

## Volume 1, Sermon 17

**Isaiah 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.

**Colossians 2:9** For in him dwelleth all the fulness of the Godhead bodily.

**Isaiah 9:6,7** 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. Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even for ever. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will perform this.

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**Note:** If you arrived here by Internet search, know that this series of sermons is about "The Whole Christ". Click on the up-left Logo to see the SiteMap where, among other things, this particular series began and continues. I pray you will be blessed as I am.

We continue with Jesus' body being *of heaven and not of earth* ... and then on to the Gospels.

**Isaiah 7:14** Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign; Behold, a virgin shall conceive (i.e. 'be with child', not the word 'conceive'), and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel.

The Son of God, the Lord of hosts, Christ to come ... is 'the Lord himself'.

**Isaiah 9:6,7** 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 (i.e. 'called, cried out, proclaimed') Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God (i.e. 'el', the God'; 'Elohim' is the plural form of the word, the multi-personal God), The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace. Of the increase (i.e. also 'abundance') of his government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish (i.e. also 'sustain') it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even for ever. The zeal (i.e. also 'jealousy') of the LORD (i.e. 'Jehovah or Yahweh', the Everlasting One) of hosts will perform this.

A virgin shall bear a son and (*after* the birth) he shall be forever proclaimed ... 'Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.' Therefore, Christ *after the birth and while walking the earth* ... was (is) all of this.

**Colossians 2:9** For in him dwelleth (i.e. constant present tense) all the fulness of the Godhead bodily. The word 'bodily' is an adverb modifying the action-verb 'dwelleth'). Thus, Jesus *while walking the earth and afterward* ... was (is) all of this.

Christ having descended and now ascended ... how can he be anything less?

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**Matthew 1:18** Now the birth of Jesus Christ was on this wise (i.e. 'this'): When as (i.e. 'for') his mother Mary was espoused to Joseph, before they came together, she was found (i.e. 'come upon, discovered') with child (i.e. 'that which is to have and/or hold' ... not 'child') of (i.e. 'of') the Holy Ghost.

The words 'with child' are not in the original; translators inserted it. Matthew wrote what was obvious ... yet without trying to describe *the thing* Mary was holding within her. Matthew did not have a normal human word for 'what it was' ... and so he wrote it in this manner.

Let me give the verse properly by the Greek, 'Now the birth of Jesus Christ was this: For his mother Mary, espoused to Joseph, before they came together she was discovered to be holding ... (and it was) of the Holy Ghost.'

Now let us look at Zacharias, Elisabeth, and Mary. **1:15** For he (i.e. John the Baptist) shall be great in the sight of the Lord, and shall drink neither wine nor strong drink; and he shall be filled with the Holy Ghost, even (i.e. 'yet') from (i.e. 'of', same word as with Mary) his mother's womb.

That is, *'he shall be filled with the Holy Ghost, yet of his mother's womb'*.

**1:23-25** And it came to pass, that, as soon as the days of his ministration were accomplished, he (Zacharias) departed to his own house. And after those days his wife Elisabeth conceived (i.e. 'conceived', unlike Mary in Isaiah 7:14 and Matthew 1:20 below), and hid herself five months, saying, Thus hath the Lord dealt with me in the days wherein he looked on me, to take away my reproach among men.

**1:41-44** And it came to pass, that, when Elisabeth heard the salutation of Mary, the babe leaped in her womb (see verse 15); and Elisabeth was filled with the Holy Ghost: And she spake out with a loud voice, and said, Blessed art thou among women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb. And whence is this to me, that *the mother of my Lord* should come to me? For, lo, as soon as the voice of thy salutation sounded in mine ears, the babe leaped in my womb for joy.

I find it interesting to *compare* all these verses to each other to see how they work so as to *distinguish* each from the other.

This may be the only time before Matthew 3:11-17 that John the Baptist and Christ Jesus met in close company (when John leaped for joy upon being introduced to Christ) ... and it also happened **'of the Holy Ghost'**.

The priest and his wife both were of the lineage of Aaron the high priest of the Mosaic Law. Joseph and Mary both were of the lineage of David, the chosen king.

**1:19,20** Then Joseph her husband, being a just man, and not willing to make her a publick example, was minded to put her away privily. But while he thought on these things, behold, the angel of the Lord appeared unto him in a dream, saying, Joseph, *thou son of David*, fear not to take unto thee Mary thy wife: for that which is conceived (i.e. 'to bring forth', not 'conceive') *in* (i.e. 'fixed-in') her is of the Holy Ghost.

The words **'that which'** are not in the original. Let us consider the actual words: *'for to bring forth, fixed within her, is of the Holy Ghost'*.

Consider the definition of 'conceive' or 'conception' which has to do with 'something new formed within a person'. This can be 1) a baby newly forming in a womb or 2) an idea or concept newly forming within the mind. Moreover, this Greek text specifically includes 'to being brought forth' ... which is **not about** 'being newly formed'. Nor does the text even mention *the something* 'to be brought forth'; only that it is 'to be brought forth'. (Thus, compare this to Elisabeth above.)

Verse 18 speaks to us of Mary's condition as 'having or holding' something ... and of her situation of being 'discovered'. Then verse 19 speaks of Joseph finding out about her condition. And in verse 20 the angel is saying to Joseph that 'the something fixed-in' Mary is of the Holy Ghost.

So we need to closely consider the births of John and of Jesus and also the mothers Elisabeth and Mary to see how the Holy Ghost was working with the greatest prophet and with the Son of God.

We know that God is Spirit, the Only Begotten is Spirit, the Christ to come was Spirit ... therefore the Descended-Christ also was Spirit and also all else as mentioned in Isaiah 9:6,7.

We have seen that God, Son, Spirit, or even an angel (all of heaven) can take on a *form* similar to earthlings and thus it seems to earthlings that they must also be of earth.

Ah but yet, it takes a *Spiritual revelation* infused within a person to realize that such a *formed something* is in fact of *heaven and not of earth*.

I have underlined in verse 20 regarding Joseph, because to Israelites a newborn son is always named by and after the father and his family and its lineage. Though Joseph was not the physical father, he nevertheless was chosen by the Lord himself to be the father for introducing Christ Jesus to the nation of Israel. All Israelites knew that the Messiah would come within the lineage of a **'son of David'**. The Angel Gabriel had made this very clear to Joseph (also to Zacharias, see above). Yet, much of the Church through the ages has thrown out this extremely important long-prophesied fact about Joseph.

The worldly father surely would have been checked by the religious authorities when in opposition to Jesus. *God's Plan of the Ages* had already arranged that Joseph and wife with child would be in the city of David when the Messiah would be born. Like Joseph, like Mary,

the Messiah by prophesy must also in every way be '**son of David**'.

Of the lineage of David by another of David's sons, Mary was *chosen to carry* the Christ. Yet, to proclaim her to be deity amid the long-prophesied birth of Christ has resulted in her being worshiped as much as her son. This, then, *requires her son be human like his mother ... and sinless like his mother*.

Therefore in this concept, it was *Mary's Son* that died for the sins of the world. The teaching goes like this, "God set all of it in motion ... but humanity in its most glorious condition accomplished it."

Thankfully, God (Father, Son, and Spirit) remains in charge as *God's Plan of the Ages* continually is being worked out.

Let me again remind the reader that we have seen in these sermons on *The Whole Christ* that John the Baptist (as well as the initial men of the twelve disciples) had very early received true Spiritual *revelation* that this One named Jesus is the Only Begotten of God ... Christ the Messiah having descended as promised according to Prophesy by the Lord himself and not according to human theology.

**1:22 Now all this was done, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken of the Lord by the prophet (Isaiah), saying, Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us.**

**1:24,25 Then Joseph being raised from sleep did as the angel of the Lord had bidden him, and took unto him his wife: And knew her not till she had brought forth her firstborn son: and he called his name JESUS (as commanded by the Angel Gabriel to both Mary and Joseph).**

As pointed out by Matthew in the above verses (and by the angel) it was necessary, as prophesied, that Joseph be of the lineage of King David ... thus be aligned with the town of Bethlehem of Judaea.

**2:1,2 Now when Jesus was born (i.e. 'brought forth') in (i.e. 'fixed-in') Bethlehem of Judaea in the days of Herod the king, behold, there came wise men from the east to (i.e. 'into') Jerusalem, Saying, Where is he that is born (i.e. 'brought forth') King of the Jews? for we have seen his star in the east, and are come to worship him.**

Now we consider the of-heaven body -

## Hebrews

**10:4 For it is not possible that the blood of bulls and of goats should take away sins. Wherefore when he (i.e. Christ) cometh into (i.e. 'is to enter in') the world, he (i.e. the Son of God) saith, Sacrifice and offering thou wouldest not, but a body hast thou (i.e. the Father) prepared (i.e. 'made complete or perfected') me (i.e. for My Sacrifice): (for) In burnt offerings and sacrifices for sin thou (i.e. the Father) hast had no pleasure.**

The word '**body**' means '*body dead or alive, human or animal*'. Therefore, in referring to when he would enter into the world, Christ had said '**...a body hast thou prepared me**'.

We know that the Father (Spirit) had made the Son of Himself ... but also He had '*prepared or perfected*' for the Son a body ... such that all the Godhead would be within the body for its Sacrifice. In sacrificing His Son, then, the Father was sacrificing Himself.

Indeed, in the song "Mary did you know" is the line "Did you know when kissing your baby boy you were kissing the face of God?" I truly thank the author of that wonderful Christmas song for its Truth often is sung amid the chaos of the modern holiday.

As mentioned above, the Scriptures written by men had to be *ambiguous regarding that 'body'*; in that It had been '**prepared**' in heaven specifically by the Father for Christ upon descent to earth.

Consider also the word '**prepared**' which means '*made complete or perfect*'; for the body of Jesus Christ is once again in heaven '*complete or perfect*' ... such that the children of God also shall be *made complete or perfect* when entering heaven. Are not the things in and of heaven '*complete or perfect*'?

That '*something*' for Mary to carry was of heaven and It had been placed there '**of**' heaven by the

Holy Spirit. Mary had been chosen to *hold within* her this '*something*' until *It* became introduced into the world. I repeat: that which *was* '*fixed-in*' her was '**of the Holy Ghost**'. Everything discussed above was '**of the Holy Ghost**'.

Mary had only to be willing ... also Joseph, son of David. Indeed, Zacharias and Elisabeth also had to be willing.

Christ entered the world *with the Holy Ghost upon him*.

Christ Jesus thirty years later entered his work for his Father *with the Holy Ghost upon him*.)

Eight days after emerging from that womb in the form of a male Judaite babe ... Christ was taken to the local synagogue in Bethlehem to be circumcised according to the Law of Moses (i.e. introduced to God's people Israel) and to receive the Name Jesus according to the Angel Gabriel (i.e. introduced to the world as its Savior).

**10:7 Then said I (Christ), Lo, I come** (i.e. '*have come*', present tense) ... (for) **(in the volume of the book it is written of me,) to do thy will, O God.**

The word '**volume**' actually means '*top or the heading, the main subject*'; in other words, it is like a *Title* you would place on a folder in your filing cabinet to *Describe* all that is in the folder. The word for '**of me**' means '*pertaining to me*' or '*regarding me*'.

*Christ to come ... Christ having once come as Jesus ... thus in Sacrifice having won the Height of Glory with the Father upon the Throne* is the very *Thing* [i.e. the whole Old Testament (before he came), the whole New Testament (after he first came), and the Revelation (about his coming again)] that is contained in '**(... the Volume of the Book ... written of me,) (is) to do thy will, O God**'.

## Hebrews 6

**1,2 Therefore leaving the principles of the doctrine of Christ, let us go on** (i.e. '*bring on*') **unto** (i.e. '*on, in, or to*') **perfection** (i.e. '*completion*'); **not laying again the foundation of repentance from dead works, and of faith toward God, of the doctrine of baptisms, and of laying on of hands, and of resurrection of the dead, and of eternal judgment** (and of grace, etc.).

That is, this '*bringing on to completion*' is *supposed* to be built upon '**the doctrine of Christ**' (himself) (and not upon the afore mentioned doctrines). These Sermons are about *The Whole Christ*.

Sadly, the early Church already had elevated the minor doctrines above '**the doctrine of Christ**'.

**3 And this will we do, if God permit.**

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## Now a little Exercise -

Below is a search result of going through the Gospels, Acts, and Revelation for Jesus' words '**I am**'.  
(a few of the verses are the Father's words)  
(verses in the following Gospels repeated in previous Gospels were not included here)  
(every verse below has the words '**I am**').

**Matthew 3:17 And lo a voice from heaven, saying, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.**

**Matthew 5:17 Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets: I am not come to destroy, but to fulfil.**

**Matthew 9:13 But go ye and learn what that meaneth, I will have mercy, and not sacrifice: for I am not come to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance.**

**Matthew 10:34,35 Think not that I am come to send peace on earth: I came not to send peace, but a sword. For I am come to set a man at variance against his father, and the daughter against her mother, and the daughter in law against her mother in law.**

**Matthew 11:29 Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls.**

**Matthew 15:24** But he answered and said, I am not sent but unto the lost sheep of the house of Israel.

**Matthew 17:5** While he yet spake, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them: and behold a voice out of the cloud, which said, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased; hear ye him.

**Matthew 20:15** Is it not lawful for me to do what I will with mine own? Is thine eye evil, because I am good?

**Matthew 20:22,23** But Jesus answered and said, Ye know not what ye ask. Are ye able to drink of the cup that I shall drink of, and to be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with? They say unto him, We are able. And he saith unto them, Ye shall drink indeed of my cup, and be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with: but to sit on my right hand, and on my left, is not mine to give, but [it shall be given to them] for whom it is prepared of my Father.

**Matthew 22:33,21** But as touching the resurrection of the dead, have ye not read that which was spoken unto you by God, saying, I am the God of Abraham, and the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob? God is not the God of the dead, but of the living.

**Matthew 26:32** But after I am risen again, I will go before you into Galilee.

**Matthew 26:61** And said, This fellow said, I am able to destroy the temple of God, and to build it in three days.

**Matthew 27:43** He trusted in God; let him deliver him now, if he will have him: for he said, I am the Son of God.

**Matthew 28:20** Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen.

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**Mark 8:29** And he saith unto them, But whom say ye that I am? And Peter answereth and saith unto him, Thou art the Christ.

**Mark 14:62** And Jesus said, I am: and ye shall see the Son of man sitting on the right hand of power, and coming in the clouds of heaven.

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**Luke 9:18** And it came to pass, as he was alone praying, his disciples were with him: and he asked them, saying, Whom say the people that I am?

**Luke 9:20** He said unto them, But whom say ye that I am? Peter answering said, The Christ of God.

**Luke 12:49** I am come to send fire on the earth; and what will I, if it be already kindled?

**Luke 12:51** Suppose ye that I am come to give peace on earth? I tell you, Nay; but rather division:

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**John 5:43** I am come in my Father's name, and ye receive me not: if another shall come in his own name, him ye will receive.

**John 6:35** And Jesus said unto them, I am the bread of life: he that cometh to me shall never hunger; and he that believeth on me shall never thirst.

**John 6:41** The Jews then murmured at him, because he said, I am the bread which came down from heaven.

**John 6:48** I am that bread of life.

**John 6:51** I am the living bread which came down from heaven: if any man eat of this bread, he shall live for ever: and the bread that I will give is my flesh, which I will give for the life of the world.

**John 7:28,29** Then cried Jesus in the temple as he taught, saying, Ye both know me, and ye know whence I am: and I am not come of myself, but he that sent me is true, whom ye know not. But I know him: for I am from him, and he hath sent me.

**John 8:12** Then spake Jesus again unto them, saying, I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life.

**John 8:16** And yet if I judge, my judgment is true: for I am not alone, but I and the Father that sent me.

**John 8:18** I am one that bear witness of myself, and the Father that sent me beareth witness of me.

**John 8:23** And he said unto them, Ye are from beneath; I am from above: ye are of this world; I am not of this world.

**John 8:28** Then said Jesus unto them, When ye have lifted up the Son of man, then shall ye know that I am he, and that]I do nothing of myself; but as my Father hath taught me, I speak these things.

**John 8:58** Jesus said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Before Abraham was, I am.

**John 9:5** As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.

**John 9:39** And Jesus said, For judgment I am come into this world, that they which see not might see; and that they which see might be made blind.

**John 10:7** Then said Jesus unto them again, Verily, verily, I say unto you, I am the door of the sheep.

**John 10:9-11** I am the door: by me if any man enter in, he shall be saved, and shall go in and out, and find pasture. The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have [it] more abundantly. I am the good shepherd: the good shepherd giveth his life for the sheep.

**John 10:14** I am the good shepherd, and know my sheep, and am known of mine.

**John 10:36** Say ye of him, whom the Father hath sanctified, and sent into the world, Thou blasphemest; because I said, I am the Son of God?

**John 11:25** Jesus said unto her, I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live:

**John 12:46** I am come a light into the world, that whosoever believeth on me should not abide in darkness.

**John 13:13** Ye call me Master and Lord: and ye say well; for [so] I am.

**John 13:19** Now I tell you before it come, that, when it is come to pass, ye may believe that I am [he].

**John 14:3** And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also.

**John 14:6** Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.

**John 14:10,11** Believest thou not that I am in the Father, and the Father in me? the words that I speak unto you I speak not of myself: but the Father that dwelleth in me, he doeth the works. Believe me that I am in the Father, and the Father in me: or else believe me for the very works' sake.

**John 14:20** At that day ye shall know that I am in my Father, and ye in me, and I in you.

**John 15:1** I am the true vine, and my Father is the husbandman.

**John 15:5** I am the vine, ye are the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing.

**John 16:32** Behold, the hour cometh, yea, is now come, that ye shall be scattered, every man to his own, and shall leave me alone: and yet I am not alone, because the Father is with me.

**John 17:10,11** And all mine are thine, and thine are mine; and I am glorified in them. And now I am no more in the world, but these are in the world, and I come to thee. Holy Father, keep through thine own name those whom thou hast given me, that they may be one, as we [are].

**John 17:14** I have given them thy word; and the world hath hated them, because they are not of the world, even as I am not of the world.

**John 17:16** They are not of the world, even as I am not of the world.

**John 17:24** Father, I will that they also, whom thou hast given me, be with me where I am; that they may behold my glory, which thou hast given me: for thou lovedst me before the foundation of the world.

**John 18:5** They answered him, Jesus of Nazareth. Jesus saith unto them, I am he. And Judas also, which betrayed him, stood with them.

**John 18:6** As soon then as he had said unto them, I am he, they went backward, and fell to the ground.

**John 18:8** Jesus answered, I have told you that I am he: if therefore ye seek me, let these go their way:

**John 18:37** Pilate therefore said unto him, Art thou a king then? Jesus answered, Thou sayest that I am a king. To this end was I born, and for this cause came I into the world, that I should bear witness unto the truth. Every one that is of the truth heareth my voice.

**John 20:17** Jesus saith unto her, Touch me not; for I am not yet ascended to my Father: but go to my brethren, and say unto them, *I ascend* unto my Father, and your Father; and to my God, and your God.

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**Acts 9:5** And he said, Who art thou, Lord? And the Lord said, *I am* Jesus whom thou persecutest: it is hard for thee to kick against the pricks.

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**Revelation 1:8** I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the ending, saith the Lord, which is, and which was, and which is to come, the Almighty.

**Revelation 1:11** Saying, I am Alpha and Omega, the first and the last: and, What thou seest, write in a book, and send [it] unto the seven churches which are in Asia; unto Ephesus, and unto Smyrna, and unto Pergamos, and unto Thyatira, and unto Sardis, and unto Philadelphia, and unto Laodicea.

**Revelation 1:17,18** And when I saw him, I fell at his feet as dead. And he laid his right hand upon me, saying unto me, Fear not; I am the first and the last: I am he that liveth, and was dead; and, behold, *I am alive* for evermore, Amen; and have the keys of hell and of death.

**Revelation 2:23** And I will kill her children with death; and all the churches shall know that I am he which searcheth the reins and hearts: and I will give unto every one of you according to your works.

**Revelation 21:6** And he said unto me, It is done. I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end. I will give unto him that is athirst of the fountain of the water of life freely.

**Revelation 22:16** I Jesus have sent mine angel to testify unto you these things in the churches. I am the root and the offspring of David, and the bright and morning star.

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From the beginning of Jesus' baptism an ongoing plot developed to deny the deity of Jesus as the Christ having descended to walk on the earth. We see that Satan himself tried to manipulate Jesus out of his duty-bound mission for the Father. And it continues.

This morning on the news a world-class tenor sang a new song entitled "Where else could a Lamb be born?" In the song is a phrase "... born in human *form*", which is accurate Scripture ... as these Sermons and the great many Bible passages reveal. Therefore, I put it to you dear reader that the Truth of our Lord remains active today, even beautifully sung on the widest watched TV news channel.

And at church Sunday morning we sang the Christmas song "Mary did you know". In it is a phrase "Did you know that kissing your child you were kissing the face of God", which is Truth, which these sermons are emphasizing to the many of us who have lost sight of this Truth. We think too much of Jesus in the *form* of a *human* and not nearly enough of his *constant Deity*.

Now let us consider: When I was working on Sermon 14 or Sermon 15 (I do not recall which) a book regarding the last three years of Jesus' life came out and soon thereafter the movie of the book came out. I watched the movie on TV. At its end, the normal credits followed with a statement that probably was unnoticed by most viewers. The statement (in my words and not a direct quote) stated, "Many modern experts and scholars believe that the Gospel of John was not written by the Apostle John; though historically, the Apostle John did live on the Isle of Patmos where he wrote the Book of Revelation".

The huge number of misconceptions I observed in the movie were explained by that statement. I will not get into the foolish argument about the Gospel of John because the Lord himself saw to it over the centuries that the Gospel of John was fully incorporated into the Four Gospels. Not until fairly recently has it ever been questioned by the Church at large.

The movie presents Jesus as a rather sensitive mixed up young man who in his final three years settled upon the ideal of goodness, love, etc., such that it became the theme of his life, such that he began a movement that gathered around him disciples, such that in the end of his life his friend Peter vowed to continue on with the movement. The movement, developed by Peter and followers became popular among many of the masses, eventually to evolve into the early stages of the Catholic Church. By varied avenues, political and otherwise, Peter's (so claimed) movement-church became a Ship from which independent church movements (i.e. denominations) separated, developing into ships from which other mini-movements emerged or separated, etc.

I mention the latter because translations of original texts into the English language were developed very early with yet something of a bias toward the Catholic Church that had been dominating England ... until such time that King James rebelled against the Pope in Rome and ordered an English bible to be constructed ... the Authorized King James Version ... of which nearly all later English versions use as a pattern in their variations. (This is a very simple explanation of what was much more complex and drawn out; even so, as a whole, many basic doctrines of the English speaking Church was thusly formed early on. I do not argue with the greater majority of them ... and do live by the great majority of them.)

Indeed, the formation and gathering of the early Hebrew and Greek texts had obviously been under the guidance of the Holy Spirit in the early history of the Church. Nevertheless, parts and/or aspects of *the translations* of those texts has been argued over centuries. Thank Goodness, for folks who speak the English language, helps to delve into the Scriptures also became developed by scripture-language experts. The one I use is *Stevens' Number System* because it was developed to work with the Authorized King James Version, both having been accomplished well before the modern translations. Moreover, both can be found on the Internet for free, and there is no other help quite like *Stevens' Number System*. I study the Scriptures and use such help in doing so. I encourage as many folks as I can to do the same.

Though I never get into direct criticism of such things as mentioned above ... when I had made the search included above for this sermon, the many '**I am**' verses in the Gospel of John clearly demonstrated that Jesus certainly knew he had come as the Messiah and that he was no normal man (human); instead the very Son of God descended from heaven in the *form* of a man (human). He knew he was Deity (Christ the Messiah), for he (as the Lord God) had promised it to Abraham ... to descend to earth, establish a kingdom, and rule (by way of Israel in the Holy City of Jerusalem) in Righteousness. So it shall be.

Indeed, Israel's religious leaders, keepers of the Mosaic Law, well understood that Jesus believed it. However, since Jesus' teachings did not fit the agenda to which they had dedicated their lives and within which they earned their livelihoods ... they rejected him since they were not of his sheep. Moreover, they understood that the power operating through Jesus was very dangerous to them; therefore, they set about using their political and Mosaic-Law-based power and religious influence to arrange his death. In this, they worked the Very Will of the Father and the Son as Planned even before the Ages of Mankind began.

Christ Jesus' Spirit is still proclaimed in the world ... even as the plot against the Truth of Him is ongoing.

The '**I am**' verses listed above in Revelation are so uniquely similar to the '**I am**' verses in the Gospel of John that they could almost be considered as an add-on to that Gospel. Is it not obvious from this search-exercise that the Apostle John wrote both?

Much in John's Gospel is about Jesus Christ; yet, its main theme has to do with *the very words of Jesus*. While young, John had been a favorite disciple of Jesus and had been enthralled with *Jesus' words*. Therefore, when led by the Spirit he wrote the Gospel so as to empathize *Jesus words*. Did not John tell us at his Gospel's end -

**John 21:24,25 This is the disciple which testifieth of these things, and wrote these things: and we know that his testimony is true. And there are also many other things which Jesus did (and**



said), **the which, if they should be written every one, I suppose that even the world itself could not contain the books that should be written. Amen.**

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## Hebrews 6

**1,2 Therefore (dear reader) leaving the principles of the doctrine of Christ, let us go on (i.e. 'bring on') unto (i.e. 'on, in, or to') perfection (i.e. 'completion'); not laying again the foundation of repentance from dead works, and of faith toward God, of the doctrine of baptisms, and of laying on of hands, and of resurrection of the dead, and of eternal judgment.**

**3 And this will we do, if God permit.**

In other words, this '*bringing on to completion*' is *supposed* to be built upon '**the doctrine of Christ**'. It is Christ Jesus himself who is his own '**doctrine**' ... which is our *foundation*. The aforementioned doctrines (important within themselves) have been given too much tribute by the Church through the ages. Throughout the Bible '**the doctrine of Christ**' is *The Whole Christ* ... to which these Sermons are dedicated.

The Lord Jesus Christ knew, and the apostles came to realize, that the early Church would elevate the minor doctrines above '**the doctrine of Christ**'. Ah, but is not Christ the Savior of both Israel and the Church?

**Hebrews 4:14-16 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. 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. Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.**

Sincerely, Ron