

## Christ, the Son of God

That there is one Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of the Eternal Father, the one by whom God created all things, and by whom they do consist; that he took on him the nature of the seed of Abraham for the redemption of our fallen race; that he dwelt among men full of grace and truth, lived our example, died our sacrifice, was raised for our justification, ascended on high to be our only mediator in the sanctuary in Heaven, where, with his own blood he makes atonement for our sins; which atonement so far from being made on the cross, which was but the offering of the sacrifice, is the very last portion of his work as priest according to the example of the Levitical priesthood, which foreshadowed and prefigured the ministry of our Lord in Heaven. See Lev. 16; Heb. 8:4, 5; 9:6, 7; &c.

### 1. There is one Lord

1 Corinthians 8:6 “But to us [there is but] one God, the Father, of whom [are] all things, and we in him; and one Lord Jesus Christ, by whom [are] all things, and we by him.”

#### A. Noah Webster:

**Lord:** n. A master; a person possessing supreme power and authority; a ruler; a governor.

#### Thought Question(s):

1. In what sense is “one Lord” applied to Christ, since we find in Scripture “Lord” applied to many others besides just Christ?

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## 2. The Son of the Eternal Father

### A. The Father is the Eternal one:

Deuteronomy 33:27 “The eternal God [is thy] refuge, and underneath [are] the everlasting arms: and he shall thrust out the enemy from before thee; and shall say, Destroy [them].”

Daniel 7:13 “I saw in the night visions, and, behold, [one] like the Son of man came with the clouds of heaven, and came to the Ancient of days, and they brought him near before him.”

### B. Christ is the Son of God:

Hebrews 1:2 “Hath in these last days spoken unto us by [his] Son, ...”

John 20:31 “But 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.”

(See [Prov 30:4](#); [1 Jn 2:22, 23](#))

### C. Christ is begotten of the Father:

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.”

1 John 4:9 “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.”

(See also: [Pro 8:22-30](#); [1Jn 2:22-23](#); [1Jn 5:5](#))

### D. Christ Has a Divine Nature:

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

Hebrews 1:2-3 <sup>2</sup>“Hath in these last days spoken unto us by his Son, whom he hath appointed heir of all things, by whom also he made the worlds; <sup>3</sup>Who being the brightness of his glory, and the

express image of his person, and upholding all things by the word of his power, when he had by himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high.”

**William Tyndale:** “. . . very ymage of his substance . . .”  
(Hebrews 1:3, original spelling)

**(See also: Philippians 2:5)**

### **E. His position as a son, is one of submission:**

1 Corinthians 15:27-28 “For he hath put all things under his feet. But when he saith all things are put under him, it is manifest that he is excepted, which did put all things under him. <sup>28</sup>And when all things shall be subdued unto him, then shall the Son also himself be subject unto him that put all things under him, that God may be all in all.”

John 6:38 “For I came down from heaven, not to do mine own will, but the will of him that sent me.”

**(See also: Jn 20:17; Jn 14:28; Col 1:16)**

**Note: the word “son” itself implies submission. One definition of a father is defined as “The first ancestor; the progenitor of a race or family.”<sup>1</sup> The word “son” is defined primarily as “A male child; the male issue of a parent, father or mother.”<sup>2</sup> Thus it is natural for a son to submit to his father as to one greater than himself, as Christ himself said, “my Father is greater than I.” John 14:28. The word translated greater (meizon) represents one as greater, whether in age, position, number, etc.**

### **Thought Question(s):**

1. How would the belief that Christ is (not the begotten son but) only the figurative son of God impact one’s principles of interpretation of the Scriptures?

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1 Noah Webster 1828

2 Ibid

2. What evidence is there that Christ submitted to his Father even before the creation of this world? (Hint: see Ephesians 3:9)

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### **3. By whom God created all things and by whom all things consist**

#### **A. He existed before the creation of the world:**

Colossians 1:17a “And he is before all things, . . .”

John 1:1-3 “In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. <sup>2</sup>The same was in the beginning with God. <sup>3</sup>All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made.”

John 17:5 “And now, O Father, glorify thou me with thine own self with the glory which I had with thee before the world was.”

#### **B. He upholds all things:**

Hebrews 1:3 “Who being the brightness of his glory, and the express image of his person, and upholding all things by the word of his power, when he had by himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high.”

Colossians 1:17b “. . . and by him all things consist.”

### **Thought Question(s):**

1. To what extent was Christ involved in creation?
2. What ramifications are there to this doctrine from the false doctrine that Christ had no preexistence?

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## 4. Took nature of seed of Abraham

### A. Of the lineage of Abraham:

Hebrews 2:16-17 “For verily he took not on him the nature of angels; but he took on him the seed of Abraham. <sup>17</sup>Wherefore in all things it behoved him to be made like unto his brethren, that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in things pertaining to God, to make reconciliation for the sins of the people.”

### Thought Question(s):

1. What important purpose is implied by Christ’s being made like unto his brethren?
2. How does his being of the “seed of Abraham” affect our redemption?

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## 5. For the redemption of the fallen race

### A. The race is fallen:

Romans 7:14 “For we know that the law is spiritual: but I am carnal, sold under sin.”

Note: Fallen humanity is separated from God, his life, righteousness. Christ took this nature to be able to bring divinity and divine power to humanity.

### B. Redemption:

Ephesians 1:7 “In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace.”

Romans 3:24 “Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus.”

Romans 6:23 “For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is

eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.”

### **C. Noah Webster:**

Redeem v. To purchase back; to ransom; to liberate or rescue from captivity or bondage, or from any obligation or liability to suffer or to be forfeited, by paying an equivalent; as, to redeem prisoners or captured goods; to redeem a pledge.

**Note: This presents a two part process in our salvation. (See also: 1 Cor 7:23; Rom 5:8-11, 17-21; 2Cor 5:17-21)**

### **D. Salvation:**

Romans 5:9 “Much more then, being now justified by his blood, we shall be saved from wrath through him.”

Colossians 3:5-6 “Mortify therefore your members which are upon the earth; fornication, uncleanness, inordinate affection, evil concupiscence, and covetousness, which is idolatry: ‘For which things’ sake the wrath of God cometh on the children of disobedience.”

**(See also: Eph 5:2-6; 2Co 5:17, 21)**

### **Thought Question(s):**

1. If God has reconciled the world unto Himself, does that mean all the world will be saved?
2. In light of the two parts involved in our salvation, what is the work we have been given to do?

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## **6. Dwelt among men**

### **A. Experienced our woes and sorrows:**

John 1:14 “And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, . . .”

Isaiah 53:3-5 “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. <sup>4</sup>Surely he hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows: yet we did esteem him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted. <sup>5</sup>But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed.”

### **B. To be our high priest**

Hebrews 5:1-3 “For every high priest taken from among men is ordained for men in things pertaining to God, that he may offer both gifts and sacrifices for sins: <sup>2</sup>Who can have compassion on the ignorant, and on them that are out of the way; for that he himself also is compassed with infirmity. <sup>3</sup>And by reason hereof he ought, as for the people, so also for himself, to offer for sins.”

### **Thought Question(s):**

1. How does this fact qualify Christ to be our priest, advocate or comforter?

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## **7. Full of Grace and Truth**

### **A. Noah Webster:**

Grace n. Appropriately, the free unmerited love and favor of God, the spring and source of all the benefits men receive from him.

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.”

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.”

**(See also Jn 18:37; Jn 1:9; 2Cor 4:6; Jn 8:12)**

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## 8. Lived our example

1 Peter 2:21 “For even hereunto were ye called: because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that ye should follow his steps.”

### Thought Question(s):

1. What does this imply about the possibility of our overcoming sin?

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## 9. Died our sacrifice

Isaiah 53:4, 5, 8, 10 “Surely he hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows: yet we did esteem him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted. 5 But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed. <sup>8</sup> . . . for the transgression of my people was he stricken . . . <sup>10</sup> Yet it pleased the LORD to bruise him; he hath put him to grief: when thou shalt make his soul an offering for sin, he shall see his seed, he shall prolong his days, and the pleasure of the LORD shall prosper in his hand.”

Hebrews 9:26 “For then must he often have suffered since the foundation of the world: but now once in the end of the world hath he appeared to put away sin by the sacrifice of himself.”

### Thought Question(s):

1. Why was a sacrifice required?



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## 10. Raised for our justification

Acts 17:30-31 “And the times of this ignorance God winked at; but now commandeth all men every where to repent: <sup>31</sup>Because he hath appointed a day, in the which he will judge the world in righteousness by that man whom he hath ordained; whereof he hath given assurance unto all men, in that he hath raised him from the dead.”

**Note: If he had any sin in him, he could not have been raised. He stands in place of humanity, and his acceptance is acceptance of the human race.**

### Thought Question(s):

1. What does His resurrection have to do with our justification? How are we justified?

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## 11. Ascended on high to be our only mediator in the sanctuary in heaven

### A. His priesthood:

Hebrews 8:1-2 “Now of the things which we have spoken this is the sum: We have such a high priest, who is set on the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in the heavens; <sup>2</sup>A minister of the sanctuary, and of the true tabernacle, which the Lord pitched, and not man.”

Hebrews 9:15 “And for this cause he is the mediator of the new testament, that by means of death, for the redemption of the transgressions that were under the first testament, they which are called might receive the promise of eternal inheritance.”

Hebrews 4:14 “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.”

## **B. Interceding, standing as our representative in the courts of heaven**

1 Timothy 2:5 “For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus.”

Hebrews 9:24 “For Christ is not entered into the holy places made with hands, which are the figures of the true; but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God for us.”

### **Thought Question(s):**

1. What is involved in this mediation? Between who? What do the parties need from one another?

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## **12. Where with His own blood he makes atonement for our sins**

### **A. The priest maketh atonement:**

Leviticus 7:7 “. . . the priest that maketh atonement therewith . . .”

Romans 8:34 “Who is he that condemneth? It is Christ that died, yea rather, that is risen again, who is even at the right hand of God, who also maketh intercession for us.”

### **B. Blood was required to make atonement (The human race was condemned to death):**

Leviticus 17:11 “For the life of the flesh is in the blood: and I have given it to you upon the altar to make an atonement for your souls: for it is the blood that maketh an atonement for the soul.”

Hebrews 9:12 “Neither by the blood of goats and calves, but by his own blood he entered in once into the holy place, having obtained eternal redemption for us.”

## Thought Question(s):

1. What is atonement?
2. Why is blood required to make atonement?
3. Why are both the priest and the blood said to make atonement?

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### **13. which atonement so far from being made on the cross, which was but the offering of the sacrifice,**

#### **A. Atonement made in Heaven**

<sup>22</sup>And almost all things are by the law purged with blood; and without shedding of blood is no remission. <sup>23</sup>It was therefore necessary that the patterns of things in the heavens should be purified with these; but the heavenly things themselves with better sacrifices than these. <sup>24</sup>For Christ is not entered into the holy places made with hands, which are the figures of the true; but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God for us: (Hebrews 9:22-24)

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### **14. Is the very last portion of his work as priest according to the example of the Levitical priesthood which foreshadowed and prefigured the ministry of our Lord in Heaven.**

Leviticus 16:17-24, 30 “And there shall be no man in the tabernacle of the congregation when he goeth in to make an atonement in the holy place, until he come out, and have made an atonement for himself, and for his household, and for all the congregation of Israel. <sup>18</sup>And he shall go out unto the altar that is before the LORD, and make an atonement for it; and shall take of the blood of the bullock, and of the blood of the goat, and put it upon the horns of the altar round about. <sup>19</sup>And he shall sprinkle of the blood upon it with his finger seven times, and cleanse it,

and hallow it from the uncleanness of the children of Israel. <sup>20</sup>And when he hath made an end of reconciling the holy place, and the tabernacle of the congregation, and the altar, he shall bring the live goat: <sup>21</sup>And Aaron shall lay both his hands upon the head of the live goat, and confess over him all the iniquities of the children of Israel, and all their transgressions in all their sins, putting them upon the head of the goat, and shall send him away by the hand of a fit man into the wilderness: <sup>22</sup>And the goat shall bear upon him all their iniquities unto a land not inhabited: and he shall let go the goat in the wilderness. <sup>23</sup>And Aaron shall come into the tabernacle of the congregation, and shall put off the linen garments, which he put on when he went into the holy place, and shall leave them there: <sup>24</sup>And he shall wash his flesh with water in the holy place, and put on his garments, and come forth, and offer his burnt offering, and the burnt offering of the people, and make an atonement for himself, and for the people.... <sup>30</sup>For on that day shall the priest make an atonement for you, to cleanse you, that ye may be clean from all your sins before the LORD. (Leviticus 16:30)”

### Thought Question(s):

1. What only remains for the high priest to do after he leaves the most holy place of the sanctuary?
2. What does this typify?

## Appendix

**The atonement that is emphasized in this statement of beliefs as being only performed in heaven and not on the cross, is the atonement for sins that were confessed and transferred to the Sanctuary by the sin offerings.**

**But there was another atonement which culminated at the cross, which brought the human race a second probation, and**

**brought repentance within our reach which the pioneers of the Seventh Day Adventists of 1889 recognized as well.**

Through the shed blood he looked to the future sacrifice, Christ dying on the cross of Calvary; and trusting in the atonement that was there to be made, he had the witness that he was righteous, and his offering accepted. {Patriarchs and Prophets 72.3}

### **A. The Atonement on the Cross**

Leviticus 1:4 “And he shall put his hand upon the head of the burnt offering; and it shall be accepted for him to make atonement for him.”

**note: the flesh and blood of the burnt offering was entirely disposed of in the courtyard. No blood or flesh transferred sins to the sanctuary. The courtyard symbolized the earth and the atonement made there represented the atonement which grants us a temporal, earthly probationary life with the power of choice and help of God available giving us opportunities to repent and receive salvation. It covers everyone.**

Christ's death on the cross paid the ransom for every human being. All may overcome, because Christ has made an atonement for the sins of the whole world. To all He offers the power of redeeming grace (manuscript 140, 1903).

### **Thought Question(s):**

1. What is the difference between atonement made on the cross and that which is made in heaven?