

## **The Doctrine of Christ**

**Would it be unreasonable to say that all who profess to be Christian should devote their lives study to the teachings of Christ?**

**And that their every waking moment should be for the express purpose of understanding the very divine nature of God the father as it was revealed perfectly in His own Son Jesus?**

**Would this be the correct procedure in order to progress toward perfection of character which is ultimately sinlessness so as to give all glory to God not by any human works but by the miracle of transformation by the spirit ?**

**“Let this mind be in you which was in Christ Jesus.”**

**Throughout this study let us focus upon gaining a clear understanding of just what is the doctrine of Christ and what it is not, .as there is so much written about God throughout all religious history books which is in direct contradiction with the teachings of Jesus, and if we are to be real Christians in the truest sense, then should we not hear his voice only and follow him implicitly refusing all other inferior teachings and leanings toward anything less than the perfect and matchless wisdom of God as it was displayed in his precious Son?**

**It is eternally important to know the God we serve because the way you perceive your God is the way you will treat your fellow man. It is a natural progression that thoughts produce feelings and feelings produce actions, so if we see God as Jesus portrayed Him to be, we will become naturally gentle, peaceful, caring beings full of compassion and love for one another, always willing to reason and forgive. However if we see God as harsh, exacting, arbitrary with a violent temper that flares up every now and then and punishes and destroys at will all those who push Him too far, then that is exactly the way we will treat our fellow humans - and have done from the beginning of earth's history.**

**The very reason war has been codoned and promoted as the right thing to do, is because it has been reported that God has recommended such actions as justified. The term 'holy war' is a direct contradiction in terms - an oxymoron.**

**In this study we will try to address the importance of acquiring a Christ-like character and the reason why it is of vital importance to be able to discern truth from error. This can only be achieved through trusting in divine wisdom to show us the false teachings in all spiritual material.**

**As it was in Jesus day, so is it in our time. The tide of popular and tradional opinion is ever raging against those who persue truth and question the doctrines of the religious establishments of their time.**

**Although Jesus was absolutely forgiving and full of loving kindness He nevertheless corrected the the leaders of The churches with regards to their misunderstandings of Gods character due largely to the erroneous writings of old as it is clearly seen in many places in scripture and particularly the whole chapter of mattew 5 and especially the account of the woman caught in the act of adultery who was facing the death penalty acording to the teachings of moses whom they believed was totally inspired of God and commissioned to set such inhumane laws against His people.**

**It is clear to me in my mind that throughout all ages there has beed an elitist group within the political structure of governments and churches who are driven by power and war is their vehicle for making the money that it takes to run empires to controll the masses they preside over and these establishments need people to do their killing so they can plunder and rob their nieghbours in their struggle for supremacy over the other nations .**

**In order to get decent people to become murderers they must dupe them into thinking that it is a good and noble thing to go to war and mutilate and destroy those who they think might be a future threat and this has usually been done by having some prominent religeuos personality claim that god has given him the authority to instigate war**

**against another tribe or nation , it is the oldest trick in the book and our generation is no exception as we still have holy wars going on as well as the leading nations on earth who proclaim to be christian attacking other nations who they proclaim to be evil and need wiping out, this is definitely not in harmony with the teachings of Christ and if we are Christians who condone and support war directly or indirectly then I think we need to do some serious investigation as to just what is the doctrine of Christ and what is not because if he said that we should love our enemies and forgive those who would want to harm us and even kill us then that is where our beliefs should lie and not in the historic writings of some misinformed religious legendary persons.**

**If Jesus is the “Prince of Peace” then it is a logical deduction for me to say that His Father is the “King of Peace,” and if it is true that our eternal life rests upon the knowledge of both Father and Son, then it is also logical that we should promote the non-violent love of God as the foundational principle upon which to build our doctrine.**

**John 17:3 “And this is life eternal that they might know thee the only true God and Jesus Christ, whom thou has sent.”**

**To know someone is more than to have met them once or twice, and spoken with them briefly. In Genesis we read that Adam knew Eve and then she conceived with child, and without emphasising the sexual side of it I can safely say that the two first inhabitants of Eden shared a very intimate and close personal relationship just as in any marriage. Theirs is a special bond and this is the same as in our relationship with Jesus who is spoken of as our husband - how he is preparing his people for eternal union with Him and His Father .**

**To know in depth the nature of the person whom you are speculating for a life partenership with has always been in my mind a wise thing to do as so many marriages end in divorce because of either lack of knowledge of the person or lack of comunication or both. These are all very important points that I believe we should consider and God desires also that we investigate His character thouroughly so that we can be sure that we want to spend eternity with Him.**

**Just as you would be very concerned if you found that your prospective partner had undesirable underlying traits to his / her character whether it be compulsive lying or unfaithfulness or violent spasmodic moments; all these things would and should affect your willingness to permanently commit to a lifetime with this person and rightly so. It is our own protective measures which prevent us from making unwise decisions and save us from a life time of misery and regrets.**

**This is why God sent his Son Jesus to this earth to reveal his character to us so that all the myths and traditional misconceptions could be dispelled and we could have a clear understanding of His divine holy nature in the pure form without the blend of destruction and violence interwoven into it . What you see in Jesus is exactly the way the Father is in his spirit. His character is the same as His Son with nothing added and nothing left out. This means to me that if there were any violent warlike traits in the Father then they would have showed up in His son who came in the fullness of the Godhead bodily. Jesus is the same yesterday, today and forever and the same applies to the Father.**

**So before we even entertain the thought of marriage with someone we first must be impressed with their character traits and find them admirable and desirable. The next thing is we must be sure that they are of sound mind and body and that they would never do harm to us ever, but most of all, it must be a very pleasurable experience to be with them. All these things are a part of a healthy courtship and if enough time is taken to intelligently look for any possible, hidden, bad traits and those issues are addressed, then we can be more certain of a happy and longlasting loving marriage relationship .**

**It is the same with our courtship with Jesus and even more serious and important to scrutinise His character for we will be bound to Him for eternity; not so much as in marriage as far as human mentality can think of, but more as a union of mind, our ultimate attitude, the way we act and react to everything. Will we choose divine love and wisdom, perfect peace and harmony? Will we be able to rationalise and mingle our minds with all minds without conflict or violence?**

**This is why it is so desperately important that we know the Father and His Son Jesus in detail, so that we can make a conscious decision to trust His word of our own free will without being motivated by fear of punishment or greed in all of its forms. After all what husband wants his wife to stay with him because she is afraid of being beaten up or killed should she think of leaving?**

**It is not this way with the sane, thinking person, and it is definitely not the way God thinks toward us. He merely shows us through Christ, a sample of heaven and invites us to investigate further the boundless wonders of a life in a world without violence, pain, lies and all negative thinking - a sterile environment full of peace and perfect harmony. He is preparing us to become citizens of heaven by choice .**

**Citizenship in heaven depends entirely upon our ability to be transformed into the likeness of Christ because there is no other mindset there to choose from. It is based on perfect trust in His doctrine of unconditional love and peace. If we cannot have faith in His words here on earth then it would not magically happen in heaven. Jesus counsels us to “choose ye this day whom you will serve.”**

**Christ's own special group stand on the sea of glass at the end of time, having been through the fires of persecution and all the perils that Satan could hurl at them purely because they have the faith of Jesus and hence keep the comandments of God. They do not have faith in Jesus alone but rather the faith **of** Jesus - the same faith that He had in His Father to keep Him from sin and bring Him through to victory.**

**How is such a strong faith made possible?**

**Faith (implicit trust) can only be developed through having a thorough knowledge of a Person's character.**

**The Father can be completely trusted because His character is consistently completely loving, kind and non-violent, even to His enemies. The life of Jesus inarguably demonstrated that God is indeed – only love.**

## **Romans 1:17**

*“For therein is the righteousness of God revealed from faith to faith: as it is written, The just shall live by faith.”*

**Indeed, “the just shall live by faith” - faith placed solidly upon the loving principles seen in the character of God.**

## *2 John 1:9*

*9 Whosoever transgresseth, and abideth not in the doctrine of Christ, hath not God. He that abideth in the doctrine of Christ, he hath both the Father and the Son.*

## *Isaiah 52:7*

*How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him that bringeth good tidings, that publisheth peace; that bringeth good tidings of good, that publisheth salvation; that saith unto Zion, Thy God reigneth!*

## *Romans 14:19*

*Let us therefore follow after the things which make for peace, and things wherewith one may edify another.*

## *1 Corinthians 14:33*

*For God is not the author of confusion, but of peace, as in all churches of the saints.*

*10 ¶ If there come any unto you, and bring not this doctrine, receive him not into your house, neither bid him God speed:*

*11 For he that biddeth him God speed is partaker of his evil deeds.*

What is the doctrine of Christ ? and what is it based upon, ?.

The early writings in scripture (Old Testament) tell us that it is founded upon peace (see Is. 9 :6) and later in the closing books of the Bible

(New Testament) Agape , or the love of God is pronounced often as paramount.

*1 Corinthians 13:13*

*And now abideth faith, hope, charity, (agape) these three; but the greatest of these is charity.(God's love)*

Although Gods Love,( agape) and peace are spoken of separately in some passages , they really go hand in hand for without Gods love , there can be no peace and without peace we cannot recognize the love of God.

*Romans 8:6*

*For to be carnally minded is death; but to be spiritually minded is life and peace.*

*Romans 14:1*

*For the kingdom of God is not meat and drink; but righteousness, and peace.*

*2 Corinthians 13:11*

*Finally, brethren, farewell. Be perfect, be of good comfort, be of one mind, live in peace; and the God of love and peace shall be with you.*

Human love is referred to as (eros) and is defined as very physical and limited. God's love however is boundless and far above our capacity to understand , and not because He is too intellectual for us , but because of His limitless compassion and mercy; His perfect and faultless character of selflessness .

*Philippians 4:7*

*And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.*

In this respect God is awesome to us because we find it difficult to comprehend a life devoid of self, where true concern for others takes the prime place in the thinking processes ,and to go without comforts and little luxuries so that others can be sufficed in their life is foreign and strange to us.

I speak corporately when in scrutiny (in examination) of the human nature ,for we are all affected by selfishness in one way or another, and we are all in desperate need of Christ to show us the Father's love in its pure form. He will do just that if we ask to become willing to be taught and transformed into His likeness, and it is possible, not of our own determination or actions, but purely by submission to the God of all wisdom.

*Malachi 2:6*

*The law of truth was in his mouth, and iniquity was not found in his lips: he walked with me in peace and equity, and did turn many away from iniquity.*

The doctrine of Christ is the same doctrine of the Father in heaven.

*John 7:16*

*Jesus answered them, and said, My doctrine is not mine, but his that sent me.*

John 14:9

Jesus saith unto him, Have I been so long time with you, and yet hast thou not known me, Philip? he that hath seen me hath seen the Father; and how sayest thou then, Shew us the Father?

Isaiah 9:6 For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, **The Prince of Peace.**

Zechariah 6:13

*Even he shall build the temple of the LORD; and he shall bear the glory, and shall sit and rule upon his throne; and he shall be a priest upon his throne: and **the counsel of peace** shall be between them both. (The Father and the Son)*

Jeremiah 29:11

*For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the LORD, **thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end.***

Matthew 5:9

*Blessed are the peacemakers: **for they shall be called the children of God.***

Psalms 37:11

*But the meek shall inherit the earth; and shall delight themselves in the abundance of peace.*

James 3:17,18

*But the wisdom that is from above is first pure, **then peaceable**, gentle, and easy to be entreated, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality, and without hypocrisy. And the fruit of righteousness is sown in peace of them that **make peace.***

Psalms 37:37

*Mark the perfect man, and behold the upright: for the **end of that man is peace.***

Galatians 5:22

*But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith,*

Ephesians 6:15

*And your feet shod with the preparation of **the gospel of peace;***

Isaiah 32:17

*And the work of righteousness shall be peace; and the effect of righteousness quietness and assurance for ever.*

*Isaiah 26:3*

*Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee: because he trusteth in thee.*

*Jeremiah 28:9*

*The prophet which prophesieth of peace, when the word of the prophet shall come to pass, then shall the prophet be known, that the LORD hath truly sent him.*

*Isaiah 55:12*

*For ye shall go out with joy, and be led forth with peace:*

*Zechariah 8:16*

*These are the things that ye shall do; Speak ye every man the truth to his neighbour; execute the judgment of truth and peace in your gates:*

*Mark 9:50*

*Salt is good: but if the salt have lost his saltness, wherewith will ye season it? Have salt in yourselves, and have peace one with another.*

*Luke 2:14*

*Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.*

*John 14:27*

*Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.*

1 John 4:6 -5:5

*We are of God: he that knoweth God heareth us; he that is not of God heareth not us. Hereby know we the spirit of truth, and the spirit of error.*

7 ¶ *Beloved, let us love one another: for love is of God; and every one that loveth is born of God, and knoweth God.*

8 *He that loveth not knoweth not God; for God is love.*

9 *In this was manifested the love of God toward us, because that God sent his only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through him.*

10 *Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that he loved us, and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins.*

11 *Beloved, if God so loved us, we ought also to love one another.*

12 *No man hath seen God at any time. If we love one another, God dwelleth in us, and his love is perfected in us.*

13 *Hereby know we that we dwell in him, and he in us, because he hath given us of his Spirit.*

14 ¶ *And we have seen and do testify that the Father sent the Son to be the Saviour of the world.*

15 *Whosoever shall confess that Jesus is the Son of God, God dwelleth in him, and he in God.*

16 *And we have known and believed the love that God hath to us. God is love; and he that dwelleth in love dwelleth in God, and God in him.*

17 ¶ *Herein is our love made perfect, that we may have boldness in the day of judgment: because as he is, so are we in this world.*

18 *There is no fear in love; but perfect love casteth out fear: because fear hath torment. He that feareth is not made perfect in love.*

19 *We love him, because he first loved us.*

20 *If a man say, I love God, and hateth his brother, he is a liar: for he that loveth not his brother whom he hath seen, how can he love God whom he hath not seen?*

21 *And this commandment have we from him, That he who loveth God love his brother also.*

1 John 5: 1-3 ¶

*Whosoever believeth that Jesus is the Christ is born of God: and every one that loveth him that begat loveth him also that is begotten of him.*

*2 By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God, and keep his commandments.*

*3 For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments: and his commandments are not grievous.*

*4 For whatsoever is born of God overcometh the world: and this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith.*

*5 Who is he that overcometh the world, but he that believeth that Jesus is the Son of God?*

Colossians 3:15

*And let **the peace of God rule in your hearts, to the which also ye are called in one body; and be ye thankful.***

Hebrews 12:14

*Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord:*

2 John 1:3

*Grace be with you, mercy, and peace, from God the Father, and from the Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of the Father, in truth and love.*

Matthew 10:28

*“And fear not them which kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul: but rather fear him which is able to destroy both soul and body in hell.”*

King James Version (with Strong's Greek concordance numbers)

*“but <1161> rather <3123> fear <5399> (5676) him which <3588> is able <1410> (5740) to destroy <622> (5658) both <2532> soul <5590> and <2532> body <4983> in <1722> hell <1067> .*

**Fear** 5399 fobew phobeo fob-eh'-o  
to frighten, i.e. (passively) to be alarmed; by analogy, to be in awe of, i.e. reverere:--be (+ sore) afraid, fear (exceedingly), reverence. see GREEK for 5401

Thayer's Greek Lexicon #5399

1c) to reverence, venerate, to treat with deference or reverential obedience

from 5401; TDNT-9:189,1272; v

2) reverence for one's husband

**Destroy** 622 apollumi apollumi ap-ol'-loo-mee

1f) to perish, to be lost, ruined, destroyed

from 575 and the base of 3639; TDNT-1:394,67; v

1) of separation

1a) of local separation, after verbs of motion from a place i.e. of departing, of fleeing, ...

1b) of separation of a part from the whole

1c) of any kind of separation of one thing from another by which the union or fellowship of the two is destroyed

1d) of a state of separation, that is of distance

1d1) physical, of distance of place

1d2) temporal, of distance of time

1 Samuel 12 :15

But if ye will not obey <08085> (8799) the voice <06963> of the LORD <03068>, but rebel <04784> (8804) against the commandment <06310> of the LORD <03068>, then shall the hand <03027> of the LORD <03068> be against you, as it was against your fathers <01>.

**Hand** #3027 (Strong's Hebrew Concordance) - a hand- the open one -indicating power, means, direction; fellowship, ministry

**Against** #5927 (Strong's Hebrew Concordance) - Depart, go away; Brown-Driver-Briggs Hebrew Lexicon: depart, withdraw, retreat

If we read this passage with the correct understanding which is in harmony with the true way that God deals with sinners we will see a completely different God than that portrayed by the translators, and it is exactly what Jesus did when the Jewish nation rejected him continually. He finally walked away from them and proclaimed that their house was left desolate, and His heart was laden with grief because of their choice to reject Him, but he still loved them with an everlasting love and He proved that when He cried out in his final moments, "Father forgive them for they know not what they do." He did not call the Father to send down fire or terrible curses! No, far be it from Him to even think that. No. He left them to reap the consequences of their bad choices and Satan's harvest was ripe for the reaping, a nation of God's children sealed in their sin and destined for eternal destruction - a great victory for the evil destroyer - and an eternal loss for the God of love and peace.

"A solemn warning to all those who are trifling with the offers of divine grace in turning away the pleadings of divine mercy" Great Controversy, p. 37.

from 575 and the base of 3639; TDNT-1:394,67; v

but <1161> rather <3123> fear <5399> (5676) him which <3588> is able <1410> (5740) to destroy <622> 1)

to destroy  
 1a) to put out of the way entirely, abolish, put an end to ruin to perish, to be lost, ruined, destroyed  
 1e) metaph. to devote or give over to eternal misery in hell

575 apo apo apo'

1) of separation  
 1a) of local separation, after verbs of motion from a place i.e. of departing, of fleeing, ...  
 1b) of separation of a part from the whole  
 1b1) where of a whole some part is taken  
 1c) of any kind of separation of one thing from another by which the union or fellowship of the two is destroyed  
 1d) of a state of separation, that is of distance  
 1d1) physical, of distance of place  
 1d2) temporal, of distance of time

The formula for God's wrath for me personally is that God separates himself from the sinner because His wisdom has been rejected and sin has been chosen as their way and satan becomes their ultimate guide in all they do , He then encourages foolishness resulting in chaos and finally destruction takes place .directly and indirectly.

I think we must take into account that the translators of the King James Version of the Bible were trinitarian and also saw God in a less than passive light and this dictated their projection of Him and the subtle twists in the verses seem to say quite blatantly, something that is not there.

It has allways been a serious problem for me trying to figure out why God is portrayed in some parts of scritural writings as the director of warfare and in other parts quite the opposite in fact it seems to be that He is giving very stern warnings against violence of all forms but the ultimate question remains is God one or the other or does He have intergrated into His nature these violent and destructive traits,.

The choice is yours as to what you will believe, will it be conclusive to you that God is indeed pure and holy , free from any defects of character or will you decide that he is a blend of good and evil as some of the misguided writers of history have depicted Him to be , .

As for me and my house we will follow the teachings of Jesus and will accept only the doctrine of Christ.

*Isaiah 53:9 And he made his grave with the wicked, and with the rich in his death;*

*because he had done  
no violence,  
neither was any deceit  
in his mouth.*

*Isaiah 60:18* **Violence** shall no more be  
heard in thy land, wasting nor destruction within thy borders; but thou  
shalt call thy walls Salvation, and thy gates Praise.

*Jeremiah 22:3 Thus saith the LORD;  
Execute ye judgment and  
righteousness, and deliver the spoiled  
out of the hand of the oppressor: and  
do no wrong, do no violence  
to the stranger, the fatherless, nor the widow, neither shed innocent  
blood in this place.*

*Jonah 3:8 But let man and beast be  
covered with sackcloth, and cry*

*mightily unto God: yea, let them turn every one from his evil way, and from the violence* that is in their hands.

*Zephaniah 3:4 Her prophets are light and treacherous persons: her priests have polluted the sanctuary, they have done violence* to the law.

*Ezekiel 8:17* Then he said unto me, Hast thou seen this, O son of man? Is it a light thing to the house of Judah that they commit the abominations which they commit here? for they have filled the land with violence, and have returned to provoke me to anger: and, lo, they put the branch to their nose.

*Psalms 11:5 The LORD trieth the righteous: but the wicked and him that loveth violence* his soul hateth.

*2 ¶ A man shall eat good by the fruit of his mouth: but the soul of the*

*transgressors shall eat violence.*

*6 ¶ Blessings are upon the head of the just:*

*but violence* covereth the mouth of the wicked.

*11 ¶ The mouth of a righteous man is a well of life: but violence* covereth the mouth of the wicked.

*Isaiah 59:6 Their webs shall not become garments, neither shall they cover themselves with their works: their works are works of iniquity, and the act of violence* is in their hands.

*Proverbs 10:11 The mouth of a righteous man is a well of life:*  
*but violence* covereth the mouth of the wicked.

*Proverbs 28:17 A man that doeth*

**violence** to the blood of any person shall flee to the pit;  
let no man stay him.

*Psalms 72:14* He shall redeem their  
*soul from deceit and violence:* and  
precious shall their blood be in his sight.

*Matthew* 11:12 And from the days of John the Baptist until now  
the kingdom of heaven suffereth **violence,** and the  
violent take it by force.

*14 And the soldiers likewise demanded of him, saying, And what shall we do?( to inherit eternal life) And he said unto them, Do*

**violence to no man,** neither  
accuse any falsely; and be content with your wages.

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