

SYSTEMATIC THEOLOGY

Video Lecture Series

by Dr. Stephen Myers and Robert D. McCurley, ThM

STUDY GUIDE

Module 4:
CHRISTOLOGY

Lecture 1:
**INTRODUCTION TO
CHRISTOLOGY**



The John Knox Institute
of Higher Education

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Entrusting our Reformed Inheritance to the Church Worldwide

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STUDY GUIDE

Module 4

Christology

Lectures by Dr. Stephen Myers:

1. Introduction to Christology
2. The Divinity of Christ
3. The Humanity of Christ

Lectures by Robert D. McCurley, ThM:

4. The Hypostatic Union
5. The States of Christ
6. The Offices of Christ
7. The Necessity of the Atonement
8. The Nature of the Atonement
9. The Extent of the Atonement
10. The Preeminence of Christ

SYSTEMATIC THEOLOGY

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Module 4: CHRISTOLOGY

Lecture 1: Introduction to Christology

Introduction

“When Jesus came into the coasts of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, saying, Whom do men say that I the Son of man am? And they said, Some say that thou art John the Baptist: some, Elias; and others, Jeremias, or one of the prophets. He saith unto them, But whom say ye that I am? And Simon Peter answered and said, Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God.”
(Matthew 16:13–16)

Theme: *The introduction to Christology*

Questions:

1. What opinions do people around you have about Christ?

2. At the very opening of this study of Christology, the great question of you for all time is, “*But whom say ye that I am?*” (verse 15). Who is Jesus? What does he mean to you personally? What does your life declare about who Jesus is?

I. Jesus is Jesus

“And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name JESUS: for he shall save his people from their sins.” (Matthew 1:21)

1. The meaning of the name “Jesus”.
2. Jehovah—Jesus saves his people.
3. What is Jesus saving?
4. From what will this saving Jesus save his covenant people?

Questions:

1. What does the name “Jesus” mean? How does the Old Testament testify the truth which the name of Jesus represents?

2. How do we know that Jesus is the saving God of the covenant from Matthew 1:21?

3. What does the phrase “his people” refer to? How does it manifest the identity of Jesus?

4. What will this saving Jesus save his covenant people from? What does it imply about our true need?

II. Jesus is the Christ

“And Simon Peter answered and said, Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God.”
(Matthew 16:16).

1. The title “Christ in the Old and New Testaments.
2. The expectation of Jewish people for the Messiah.’
3. The Messiah and his deliverance in the Old Testament.
4. Jesus, the Messiah in the New Testament.

Questions:

1. What does the title “*Christ*” mean in the Bible?

2. What does the phrase “Jesus’ earthly ministry” mean theologically? At the time of Jesus’ earthly ministry, what was the Jewish expectation of the Messiah?

3. What does Habakkuk 3 tell us about the Messiah and his deliverance?

4. How does this judging, all-powerful Messiah appear in Isaiah 11, verses 1 to 5? How does “the stem of Jesse” express the royal identity of the Messiah?

5. How does the place of Jesus’ birth fulfill the Old Testament prophesy of the Messiah?

III. Application

1. At the very center of biblical religion, there is a person, not just an abstract truth.
 - a. There is Jesus. He is at the center of the Bible.
2. When we deal with Christ, we are dealing with an infinitely glorious person.
3. Because of who he is, Jesus has undertaken a very specific work.

Questions:

1. Are we just dealing with the Old and New Testament realities? Why should the person of Jesus be focused throughout the study of the Bible?

2. When we learn about Jesus, as we draw near to Jesus, who are we actually dealing with? What should be the right attitude and motive when drawing near to this Jesus?

3. What are the specific works of Jesus? What are the attributes of these works of Jesus?

IV. Self-Reflection

1. There is a hymn of John Newton titled, “How Sweet the Name of Jesus Sounds.” It begins with “How sweet the name of Jesus sounds in a believer’s ear; it soothes his sorrows, heals his wounds, and drives away his fear.” How does the name of Jesus sound to your ears? Is this the most precious for you, that you want to live by and for this name?

2. Jesus is also titled “Emmanuel, God with us.” How does this title show the identity of Jesus? Have you been reconciled and restored in union and communion with God the Father, in the Son, and through the work of the Holy Spirit? (Matthew 18:23)
