

## LESSON 11

# The Uniqueness of Christ

**Objective** : Let us submit ourselves complete before the presence of Jesus by experiencing his greatnessfully

**Bible Portion** : Heb. 7:1. 8:6

**Memory Verse** : Heb. 3:1

Therefore, holy brothers , who share in the heavenly calling ,fix your thoughts on Jesus,the apostle and the high priest whom we confess.

### **Introduction:**

What are the major religions in the World? Who are the founders of Buddhism,Jainism,and Sikhism.The greatness of these religions lie in the teachings of the founders. But as far as Christianity is concerned , the important is on the person Jesus rather than his teachings. Holy Spirit reveals us the uniqueness of Jesus. So we should approach the topic with more prayer.

### **Jesus Christ is unique in various ways**

#### **1. Man of prophecy**

Jesus' birth, ministry,death,resurrection and ascension were prophesized thousands of years back by prophets. Thirty nine books of Old Testmant testify this. He ( son of woman ) will crush your head (Gen.3:15) was the first prophecy. Old Testament ends with certain prophesies related to Jesus.(Mal.4:2-6) . Some of the propohesis and their fulfilments mention below. They very clearly point out the unique person of history in the form of Jesus Christ. He was the fulfilment of prophesies. No one can be compared to him.

1.Birth place - Mic.5:2 , Mt.2:1-6

2.Virgin birth - Is.:1 : 14, Mt.1:22

3.Ministry - Is.61:13 , Lk.4:18-19

4.Betrayal of Jesus -Zech.11: 12 , Mt.26 : 47-50

5.Vicarious suffering and Death - Ps.22 , Is.53,Mt.26:57-27:61

6.Resurrection - Ps.16:10,Acts.2:25 ,31

7.Ascension - Ps.25:7-10 , Acts.1:9-11

## **2. Unique in Birth**

The second personality in Truine God is Jesus . He was born of virgin Mary and it was not of the will of flesh.Such a birth did not happen before and after, in the history. (Is.7:14,Mt.1:20-23,Lk.1:34-35,Gal.4:4). So he was sinless and his death have been considered as sin offering.

## **3.Unique in Life**

Jesus' enemies even wondered at his justic, humility, holiness,love and compassion.(Lk. 1:35,Mt.3:14,4:27-30,Mt.27:19-25,Lk.23:41-47,Mk.1:24,Jn.8:46) The people wondered at the gracious words of Jesus.(Lk.4:22). He travelled by doing goodness , healing the sick and casting out demons. (Act.10:29 , Lk . 4:40). He did everything perfect.

## **4.Unique in Being**

Perfect deity and humanity are wonderfully blended in Jesus.

- a. 'The son of David' in human perspective.(Mt. 1:1).The Lord of David in divine perspective.(Mt.22:43-46)
- b. He was hungry as a man (t.4:2,Mk.11:12) He feeds five thousand people and opines that he is the life of bread as God (Jn.6:11,35,36)
- c. As a man,he was born of a woman and as God,he was in the beginning,(LK.2:7.Jn 1:1)
- d. As a man, he was baptised by John, the Baptist and as God he is the giver of the Holy Spirit (Mt.15:16, Mt.3:11 ,Acts.1:5)
- e. He cried at the tomp of Lazaruz as a man and raised him from dead as God.(Jn.11:35,45)

- f. As a man, he was smaller than God, the Father. (Jn.10:29-30) and as God, he was equal to God.(Phili.2:6)
- g. As a man , he was forsaken by God (Mt.27:46) and as God , he is in unity with God, the father.(Jn.10:30)

### **5. Unique in Teaching**

No one never speaks as Jesus spoke.(Jn.7:6). His words were greater and authoritative than the prophets. Prophets says “Thus says the Lord” and Jesus says “I speak to you”. (Mt.5:16,20,28,32,44) His words accompanied by love and compassion are strong enough to console the hearts of men.(Mt.11:28 ) He used parables,similitudes and allegories in order to be understood by ordinary men.Every religious persons respect his teachings in same way.

### **6. Unique in Death**

The death of Jesus was not a natural one or it was not for his sins , but it was a death of atonement.Jesus was trialed in seven times in front of four judges such as Annas,Caiaphes,Herod and Pilot. At last Pilot verdicted to crucify Jesus by mentioning the point “In him I did not see any crime”. (Lk.23:4,14,22,23,26) .Such an event never happened in the history. Jesus , after being crucified by the jews , he prayed for them in this way,” Father forgive them;for they know not what they do”.The death of Jesus at cross was a decisive one.It was the plan of God to redeem the mankind from the sinful ways and bless them to enjoy the heavenly places with Jesus.(1 Jn.2:2,1Pet.2:24,Heb.1:3,9,26). Jesus birth was unique as manifestation of love and wisdom (Rom. 1:16,1Cori.1:23-24).Jesus’ death was not an accidental one,it was prophesized by the prophets.(1Cori.15:3,Acts.8:32-35). The natural phenomena (darkness, earth quake, raising of deads,tearing of the curtain of the temple,beraking of rocks) at the time of Jesus’death indicate his uniqueness.

### **7. Unique in Resurrection**

The tomb of great men, prophets and founders of religions still remain closed,but the reality is that the tomb of Jesus is open.The reality of resurrected Jesus was testified by many events such as the courage of the desciples,their testimony (Acts.2:32),Jesus’ appearances in different times (1Cori.15:3-8), testimony of angels (Lk.24:4-7) and the resurrected

life of the church. Jesus' resurrection is the fulfilment of prophecies and of his own words.(Ps.16:10,1Cori.15:4,Mt.16:21,17:9). The event , undoubtedly asserts the subjects such as the deity of Christ , the fullness of redemption through him , resurrection of the dead and the second coming of Jesus.

## **8.Unique in Priesthood**

The letter to the Hebrews clearly reveals the unique priesthood of Jesus. (Heb.3:14,4:14-16,5:5-10,6:20,7:13,15:28,8:1-6,9:11-28,10:9-14,13;10-13) The duty of the priest is to intercede and minister on behalf of men.The Old Testament priesthood was a failure in leading the people properly.It deviated men from God. (Ex.32:2-6,Jer.23:1-2,11,26:7-11) God sent his son and our Lord Jesus in human form to accomplish the things which could not be done by Old Testament law and its priesthood. He became a sacrifice once ,for all.(Heb.7:27) There is no need of further sacrifices. Jesus is alive forever to intercede for us ,as our most high priest and the mediator. (Heb.7:25,9:12,10:12-17) . Jesus' priesthood is not the succession of Aaronic priesthood , but the priesthood which has no succession in the order of Melchizedek. He is a priest forever ,has neither beginning of days nor end of life (Heb.7:3,12). A priest had to offer sacrifice for his own sins. Jesus was sinless ,So there is no need for him to offer sacrifice for his own sins (Heb.7:24). Our priest is holy,blameless,unstained separated from sinners and exalted above the heavens.We should have such a high priest.(Heb.7:26). Jesus is unique as the high priest because he made victory over death.Aaronic priests are many,but Jesus is the unchanging and eternal high priest.(Heb.7:23-25). One of the greatness of our high priest is that he is empathetic to our weaknesses.(Heb.4:14). Because he himself suffered when he was tempted,he is able to help those who are being tempted (Heb.2:18). Let us praise God by remembering our high priest.There is no need of a high priest except Jesus.

We have seen that Jesus Christ is unique in many ways.He is the high priest as saviour,one who watches us,healer and one who is alive forever.Let us submit ourselves fully by focussing his greatness.

## Questions :

1. Write briefly about the prophecies and their fulfilment related to Jesus , with the help of verses?
2. How was the birth of Jesus unique?
3. Prove the uniqueness of Jesus' Worldly life and his personality?
4. How the death of Jesus was unique?
5. Explain the specialities of the teachings of Jesus?
6. How the resurrection of Jesus revealed his uniqueness?
7. Explain the unique priesthood of Jesus with the help of verses from the letter to the Hebrews?
8. How far, your life is touched by the uniqueness of Jesus Christ?