5,6 > To \_\_\_\_\_ God and man as a true \_\_\_\_\_.

2. "He died on the cross as a perfect sacrifice for our sins"

—He became a man like the men He had made, and the men He had made \_\_\_\_\_ Him and \_\_\_\_\_ Him and \_\_\_\_\_ Him and \_\_\_\_\_ Him.

—Be careful of \_\_\_\_\_ Jesus.

—Any crucifixion is a \_\_\_\_\_ way to die. Yet the Father not only \_\_\_\_\_, but \_\_\_\_\_ this way for His son to die.

—The cross is what separates the \_\_\_\_\_ Christ from every other "\_\_\_\_\_."

3. "and He rose bodily from the dead"

—Jesus showed Himself \_\_\_\_\_ after His suffering with many convincing \_\_\_\_\_ over a period of 40 days (Acts 1:3).

—Why the resurrection?

•As a proof of the \_\_\_\_\_ of His sacrifice (Rom 4:25)

•As a \_\_\_\_\_ for His perfect \_\_\_\_\_ (Ph 2:9f)

•As a declaration of His divine \_\_\_\_\_ (Rom 1:4)

4. "later ascending triumphantly into heaven"

—Jesus, though still and forever human, takes up the \_\_\_\_\_ He had with the Father before the \_\_\_\_\_ was (Jo 17:5)—plus the additional glory of His \_\_\_\_\_ victory (Ph 2:9-11).

5. "where He intercedes for us in God's presence"

—He makes a \_\_\_\_\_ for us (Jo 14:2). He \_\_\_\_\_ for us as a heavenly prayer warrior (Rom 8:34). He \_\_\_\_\_ for our continuing salvation whenever we sin (1John 2:1).

## ◆ Why we believe

1. Lee Strobel, The Case for Christ, A Journalist's Personal Investigation of the Evidence for Jesus.

2. If we're going to disbelieve a thing, it seems reasonable that we should first find out what, \_\_\_\_\_, we are disbelieving.

## ◆ Why we behave

The George Bailey Question: What if \_\_\_\_\_ had never been \_\_\_\_\_? How would that \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_?

—1. We would lose the greatest picture of the self-humility that makes human relationships beautiful ( Ph 2:1-8).

—2. We would be overwhelmed by the works of the devil (1Jo 3:8). If not Jesus, then evil wins in this world instead of Him.

—3. We would be lost—without the cross, followed by the resurrection, we are still in our sins (1Cor 15:17).

—4. We have no hope for when we die, and no reason to have peace for the days we live (Rom 5:1).

—5. If Jesus is not man, we have no reason to find honor in man at all (Heb 2:5-12).

—6. We have lost our interceding helper, and do not have the Holy Spirit for our daily life (John 16:7). We have no companion for suffering and shame.

## ◆ What YOU believe

—You could miss Him. That would be an intolerable loss.