

JESUS CHRIST WAS BOTH GOD AND MAN

John 1:1, 14, internet JOHN 01__14 WAS MANser.wpd, February 6, 2001, new

(John 1:1), "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God."

(John 1:14), "And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth."



OUR PAST STUDY FOCUSED ON THE FACT THAT **JESUS WAS GOD**

- **(John 1:1)**, "... **THE WORD WAS GOD.**"
- UNDERSTANDING THAT **JESUS WAS GOD** IS VITAL FOR MANY REASONS. The *Moody Handbook of Theology* offers several reasons why it is so important. **CONSIDER FOUR:**
 - 1) THE DOCTRINE OF JESUS' DEITY **DEFINES WHO CHRISTIANS REALLY ARE.** That doctrine **IS UNIQUE** among world religions. For example, **BUDDHISTS** do not believe that Buddha was God. **MUSLIMS** do not believe that Muhammad was God. THEIR PROCLAMATION IS, "There is no God but Allah, and Muhammad is his prophet."
 - 2) THIS DOCTRINE **IS THE ESSENTIAL DIFFERENCE** between **HISTORIC BIBLICAL CHRISTIANITY** and **MODERNIST LIBERAL CHRISTIANITY.** Much liberal theology depicts Christ simply as **THE IDEAL MAN, BUT NOT AS GOD.** To many, Jesus is little more than **A GOOD EXAMPLE.** Scripture is clear, teaching that **JESUS WAS MORE THAN a psychiatrist, a reformer, a teacher; a social worker — JESUS WAS and IS GOD.**
 - 3) THE DEITY OF CHRIST **IS THE PLUMB LINE** by which all other biblical doctrines are judged. Get this doctrine wrong and all other doctrines will follow suite. It appears to be the **COMPASS.** If the compass on a sailing vessel is off, the direction will be wrong. There is **LITTLE WONDER WHY SATAN** would target this doctrine.
 - 4) THE FACT THAT **GOD BECAME A MAN IS THE MOST IMPORTANT EVENT IN HISTORY.** It is what has been called **THE HINGE OF HISTORY.** **NO EVENT IN HISTORY** COULD BE MORE IMPORTANT to every person on earth than that. (The Moody Handbook of Theology)
- S THAT IS THE DEITY OF CHRIST. **IN THIS MESSAGE WE FOCUS ON THE HUMANITY OF CHRIST,** the fact that God became a man.

(John 1:14), "And **THE WORD WAS MADE FLESH,** and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth."

LET'S LOOK AT **FOUR WORDS** FROM **VERSE 14** BEFORE ADDRESSING **THE REASONS** GOD BECAME A MAN:

#1. "ONLY BEGOTTEN"

(V. 14), “And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the **ONLY BEGOTTEN** of the Father,) . . .”

S “**ONLY BEGOTTEN** comes from A COMPOUND GREEK WORD — “**MONOGENES**” (mon-og-en-ace’)

- “**MONO**” means “**ONE**”
- “**GENOS**” means “**KIND**” or “**SPECIES**”

S “**MONOGENES**” MEANS LITERALLY:

- “one of a kind”
- “unique”
- “only kind”

S **JESUS HAS**

- **ONE OF A KIND**
- **UNIQUE**
- **NO EQUAL**
- **NO PARALLEL**
- **NEVER BEEN REPEATED**

S **LOOK THE WIDE WORLD OVER and YOU WILL NEVER FIND** another one like Jesus. Jesus is **UNIQUE** among all persons of history whether past, present or future. Jesus is unique among all persons of all religions. No one compares with Jesus because He is **the only begotten** of the Father. Jesus, and Jesus alone, was **the only begotten** of the Father.

#2. “WAS MADE”

S THE NIV READS “**BECAME**”

S **A CONTRAST IS DRAWN BETWEEN THE VERBS** in VERSE 1 and VERSE 14.

- VERSE 1 reads “**WAS**” (“**EN**” meaning to exist) meaning that **FROM ALL ETERNITY, JESUS WAS GOD**. Jesus was always God.
- VERSE 14 reads “**BECAME**” (“**GINOMAI**” meaning to cause to become) meaning **AT A POINT IN TIME, JESUS BECAME A MAN**.

GOD BECOMING A *MAN* **WAS PROPHESED** MORE THAN 700 YEARS BEFORE IT EVER CAME TO PASS:

(Isa 7:14), “Therefore the Lord himself shall give you A SIGN; **BEHOLD, A VIRGIN SHALL CONCEIVE**, and bear a son, and shall call his name **IMMANUEL**.”

- THAT CHILD WAS **IMMANUEL — GOD WITH US!**
- **THE ACCOUNT OF GOD BECOMING A MAN WAS RECORDED FOR US IN:**
(Luke 1:26-27), “. . . **THE ANGEL GABRIEL** was sent from God unto a city of Galilee, named Nazareth, 27 To **A VIRGIN** espoused to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David; and **THE VIRGIN'S NAME WAS MARY**.”

(V. 30-31), “And **THE ANGEL SAID** unto her, ‘**FEAR NOT**, Mary: for

thou hast found favor with God. 31 And, behold, **THOU SHALT CONCEIVE** in thy womb, and bring forth a son, and **SHALT CALL HIS NAME JESUS.**” (Jesus means “Jehovah is salvation”)

(**V. 34-35**), “Then SAID MARY unto the angel, ‘**HOW SHALL THIS BE, SEEING I KNOW NOT A MAN?**’ 35 And the angel answered and said unto her, ‘**The Holy Ghost** shall come upon thee, and the power of the Highest shall overshadow thee: therefore also that holy thing which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God.’”

S **JESUS WAS GOD STEPPING** from the very **throne of eternity** into human history **BY WAY OF HUMAN BIRTH.**

S (**John 1:14**), “. . . THE WORD **BECAME** . . . ”

#3. “FLESH”

S THE WORD “**FLESH**” has at least **TWO DIFFERENT MEANINGS** in the Bible.

- 1) SOMETIMES “**FLESH**” MEANS **SINFUL HUMAN NATURE.**
 - (**Gal 5:16**), “. . . Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfil the lust of the **FLESH.**”
 - Christians have **three enemies**: *Satan*, the *world* and the *flesh*.
- 2) SOMETIMES “**FLESH**” MEANS “**SKIN & BONES.**” Verse **14** is a reference to **SKIN & BONES.** It simply means that **JESUS ASSUMED A HUMAN BODY.** HAD WE LIVED **two thousand years ago** and walked up to one person called Jesus Christ, we would have been looking at God in human flesh.

AS A HUMAN BEING HE WAS **UNIQUE.** One area in which He was unique was in **HIS CHARACTER.** **JESUS WAS SINLESS.** When the Bible says, “**All have sinned** and fall short of the glory of God” (Rom 3:23), it did **not apply to Jesus.** It **INDICTS EVERYONE ELSE** except for Jesus. **Rather than Jesus falling short** of the glory of God, v. **14 states**, “. . . **WE BEHELD HIS GLORY** . . . ”

THE EVIDENCE FOR JESUS’ SINLESSNESS ABOUNDS IN SCRIPTURE:

1. **PILATE SAID**
(**John 18:38**), “. . . **I FIND IN HIM NO FAULT AT ALL.**”
2. **JUDAS ISCARIOT**
(**Mat 27:4**), “. . . I have betrayed the **INNOCENT BLOOD.** . . . ”
3. **THE THIEF ON THE CROSS**
(**Luke 23:41**), “. . . **THIS MAN HATH DONE NOTHING AMISS.**”
4. **PAUL**
(**2 Cor 5:21**), “For he hath made him to be sin for us, **WHO KNEW NO SIN;** . . . ”
5. **PETER**
(**1 Pet 2:22**), “**WHO DID NO SIN, NEITHER WAS**

GUILE FOUND in his mouth:"

6. JOHN

(1 John 3:5), "... IN HIM IS NO SIN."

(Think of that - no gossip, lying, bragging)

7. HEBREWS

(Heb 4:15), "... Was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin."

8. JESUS HIMSELF

(John 8:46), "WHICH OF YOU CONVINCES ME OF SIN? ..."

No one ELSE IN ALL HISTORY COULD MAKE SUCH A CLAIM AND STAND UP UNDER THE SCRUTINY.

- **WHAT IF I** were to tell you I HAVE NEVER SINNED? You could disprove my claim very fast by ASKING MY WIFE or KIDS. They would quickly inform you of my error. They would testify quickly to the truthfulness of Romans 3.

(Rom 3:23), "FOR ALL HAVE SINNED, and come short of the glory of God;"

- ALL OF US HAVE SINNED!

1). DAVID (A MAN AFTER GOD'S OWN HEART)

2 Sam 24:10, "... I have SINNED GREATLY ... "

2). ISAIAH

Isa 6:5, "... I am A MAN OF UNCLEAN LIPS ... "

3). JOB

Job 42:6, "... I ... REPENT ... "

4). PETER

Luke 5:8, "... I AM A SINFUL MAN ... "

5). JOHN WESLEY

"I THE CHIEF OF SINNERS AM."

6). JONATHAN EDWARDS

"When I look into my heart, and take a view of my wickedness, it looks like an abyss infinitely deeper than hell."

- ALL OF US HAVE SINNED, EXCEPT FOR JESUS. JESUS' SINLESSNESS AS A HUMAN SETS HIM APART FROM EVERY OTHER HUMAN IN HISTORY. He is UNIQUE.

JESUS SAID

S John 8:29, "... I DO ALWAYS THOSE THINGS THAT PLEASE HIM."

S THE FATHER SAID

Mark 1:11, "And there came a voice from heaven, saying, **THOU ART MY BELOVED SON, in whom I am well pleased.**"

- #1. "ONLY BEGOTTEN"
- #2. "MADE"
- #3. "FLESH"

#4. "DWELT"

(V. 14), "And the Word was made flesh, and **DWELT** among us, . . ."

- S **"SKENOO"** (skay-no'-o) means **"TO PITCH A TENT" or "TO ENCAMP."** IT COULD BE TRANSLATED **"TO TABERNACLE AMONG."**
- S IT IS A REFERENCE TO **THE O.T. TABERNACLE** when God dwelt among His people in a tent. Above that tent was the cloud of His presence by day and a pillar of fire by night. When God talked with Moses that cloud descended upon the tabernacle.
- S JESUS LEFT HEAVEN AND **TABERNACLED AMONG US.** HIS **TABERNACLE EXPERIENCE** in a human body is the **FOCUS OF THIS MESSAGE.**

OUR MAIN QUESTION IS — WHY WOULD JESUS BECOME A HUMAN? WHY DID GOD TABERNACLE AMONG US?

We can answer that question with **CONFIDENCE.** Jesus put on human flesh and tabernacled among us **FOR MUCH THE SAME REASON THAT GOD TABERNACLED** among Israel in the O.T wilderness. Discover why God dwelt in a tent in the Old Testament and you will discover why God dwelt in a human body in the New Testament.

SIX REASONS:

- I. **PRESENCE**
- II. **REVELATION**
- III. **IDENTIFICATION**
- IV. **SACRIFICE**
- V. **WORSHIP**
- VI. **EXAMPLE**

I. PRESENCE

THE TABERNACLE ESTABLISHED GOD'S PRESENCE AMONG THE PEOPLE (**Exo 25:8**), "And let them make me a sanctuary; that I may dwell among them."

- S **JUST IMAGINE** (envision) what it must have been like for the Children of Israel as they left Egypt heading toward the wilderness. They **EXPERIENCED THINGS THEY HAD NEVER KNOWN BEFORE.** Above them was **THE CLOUD OF GOD PRESENCE.** By night it was **A PILLAR OF FIRE.** **IMAGINE THE GLORY and AWE** that cloud must have inspired.
- S **JESUS WAS IMMANUEL, GOD WITH US.** As stated earlier, had we

lived two thousand years ago and walked up to Jesus Christ, we would have been **LOOKING INTO THE EYES OF GOD IN HUMAN FLESH**. God was among men.

- **(V. 14)**, “And the word was made flesh, . . . and **WE BEHELD HIS GLORY, THE GLORY** as of the only begotten of the Father . . . ”
- **WHEN DID JOHN BEHOLD JESUS’ GLORY?** That is a legitimate question because when Jesus assumed human flesh, He subjected Himself to **human limitations**. Perhaps John beheld Jesus’ glory on several occasions.
 - 1) **JOHN BEHELD JESUS’ GLORY AT THE TRANSFIGURATION**
(Mark 9:7), “And there was **A CLOUD** that overshadowed them: and **A VOICE** came out of the cloud, saying, ‘**THIS IS MY BELOVED SON: HEAR HIM.**’”
 - 2) **JOHN OBSERVED JESUS’ GLORY AFTER THE RESURRECTION**
 - 3) **JOHN SAW JESUS’ GLORY AT THE ASCENSION**. When Jesus ascended to heaven, He was taken up into **a cloud** (Acts 1:9).
- **JOHN WROTE:**
(1 John 1:1-3), “That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have **looked upon**, and our **hands** have **handled**, of the Word of life; {2} (For the life was manifested, and **we have seen it**, and bear witness, and show unto you that eternal life, which was with the Father, and was manifested unto us; {3} That which we **have seen** and **heard** declare we unto you, . . . ”
- **GOD WAS NOT CONTENT TO SEND ONLY SPOKEN WORDS, OR TO SEND ONLY WRITTEN WORDS. GOD WANTED TO SEND SKIN-N-BONES WORDS** from heaven, so He put on human flesh. **AS A RESULT THE WORD BECAME A HUMAN BEING**. That is what **CHRISTMAS IS ALL ABOUT**.

I. PRESENCE

II. REVELATION (that we might know God)

- S **THE TABERNACLE BECAME** the place where God talked with Moses. God’s presence would **descend upon** the tabernacle and God would **COMMUNICATE** to Israel His Word.
- S **INSIDE** the Ark of the Covenant, within the tabernacle, **WAS LOCATED THE TEN COMMANDMENTS**. The tabernacle was a place for God’s revelation.
- S **GOD WAS REVEALING HIMSELF** through the tabernacle.

AS IT WAS WITH THE TABERNACLE, SO IT IS WITH JESUS

S **REMEMBER THE FATHER'S WORDS AT THE TRANSFIGURATION**

- **(Mark 9:7)**, "... A VOICE came out of the cloud, saying, 'THIS IS MY BELOVED SON: HEAR HIM.'"
- **WHY? — REVELATION!**

S **GOD HAD SOMETHING TO SAY, SO HE SENT HIS SON THAT HE MIGHT SAY IT CLEARLY.** God's purpose in becoming a man was **TO REVEAL HIMSELF.** He **WANTED TO SPEAK WHAT WAS ON HIS MIND AND HEART.**

S **WE KNOW WHAT GOD WANTED TO REVEAL THROUGH JESUS**

(John 20:31), "... THESE ARE WRITTEN, THAT YE MIGHT BELIEVE THAT JESUS IS THE CHRIST, THE SON OF GOD; AND THAT BELIEVING YE MIGHT HAVE LIFE THROUGH HIS NAME."

- I. PRESENCE
- II. REVELATION

III. IDENTIFICATION

S ASSOCIATED WITH THAT TABERNACLE WAS **A HIGH PRIEST.**

The first high priest was named **AARON**, the brother of Moses. He had **A DUAL REPRESENTATION.** When speaking in behalf of God to the people, he **REPRESENTED GOD.** When speaking in behalf of Israel to God, he **REPRESENTED THE PEOPLE.** Sometimes the high priest represented God, and sometimes he represented the people. He stood between God and the people. He was **A MEDIATOR** between God and man.

S WITH THOSE THOUGHTS IN MIND, LISTEN TO TWO PASSAGES THAT SPEAK ABOUT JESUS:

- 1) **(1 Tim 2:5)**, "For there is one God, and **ONE MEDIATOR** between God and men, the man Christ Jesus;"
- 2) **(Heb 4:14-15)**, "Seeing then that we have **A GREAT HIGH PRIEST**, that is passed into the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our profession. { 15 } For we have not an high priest which cannot be **TOUCHED WITH THE FEELING OF OUR INFIRMITIES**; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin."

S **JESUS WAS GOD** and **JESUS WAS A MAN.** He is both God and man. In that respect He represents both God and man.

S **BECAUSE HE WAS MAN, HE HAS IDENTIFICATION WITH US. HE KNOWS HOW WE FEEL.** He can **UNDERSTAND OUR WEAKNESSES.**

- He became **HUNGRY** (Matt. 4:2)
- He **WALKED** through Samaria with His disciples and **BECAME TIRED & THIRSTY.** He stopped at a well to rest and drink (John 4:6-7)

- He **FELL ASLEEP** in a boat because He was tired (Mark 4:38)
- He was **MOVED WITH COMPASSION** as He looked on the multitudes (Matt. 9:36)
- **(Mark 8:12)**, “. . . HE **SIGHED DEEPLY** in his spirit, and saith, Why doth this generation seek after a sign? . . . ”
- Being moved by **GRIEF**, He **WEPT** over the city of Jerusalem and at the tomb of Lazarus (Matt. 23:37; Luke 19:41; John 11:34-35)
- **AT GETHSEMANE JESUS WAS OVERWHELMED.** He asked that the cup pass.
 - S **(John 12:27)**, “Now is my soul **TROUBLED**; and what shall I say? Father, save me from this hour: but for this cause came I unto this hour.”
 - S **(Mat 26:38)**, “Then saith he unto them, My soul is **EXCEEDING SORROWFUL**, even unto death. . . ”
 - S **(Isa 53:3)**, “He is despised and rejected of men; **A MAN OF SORROWS**, and **acquainted with grief**: and we **hid** as it were **our faces** from him; he was **despised**, and we esteemed him not.”
- **(Heb 4:15)**, “For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but **WAS IN ALL POINTS TEMPTED LIKE AS WE ARE**, yet without sin.”
- **JESUS CAN IDENTIFY WITH US BECAUSE HE BECAME ONE OF US.**

SONG (by Joseph Scriven 1855)

WHAT A FRIEND WE HAVE IN JESUS,

All our sins and griefs to bear.

What a privilege to carry everything to God in prayer.

Oh what peace we often forfeit, oh, what needless pain we bear.

All because we do not carry everything to God in prayer.

GOD KNOWS HOW WE FEEL

(Heb 2:18 NIV), “Because he himself suffered when he was tempted, he is able to help those who are being tempted.”

I. PRESENCE

II. REVELATION

III. IDENTIFICATION

IV. SACRIFICE

S At the entrance to the tabernacle was **THE BRAZEN ALTAR OF SACRIFICE**. EVERY DAY A **LAMB** was sacrificed on that altar. It was not a coincidence that God required a lamb. It was a lamb by design.

S THAT LAMB WAS A TYPE of **THE LORD JESUS**. GOD BECAME ONE OF US SO THAT HE MIGHT DIE A **CRUEL DEATH** on a cross in order to communicate to us **HIS INFINITE LOVE**. That sacrifice is **ALMOST BEYOND HUMAN COMPREHENSION**. WHY would God suffer such a cruel death when He had the capacity to avoid it? We are not left to wonder:

(John 3:16), “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."

I AM TOLD THAT THIS IS A TRUE STORY:

After a few of the usual **SUNDAY EVENING** hymns, the church's pastor slowly stood up, walked over to the pulpit and, before he gave his sermon for the evening, briefly **INTRODUCED A GUEST MINISTER** who was in the service that evening.

In the introduction, the pastor told the congregation that the guest minister was **ONE OF HIS DEAREST CHILDHOOD FRIENDS** and that he wanted him to have a few moments to greet the church and share whatever he felt would be appropriate for the service.

With that, **AN ELDERLY MAN** stepped up to the pulpit and began to speak "**A FATHER, HIS SON, AND A FRIEND OF HIS SON WERE SAILING OFF THE PACIFIC COAST,**" he began, "when a fast approaching **STORM** blocked any attempt to get back to the shore. The **WAVES** were so high, even though the father was an experienced sailor, he could not keep the boat upright and the three were swept into the ocean as the boat **CAPSIZED.**"

The old man hesitated for a moment, making eye contact with **TWO TEENAGERS** who were, for the first time since the service began, looking somewhat interested in his story. The aged minister continued with his story, "grabbing **A RESCUE LINE**, the father had to make the most excruciating decision of his life: **TO WHICH BOY** he would throw the other end of the life line. He only had seconds to make the decision. The father knew that his son was a Christian and he also knew that his son's friend was not. The agony of his decision could not be matched by the torrent of waves. "

"As the father yelled out, 'I love you, son!' he threw out the life line to his son's friend. By the time the father had pulled the friend back to the capsized boat, **HIS SON HAD DISAPPEARED** beneath the raging swells into the black of night. His body was never recovered."

By this time, the two teenagers were sitting up straight in the pew, anxiously waiting for the next words to come out of the old minister's mouth.

"The father," he continued, "knew his son would step into eternity with Jesus and he could not bear the thought of his son's friend stepping into an eternity without Jesus . . .

Therefore, he sacrificed his son to save the son's friend. How great is the love of God that He should do the same for us.

Our heavenly father sacrificed his only begotten son that we could be saved. I urge you to accept his offer to rescue you and take a hold of the life line he is throwing out to you in this service."

With that, **THE OLD MAN TURNED AND SAT BACK DOWN** in his chair as silence filled the room. The pastor again walked slowly to the pulpit and delivered a brief sermon with an invitation at the end.

However, no one responded to the appeal. Within minutes after the service ended, **THE TWO TEENAGERS** were at the old man's side.

"That was a nice story," politely stated one of the boys, "but **I DON'T THINK IT WAS VERY REALISTIC** for a father to give up his only son's life in hopes that the other boy would become a Christian."

"Well, you've got a point there," the old man replied, glancing down at his worn Bible. A big smile broadened his narrow face, he once again looked up at the boys and said, "It sure isn't very realistic, is it? But I'm standing here today to tell you that story gives me **A GLIMPSE** of what it must have been like for God to give up his son for me.

YOU SEE --- I WAS THAT FATHER AND YOUR PASTOR IS MY

SON'S FRIEND."

S AT A RECENT MEETING IN CALIFORNIA a lady shared a personal testimony. She told of another lady she had witnessed to with the hope of leading her to accept Jesus as her personal Savior. The lady made a very sobering comment before stopping the conversation and walking away. She said that she had grown up in an abusive family in which her father abused her. She said when she listens to the story of God sending His Son to die on a cruel cross that, as far as she was concerned, it was **CHILD ABUSE**. She said that she did not want to have anything to do with a God like that.

HOW WOULD YOU RESPOND TO A STATEMENT LIKE THAT? WHAT WOULD YOU HAVE SAID TO HER? I would have told her when Jesus hung on that cross, He was not just the Son of God, He was **GOD HIMSELF**. That was God in human flesh and it was God who chose to die for us. Philippians 2 tells us that He willingly gave up the glory of heaven that was rightfully His so that He might help us.

S IN THE TABERNACLE was THE ARK OF THE COVENANT. THE TOP OF THE ARK of the covenant represented the place where God met with man. That place where God met with man was called **THE MERCY SEAT**. God found a way to give us mercy, and that was through the sacrifice of His Son (Himself) ON THE CROSS. **THE CROSS WAS GOD'S MERCY SEAT**.

- I. PRESENCE
- II. REVELATION
- III. IDENTIFICATION
- IV. SACRIFICE

v. WORSHIP

S The O.T. TABERNACLE was often called *THE TENT OF MEETING*. It was **THE CENTER OF WORSHIP** in the camp of Israel. It was **THE GATHERING PLACE** for Israel. There was to **ONLY ONE TEMPLE**. God would not allow a temple to be built any place other than in Jerusalem. God was painting a picture.

S In like manner, Jesus is **THE CENTER OF OUR WORSHIP**. As there could only one temple, there is **ONLY ONE TRUE PLACE OF WORSHIP**. Remember that Jesus is *one of a kind*. Jesus alone is **THE GATHERING POINT** for us all. We gather at church to **WORSHIP JESUS**.

- **(John 12:32)**, "And I, if I be **LIFTED UP** from the earth, **WILL DRAW ALL MEN UNTO ME**."
- **(Mat 18:20)**, "For **WHERE TWO OR THREE** are gathered together in my name, there **AM I IN THE MIDST** of them."

- I. PRESENCE
- II. REVELATION
- III. IDENTIFICATION
- IV. SACRIFICE
- V. WORSHIP

vi. EXAMPLE

(1 Pet 2:21), "For even hereunto were ye called: because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us **AN EXAMPLE**, that ye should **FOLLOW HIS STEPS**:"

S Jesus was the **PERFECT HUMAN BEING**. As a result He set an example of what it means to be human.

S Jesus is **OUR PERFECT EXAMPLE**.

S **WITH THAT IN MIND**, listen to a verse that applies much of what has been said in this message to our lives:

- **(1 Cor 3:16)**, "KNOW YE NOT that YE ARE THE TEMPLE OF GOD, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you?"
- **IN A VERY REAL SENSE WE ARE NOW THE TABERNACLE OF GOD ON EARTH**. That truth can be PRESSED TOO FAR, but taken in the right manner, it is filled with truths for the Christian life.

PRESENCE. We are not God. But God does dwell in us. Jesus called us *the light of the world*. (Matt 5:14)

REVELATION. We are to share the Word of God wherever we find ourselves. We have been charged to be Great Commission Christians (Matt 28:19-20). Jesus said we are the salt of the earth (Matt 5:13)

IDENTIFICATION. We know how folks without Christ feel, because we were once there ourselves. We must bear one another's burden (Gal 6:2).

SACRIFICE. **(Rom 12:1)**, "I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service."

EXAMPLE. This world needs an example of how to live and serve God.

S **ADONIRAM JUDSON**, and his **WIFE ANNE**, WERE A MARVELOUS EXAMPLE OF SUFFERING FOR CHRIST so that others might hear.

S This world needs Christians who will set an **EXAMPLE OF SACRIFICE** so the lost world might know God is real.