

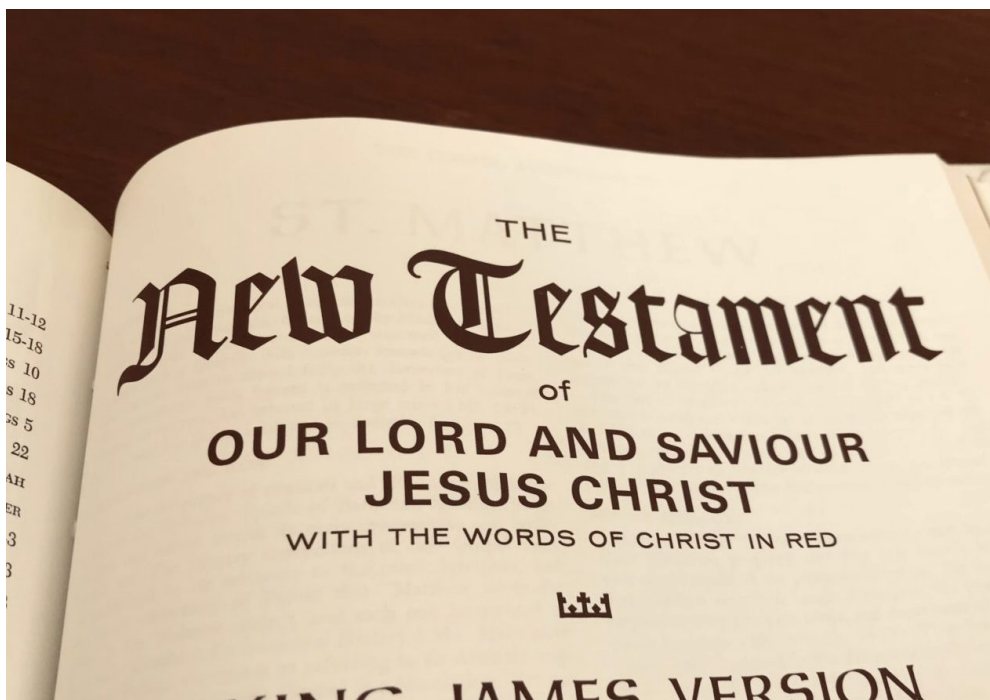
Title: Definition of A Christian Part 1



Christian

The word Christian comes from the Greek word *christianos* which is derived from the word *christos* or Christ, which means "anointed one."

A Christian, then, is someone who is a follower of Christ.



The first use of the word "Christian" in the Bible is found in

Acts 11:26 NIV:

26and when he found him, he brought him to Antioch. So for a whole year Barnabas and Saul met with the church and taught great numbers of people. The disciples were called Christians first at Antioch.

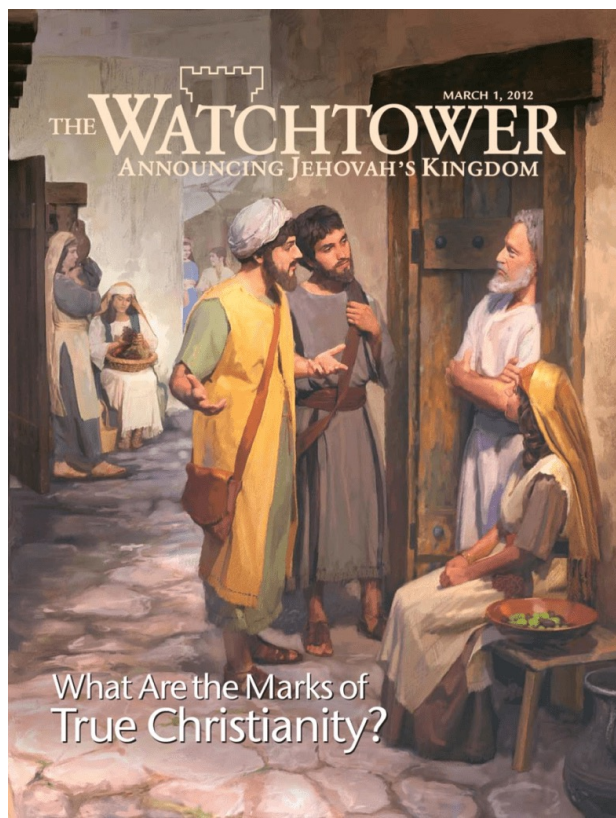
It is found only twice more in **Acts 26:28** and **1 Pet. 4:16**.

Acts 26:28 NIV:

28Then Agrippa said to Paul, "Do you think that in such a short time you can persuade me to be a Christian?"

1 Pet. 4:16 NIV:

16However, if you suffer as a Christian, do not be ashamed, but praise God that you bear that name.



However, it is important to note that it is the true Christ that makes someone a Christian and not the Mormon one (brother of the devil, see Mormon Beliefs for more information) or the Jehovah's Witnesses' one (Michael the Archangel), the New Age Jesus (a man in tune with the divine Christ Consciousness), etc.

The true Christ is God in flesh:

Jn. 1:1 NIV:

The Word Became Flesh

1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

JN. 1:14 NIV:

14The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

Jn. 20:28 NIV:

28Thomas said to him, "My Lord and my God!"

Phil. 2:5-8 NIV:

5In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus:

6Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage;

7rather, he made himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness.

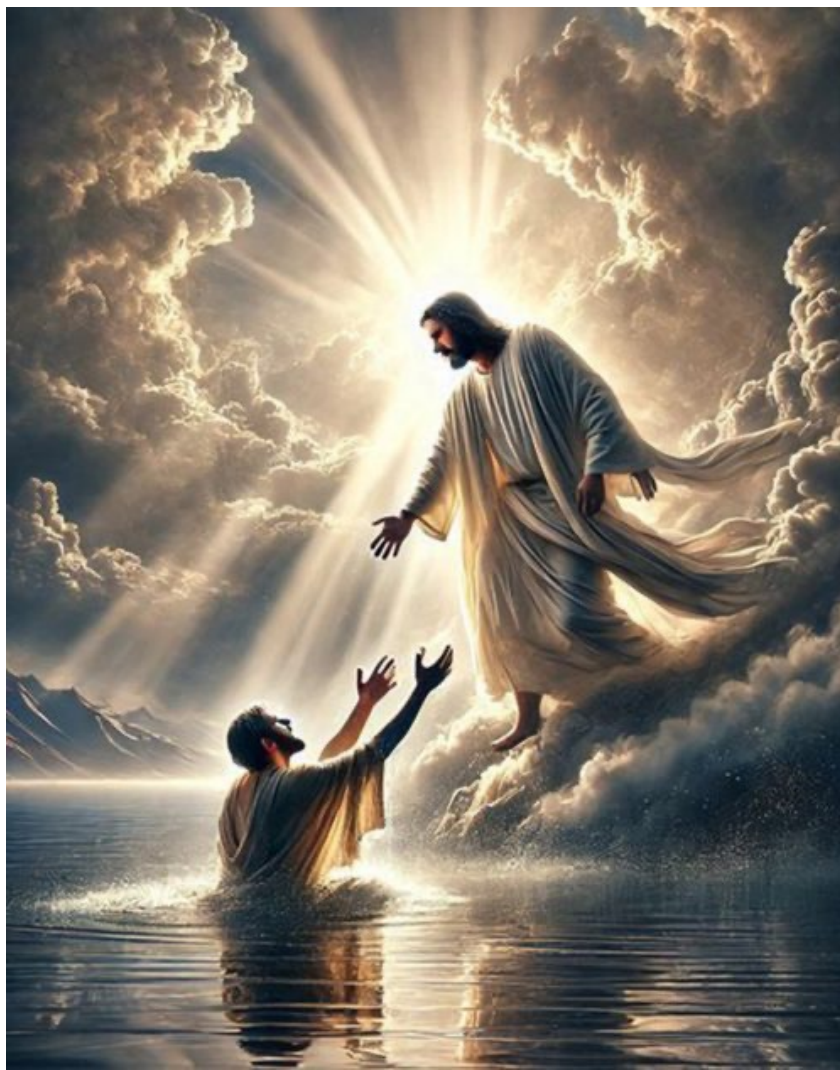
8And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death even death on a cross!

Col. 2:9 NIV:

9For in Christ all the fullness of the Deity lives in bodily form,

Heb. 1:8 NIV:

8But about the Son he says, "Your throne, O God, will last for ever and ever; a scepter of justice will be the scepter of your kingdom.



Christianity teaches that there is **only one God in all existence**, that God is a Trinity, that Jesus Christ is God in flesh, that salvation is by grace alone through faith alone, that Jesus died on the cross, and that Jesus rose from the dead in a glorified, physical body.

The religion that contradicts any of these teachings is not Christian.

Christianity

Christianity is the religion based on the teachings and works of Jesus. Jesus is the Christ.

The word "Christ" means anointed one.

Therefore, Jesus is the anointed one from God the Father who came to this world--fulfilled the Old Testament laws and prophecies.

Jesus, the Christ, died on the cross and rose from the dead physically.

He performed many miracles which were recorded in the gospels by the eyewitnesses.

He is divine in nature as well as human.

Thus, he has two natures and is worthy of worship and prayer.

Christianity is monotheistic, trinitarian, and teaches salvation by grace alone in Christ alone by faith alone.

Resurrection, Resurrection Bodies



Resurrection means to be raised from the dead:

John 5:28, 29 NIV:

28 and come out those who have done what is good will rise to live, and those who have done what is evil will rise to be condemned.

29 By myself I can do nothing; I judge only as I hear, and my judgment is just, for I seek not to please myself but him who sent me.

The word is used in different contexts in the Bible.

Lazarus was raised from the dead:

Jn.11:43 NIV:

43When he had said this, Jesus called in a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!"

This is a resurrection, but it is not part of the resurrection that occurs when we receive our new bodies when Christ returns (**1 Thess. 4:13-18**) on the last day (**John 6:39-44**) when the last trumpet is blown (**1 Cor. 15:51-55**).

1 Thess. 4:13-18 NIV:

Believers Who Have Died

13 Brothers and sisters, we do not want you to be uninformed about those who sleep in death, so that you do not grieve like the rest of mankind, who have no hope.

14 For we believe that Jesus died and rose again, and so we believe that God will bring with Jesus those who have fallen asleep in him.

15 According to the Lord's word, we tell you that we who are still alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will certainly not precede those who have fallen asleep.

16 For the Lord himself will come down from heaven, with a loud command, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet call of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first.

17 After that, we who are still alive and are left will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And so we will be with the Lord forever.

18 Therefore encourage one another with these words.

John 6:39-44 NIV:

39 And this is the will of him who sent me, that I shall lose none of all those he has given me, but raise them up at the last day.

40 For my Father's will is that everyone who looks to the Son and believes in him shall have eternal life, and I will raise them up at the last day."

41 At this the Jews there began to grumble about him because he said, "I am the bread that came down from heaven."

42 They said, "Is this not Jesus, the son of Joseph, whose father and mother we know? How can he now say, 'I came down from heaven'?"

43 "Stop grumbling among yourselves," Jesus answered.

44 "No one can come to me unless the Father who sent me draws them, and I will raise them up at the last day.

1 Cor. 15:51-55 NIV:

51 Listen, I tell you a mystery: We will not all sleep, but we will all be changed

52 in a flash, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed.

53 For the perishable must clothe itself with the imperishable, and the mortal with immortality.

54 When the perishable has been clothed with the imperishable, and the mortal with immortality, then the saying that is written will come true: "Death has been swallowed up in victory."

55 "Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death, is your sting?"

Lazarus died again.



The resurrection of Jesus is promissory in that as we know he was raised, so we will be raised also.

In that context, Jesus is the only one who has received a resurrected body.

That is why he is called the firstfruit from the dead:

1 Cor. 15:20-23 NIV:

20 But Christ has indeed been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep.

21 For since death came through a man, the resurrection of the dead comes also through a man.

22 For as in Adam all die, so in Christ all will be made alive.

23 But each in turn: Christ, the firstfruits; then, when he comes, those who belong to him.

We will receive our bodies either at the rapture or when Jesus returns to earth.

The resurrected body is not subject to death or sin.

We know very little about it except what was manifested by Jesus after His resurrection, namely, that He was able to move about as He desired--in and out of rooms without the use of doors.

Other than that, the rest is conjecture:

1 Cor.15 NIV:

The Resurrection of Christ

1 Now, brothers and sisters, I want to remind you of the gospel I preached to you, which you received and on which you have taken your stand.

2 By this gospel you are saved, if you hold firmly to the word I preached to you. Otherwise, you have believed in vain.

3 For what I received I passed on to you as of first importance: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures,

4 that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures,

5 and that he appeared to Cephas, and then to the Twelve.

6 After that, he appeared to more than five hundred of the brothers and sisters at the same time, most of whom are still living, though some have fallen asleep.

7 Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles,

8 and last of all he appeared to me also, as to one abnormally born.

9 For I am the least of the apostles and do not even deserve to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God.

10 But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace to me was not without effect. No, I worked harder than all of them yet not I, but the grace of God that was with me.

11 Whether, then, it is I or they, this is what we preach, and this is what you believed.

The Resurrection of the Dead

12 But if it is preached that Christ has been raised from the dead, how can some of you say that there is no resurrection of the dead?

13 If there is no resurrection of the dead, then not even Christ has been raised.

14 And if Christ has not been raised, our preaching is useless and so is your faith.

15 More than that, we are then found to be false witnesses about God, for we have testified about God that he raised Christ from the dead. But he did not raise him if in fact the dead are not raised.

16 For if the dead are not raised, then Christ has not been raised either.

17 And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile; you are still in your sins.

18 Then those also who have fallen asleep in Christ are lost.

19 If only for this life we have hope in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied.

20 But Christ has indeed been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep.

21 For since death came through a man, the resurrection of the dead comes also through a man.

22 For as in Adam all die, so in Christ all will be made alive.

23 But each in turn: Christ, the firstfruits; then, when he comes, those who belong to him.

24 Then the end will come, when he hands over the kingdom to God the Father after he has destroyed all dominion, authority and power.

25 For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet.

26 The last enemy to be destroyed is death.

27 For he "has put everything under his feet." Now when it says that "everything" has been put under him, it is clear that this does not include God himself, who put everything under Christ.

28 When he has done this, then the Son himself will be made subject to him who put everything under him, so that God may be all in all.

29 Now if there is no resurrection, what will those do who are baptized for the dead? If the dead are not raised at all, why are people baptized for them?

30 And as for us, why do we endanger ourselves every hour?
31 I face death every day yes, just as surely as I boast about you in Christ Jesus our Lord.

32 If I fought wild beasts in Ephesus with no more than human hopes, what have I gained? If the dead are not raised, "Let us eat and drink, for tomorrow we die."

33 Do not be misled: "Bad company corrupts good character."

34 Come back to your senses as you ought, and stop sinning; for there are some who are ignorant of God! say this to your shame.

The Resurrection Body

35 But someone will ask, "How are the dead raised? With what kind of body will they come?"

36 How foolish! What you sow does not come to life unless it dies.

37 When you sow, you do not plant the body that will be, but just a seed, perhaps of wheat or of something else.

38 But God gives it a body as he has determined, and to each kind of seed he gives its own body.

39 Not all flesh is the same: People have one kind of flesh, animals have another, birds another and fish another.

40 There are also heavenly bodies and there are earthly bodies; but the splendor of the heavenly bodies is one kind, and the splendor of the earthly bodies is another.

41 The sun has one kind of splendor, the moon another and the stars another; and star differs from star in splendor.

42 So will it be with the resurrection of the dead. The body that is sown is perishable, it is raised imperishable;

43 it is sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory; it is sown in weakness, it is raised in power;

44 it is sown a natural body, it is raised a spiritual body. If there is a natural body, there is also a spiritual body.

45 So it is written: "The first man Adam became a living being"; the last Adam, a life-giving spirit.

46 The spiritual did not come first, but the natural, and after that the spiritual.

47 The first man was of the dust of the earth; the second man is of heaven.

48 As was the earthly man, so are those who are of the earth; and as is the heavenly man, so also are those who are of heaven.

49 And just as we have borne the image of the earthly man, so shall we bear the image of the heavenly man.

50 I declare to you, brothers and sisters, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable.

51 Listen, I tell you a mystery: We will not all sleep, but we will all be changed

52 in a flash, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed.

53 For the perishable must clothe itself with the imperishable, and the mortal with immortality.

54 When the perishable has been clothed with the imperishable, and the mortal with immortality, then the saying that is written will come true: "Death has been swallowed up in victory."

55 "Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death, is your sting?"

56 The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law.

57 But thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

58 Therefore, my dear brothers and sisters, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain.



How do we obtain the Forgiveness of our Sins?



How do we get right with God, regardless of our individual sins?

Just say this Prayer and all of your sins will be forgotten, and you will have Eternal life, with Christ Jesus, in Heaven:

Lord Jesus, I repent of all my sins, and I ask you to come into my life, and I believe, that God raised You from the dead, this day, I ask you to be my Lord and Savior.

Romans 10:9 New Living Translation Reads:

9 If you openly declare that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.

Friends, if you prayed that prayer, I believe that you are born again, and you have ever lasting life, get in a good bible teaching church, and may you keep growing, in the Lord, and may HE use you to help save many souls for His Kingdom !

In, Jesus Mighty Name!

Rev. Jesus Del Rio, Ed