

C-H-R-I-S-T: AN ACROSTIC
Colossians 1:13-20

Introduction:

1. **An unknown author described Jesus in “A Solitary Life.”**

“He was born in an obscure village, the Child of a peasant woman. He grew up in another despised village. He worked in a carpenter shop until the age of thirty. Then for three years He was a traveling preacher. He never held public office. He never had a family or owned a house. He did not go to college. He never visited a large city. In fact, He never traveled more than two hundred miles from the place where He was born. He did none of the things one usually associates with greatness.

“He had no credentials but Himself. He was only thirty-three when the tide of public opinion turned against Him. His friends ran away. He was turned over to His enemies and put through the mockery of a trial. He was condemned to die though He had committed no crime. He was nailed to a cross between two thieves. While He was dying, His executioners gambled for His clothing, the only property He owned on earth. When He was dead, His body was placed in a borrowed tomb through the pity of a friend.

“Nineteen centuries have come and gone, and today He is the central figure of the human race, the leader of mankind’s progress. All the armies that ever marched, all the navies that ever sailed, all the parliaments that ever sat, all the kings that ever reigned, put together, have not affected the life of man on this earth as much as that ONE SOLITARY LIFE!”

2. **Without doubt, the most amazing, awesome Person Who ever lived was Jesus of Nazareth, the Christ, the Son of God.**
 - a. **His name is “Jesus” which means “Savior” (Matt. 1:21).**
 - b. **His title is “Christ” which means “Anointed One.”**

3. We are going to use the word “Christ” as an acrostic with each letter beginning a word which tells something of His nature.

Description:

I. “C” IS FOR CHRIST.

A. Our English word “Christ” is from the Greek “Christos.”

- 1. Its meaning is “the anointed one.”**
- 2. The Old Testament equivalent is “Messiah.”**

B. The holders of the highest offices in Israel were anointed.

- 1. Prophets were anointed (1 Kings 19:16).**
- 2. Priests were anointed (Exodus 29:4-9).**
- 3. Kings were anointed (1 Samuel 15:1; 16:1-13).**

C. The Old Testament prophets foretold the coming of Christ.

- 1. He would be a Prophet (Deut. 18:15; Acts 3:20-24).**
- 2. He would be a Priest (Psalm 110:4; Hebrews 5:5,6).**
- 3. He would be a King (2 Sam. 7:12,13; Acts 2:29,30).**

D. Peter made the Great Confession at Caesarea (Matt. 16:18).

II. “H” IS FOR HEAVEN SENT.

A. God developed a nation from Abraham in order to bring His Son into the world (Genesis 12:1-3; 22:18; Gal. 3:16).

B. God sent His Son into the world when the time was right:

“But when the fulness of the time had come, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the Law, to redeem those who were under the Law, that we might receive the adoption as sons” (Galatians 4:4,5).

III. “R” IS FOR REDEEMER.

A. To redeem something means to “buy it back.”

- 1. There were millions of slaves in the Roman Empire.**
- 2. Rich benefactors would buy slaves to set them free.**

B. Christ has redeemed us from our bondage to sin.

“Knowing that you were not redeemed with corruptible things, like silver or gold, from your aimless conduct received by tradition from your fathers, but with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot” (1 Peter 1:18,19).

C. A little boy made a boat, but lost it in a swift stream; later he saw other boys playing with it; he bought it from them, and said: “Little boat, you are twice mine; once because I made you and once because I bought you.”

IV. “I” IS FOR INCARNATION.

A. “Incarnation” is taking on human flesh, God becoming man (John 1:1-3,14).

B. The means by which the Word (Christ) became man was by the virgin birth.

- 1. Isaiah foretold the Christ would be born of a virgin (Isaiah 7:14; Matthew 1:22,23).**
- 2. Mary miraculously conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit.**

“The angel answered and said to her: ‘The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Highest will overshadow you; therefore also, that Holy One Who is to be born will be called the Son of God” (Lk. 1:35).

3. God had to become man so that He could die for sin

“Inasmuch then as the children have partaken of flesh and blood, He Himself likewise shared in the same, that through death He might destroy him who had the power of death, that is, the devil, and release those who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage” (Hebrews 2:14,15).

V. “S” IS FOR SACRIFICE.

- A. On the Day of Atonement a sin offering was given for Israel each year (Leviticus 16).**
- B. The blood of the Passover lamb saved the firstborn (Ex. 12)**
- C. Christ shed His blood on the cross as a sacrifice for our sin (John 1:29; 1 Corinthians 5:7; Hebrews 9:28).**

VI. “T” IS FOR TRIUMPHANT.

- A. Jesus made a triumphal entry into Jerusalem (Mt. 21:1-11).**
- B. He triumphed over sin by His death on the cross (Rev. 1:5).**
- C. He triumphed over death by His resurrection from the dead**
“I am He Who lives, and was dead, and behold, I am alive forevermore. Amen” (Revelation 1:18).
- D. He will come in triumph at the end of the age (Matt. 25:31).**

Conclusion:

- 1. “C” is for Christ; “H” is for Heaven sent; “R” is for Redeemer; “I” is for Incarnation; “S” is for Sacrifice; “T” is for Triumphant.**
- 2. Christ is the Author of eternal salvation to all who obey Him (Hebrews 5:9). (4)**

