

WHAT THE BIBLE TEACHES ABOUT CHRIST (2)

3. His Characteristics.

(1) Holiness.

Mark 1:24; Acts 3:14

Holiness means freedom from defilement. Although He lived in a world of sin Christ was absolutely sinless. The holiness of Christ was manifested: --

a. In His loving righteousness and hating iniquity.

Hebrews 1:9

One may profess to love righteousness, but unless he hates iniquity he is not really holy. On the other hand it is not enough to hate iniquity; righteousness must be loved as well.

b. In His never committing sin.

I Peter 2:22

c. In His always doing what was pleasing to God.

Matthew 17:5; John 8:29

Holiness is more than freedom from sin. It is positively and deliberately doing the things which have God's approval.

d. In His making the great sacrifice to save others.

I Peter 2:24; II Corinthians 5:21; I Peter 3:18

e. In His pronouncing doom upon those who will not repent of sin and believe on Him.

Matthew 25:41; Hebrews 10:29

(2) Love.

a. His love for the Father.

John 14:31

He showed His love to the Father: --

(a) By keeping His commandments.

John 14:21; John 15:10

(b) By unwavering submission to His will.

John 6:38; Matthew 26:39; Matthew 26:42

(c) In seeking the Father's will.

John 5:30

(d) In finishing the work the Father gave Him to do.

John 17:4

(e) In seeking the glory of the Father.

John 17:1

b. His love for men.

(a) Christ loved the church.

Ephesians 5:25

Christ has a peculiar love for the church, which is His bride.

(b) Christ loved individual believers.

Ephesians 5:2; Galatians 2:20

John 13:1; John 14:21

(c) Christ loved children.

Children had a special attention for Christ, and were the object of His special solicitude and care.

Mark 10:13-16

(d) Christ loved the ungodly.

Romans 5:6-8

(e) Christ loved His enemies.

Luke 23:34

c. The love of Christ for men was manifested: --

- (a) In His becoming poor that they might become rich.
II Corinthians 8:9; Romans 8:16-17
- (b) In His sharing the sorrows of His people.
Isaiah 53:4; John 11:33-36
- (c) In His performing menial service for His own.
John 13:1-5
- (d) In His rebuking and chastening His own.
Revelation 3:19
- (e) In His forgiving those who repent and believe.
Luke 7:48
- (f) In His cleansing His own.
Revelation 1:5
- (g) In His having compassion upon the sick and needy.
Matthew 14:14; Matthew 15:32
- (h) In His praying for them.
Luke 22:33; John 17:15
- (i) In His comforting them in their sorrows.
John 14:1
- (j) In His giving them peace and joy.
John 14:27; John 15:11
- (k) In His keeping His own.
John 18:8-9
Romans 8:35-39
- (l) In His making known to them all that the Father made known to Him.
John 15:15
- (m) In His returning and taking His own to be with Him.
John 14:2-3

(3) Compassion.

- a. He had compassion on the distressed multitude.
Mark 6:34; Matthew 9:36
He manifested compassion by patiently teaching them when He was weary.
- b. He had compassion on the hungry multitude.
Mark 8:2
He manifested His compassion by feeding the hungry.
- c. He had compassion on the sick multitude.
Matthew 14:14
He manifested His compassion by healing the sick.
- d. He had compassion on the blind.
Matthew 20:34
He manifested His compassion by giving them sight.
- e. He had compassion on those possessed of demons.
Mark 9:25
He manifested His compassion by casting the unclean spirits out of them.
- f. He had compassion on the bereaved.
Luke 7:12-13
He manifested His compassion by bidding the sorrowing to weep no longer or by restoring the departed to the one who was bereft.
- g. He had compassion on the sinful.
Luke 7:48-50
He manifested His compassion by pardoning the sinner and commanding her to go in peace.

(4) Prayerfulness.

- a. The fact that He prayed.
Hebrews 5:7

b. Times when He prayed.

- (a) When being baptized.
Luke 3:21-22
- (b) Early in the morning.
Mark 1:35
- (c) In the night.
Luke 6:12
He prayed in the night in order that He might be alone and have undisturbed communion with God.
- (d) Before eating.
Matthew 14:18; Luke 24:30
- (e) Before starting on a preaching tour.
Mark 1:35; Mark 1:38
- (f) Before choosing the twelve.
Luke 6:12-13
- (g) When He was unusually busy.
Luke 5:15-16
- (h) When He was weary.
Mark 6:46
- (i) Before great temptations.
Luke 22:39-41
- (j) After great crises in His life.
John 6:15
- (k) In the last moments of His life.
Luke 23:34; Luke 23:46

c. In Whose behalf He prayed.

- (a) For God's glory.
John 12:28
- (b) For Himself.
John 17:1
- (c) For all His own.
John 17:9; John 17:20
- (d) For individual disciples.
Luke 22:31-32
- (e) For His enemies.
Luke 23:34

d. How He prayed.

- (a) With intense earnestness.
Luke 22:44
- (b) With importunity.
Luke 6:12
- (c) With thanksgiving.
John 11:41-42
- (d) With perfect submission to the Father's will.
Matthew 26:42