Bible Thoughts

With P.H.A. Hopkins

Who is this Man Jesus?

The thoughts and note material given on these pages are only a possible suggestion of the meaning, they must not be taken as inspired, however, they are prayerfully prepared and compared with other similar material. There are many ways in which God's Word can be analyzed and none must be taken in place of the Word of God itself.

bible-thoughts.co.uk

study@bible-thoughts.co.uk

His coming was prophesied.

Isaiah 9:6,7.

"6 For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.

7 Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even for ever."

A boy child will be born who will be a man and rule the world forever. He will have the tiles of "The mighty God," and "The everlasting Father,"so he will be a "God-Man"

Isaiah 7:14.

"4 Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign; Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel."

We are told where he was to be born, over 700 years before the event, Micah 5:2.

"2 But thou, Bethlehem Ephratah, though thou be little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of thee shall he come forth unto me that is to be ruler in Israel; whose goings forth have been from of old, from everlasting."

Jesus was given many titles before and throughout His life, the main ones are:-

"The Messiah."

"Humble servant."

"Son of Man."

"Son of God."

Luke 1:30.

"30 And the angel said unto her, Fear not, Mary: for thou hast found favour with God. 31 And, behold, thou shalt conceive in

thy womb, and bring forth a son, and shalt call his name JE-SUS."

Jesus the man had a beginning, born as a child.

"Son of God.", "The Messiah"

As the Son of God he was eternal.

As a human Jesus was subject to God, as the Son of God he was equal with God.

John 14:28-31.

- "28 Ye have heard how I said unto you, I go away, and come again unto you. If ye loved me, ye would rejoice, because I said, I go unto the Father: for my Father is greater than I.
- 29 And now I have told you before it come to pass, that, when it is come to pass, ye might believe.
- 30 Hereafter I will not talk much with you: for the prince of this world cometh, and hath nothing in me.
- 31 But that the world may know that I love the Father; and as the Father gave me commandment, even so I do. Arise, let us go hence."

Phil 2:6-8,

- "6 Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God:
- 7 But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men:
- 8 And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross."

As a man Jesus could only use the power of God, John 5:19.

"19 Then answered Jesus and said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, The Son can do nothing of himself, but what he seeth the Father do: for what things soever he doeth, these also doeth the Son likewise."

The two natures of Jesus are eternally combined, therefore Jesus is able to speak and act from both natures.

Jesus was also called "The second Adam, " as a man he fulfilled the plans of God for Mankind.

1 Cor 15:21,22,

- "21 For since by man came death, by man came also the resurrection of the dead.
- 22 For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive."

Romans 5:17-19,

"17 For if by one man's offence death reigned by one; much more they which receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness shall reign in life by one, Jesus Christ.)

18 Therefore as by the offence of one judgment came upon all men to condemnation; even so by the righteousness of one the free gift came upon all men unto justification of life.

19 For as by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so by the obedience of one shall many be made righteous."

Matt 27:22,

Pilate saith unto them, "What shall I do then with Jesus which is called Christ?" They all say unto him, "Let him be crucified."

Pilate was a politician, he knew his job could depend upon the result of this question, the Jewish leaders had already decided to destroy this man Jesus but under Roman rule they did not have the power or authority to execute him, only Pilate had that power, and he could find no reason for the execution.

Who is this man Jesus and what has he done?

The apostle Paul in his letter to the Colossian church gives an answer to this question.

Colossians 1:15.

"Who is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of every creature:"

No one has seen God, so He sent His own Son in the form of a man to show, reflect and reveal God. Jesus, as the Son of God, came to take our place in the punishment God has for all Mankind, who have disobeyed and sinned against Him.

So let us examine as to who this man Jesus is, how do we know, if the claims made by the Bible, that he is the "Son of God" are true.

Let us consider what we know about God.

God is three in one - God the Father, God the Holy Spirit and God the Son.

God has the following attributes, we must remember that these attributes only demonstrate the essence of His Being and therefore must exist with His true nature, unlimited and infinite, they are one, unlike Mankind which are finite and subject to many limits.

God has been trying to re-establish the relationship He originally planned and existed for a short time with Adam and Eve. Jesus came to restore that relationship. Example, <u>Luke 15:1-10</u>, lost sheep, lost coin, lost and found.

Everyone matters to God.

The list is in no particular order.

It is impossible to explain the attitude of God towards Mankind. Why He should have so much love and desire to have a relationship with us cannot be explained considering the following reasons.

God is Holy and pure, set apart from anything else, therefore unapproachable by anything not pure and holy as He is. He will never do anything which is incompatible with His nature. He hates evil.

God is self–existence, eternal, does not depend upon anything outside Himself.

In God there is no time limitations, without a beginning and end. "I Am."

God has a character so is a person.

God is love unlimited.

John 3:16,

"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life."

His love is so big that He was willing to send Himself in the form of His Son to take the punishment for all the sins of all of Mankind.

God has wisdom unlimited, omniscience, knows all things, knowledge is part of His nature, complete and absolute.

His justice is perfect,

He can impart His righteousness to His creation.

He does not change, in perfection, purpose and presence, He is immutable. Any apparent change reported in the Scriptures is from a human point of view.

He is Omnipresent, His power and knowledge is everywhere at all times, past, present and future. At no time is He only partly present. He Himself is the Everywhere.

His Will cannot be questioned.

His power is unlimited, the power, energy can produce creation out of nothing.

The Bible teaches that Jesus was the "God-Man," that means God has taken on the physical attributes of a man but who still contains the attributes of the Godhead.

Prophecy.

There are many prophecies in the Old Testament which concerned Jesus the Christ, here are some.

Isaiah 40:3

"3 The voice of him that crieth in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the LORD, make straight in the desert a highway for our God."

Matt 3:3,

"3 For this is he that was spoken of by the prophet Esaias, saying, The voice of one crying in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make his paths straight."

Exodus 20:10,11,

"10 But the seventh day is the sabbath of the LORD thy God: in it thou shalt not do any work, thou, nor thy son, nor thy daughter, thy manservant, nor thy maidservant, nor thy cattle, nor thy stranger that is within thy gates:

11 For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them is, and rested the seventh day: wherefore the LORD blessed the sabbath day, and hallowed it."

Matt 12:8.

"8 For the Son of man is Lord even of the sabbath day."

Hosea 11:9,

"9 I will not execute the fierceness of mine anger, I will not return to destroy Ephraim: for I am God, and not man; the Holy One in the midst of thee: and I will not enter into the city."

A Holy sinless God.

John 8:46,

"46 Which of you convinceth me of sin? And if I say the truth, why do ye not believe me?"

Jesus never sinned.

Only as God-Man could his death take the punishment for the sins of man, the world.

Heb 1:1-3,

- "I God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets,
- 2 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;
- 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;"

Heb 10:10

"10 By the which will we are sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all."

Heb 12:2

"2 Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God."

Jesus never asked for forgiveness or needed too.

Adoration

Jesus knew the commandment from God that only God must be worshipped - Satan tried to get Jesus to worship him,

Luke 4:8

"8 And Jesus answered and said unto him, Get thee behind me, Satan: for it is written, Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and him only shalt thou serve."

Yet Jesus allowed himself to be worshiped, Matt 28:9.

"9 And as they went to tell his disciples, behold, Jesus met them, saying, All hail. And they came and held him by the feet, and worshipped him."

John 8:49-59,

- "49 Jesus answered, I have not a devil; but I honour my Father, and ye do dishonour me.
- 50 And I seek not mine own glory: there is one that seeketh and judgeth.
- 51 Verily, verily, I say unto you, If a man keep my saying, he shall never see death.
- 52 Then said the Jews unto him, Now we know that thou hast a devil. Abraham is dead, and the prophets; and thou sayest, If a man keep my saying, he shall never taste of death.
- 53 Art thou greater than our father Abraham, which is dead? and the prophets are dead: whom makest thou thyself?
- 54 Jesus answered, If I honour myself, my honour is nothing: it is my Father that honoureth me; of whom ye say, that he is your God:
- 55 Yet ye have not known him; but I know him: and if I should say, I know him not, I shall be a liar like unto you: but I know him, and keep his saying.
- 56 Your father Abraham rejoiced to see my day: and he saw it, and was glad.
- 57 Then said the Jews unto him, Thou art not yet fifty years old,

and hast thou seen Abraham?

- 58 Jesus said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Before Abraham was, I am.
- 59 Then took they up stones to cast at him: but Jesus hid himself, and went out of the temple, going through the midst of them, and so passed by."

The Jews wanted to kill Jesus because he said "I Am," He used the name given by God for Himself. Note that God did not use "I was" or "I will be," "Always been." No He used the Name "I AM," time is not involved with the name.

Exodus 3:13,14.

"13 And Moses said unto God, Behold, when I come unto the children of Israel, and shall say unto them, The God of your fathers hath sent me unto you; and they shall say to me, What is his name? what shall I say unto them?

14 And God said unto Moses, I AM THAT I AM: and he said, Thus shalt thou say unto the children of Israel, I AM hath sent me unto you."

John 13:31,

"31 Therefore, when he was gone out, Jesus said, Now is the Son of Man glorified, and God is glorified in him. 32 If God be glorified in him, God shall also glorify him in himself, and shall straightway glorify him."

John 17:1-5,

- "I These words spake Jesus, and lifted up his eyes to heaven, and said, Father, the hour is come; glorify thy Son, that thy Son also may glorify thee:
- 2 As thou hast given him power over all flesh, that he should give eternal life to as many as thou hast given him.
- 3 And this is life eternal, that they might know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent.
- 4 I have glorified thee on the earth: I have finished the work which thou gavest me to do.
- 5 And now, O Father, glorify thou me with thine own self with the glory which I had with thee before the world was."

John 14:12-14,

"12 Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father.

13 And whatsoever ye shall ask in my name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son.

14 If ye shall ask any thing in my name, I will do it."

1 Peter 4:11

"11 If any man speak, let him speak as the oracles of God; if any man minister, let him do it as of the ability which God giveth: that God in all things may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom be praise and dominion for ever and ever. Amen."

Jesus said he was God.

John 14:8-11.

" 8 Philip saith unto him, Lord, show us the Father, and it sufficeth us.

9 Jesus saith unto him, Have I been so long time with you, and yet hast thou not known me, Philip? he that hath seen me hath seen the Father; and how sayest thou then, Show us the Father? 10 Believest thou not that I am in the Father, and the Father in me? the words that I speak unto you I speak not of myself: but the Father that dwelleth in me, he doeth the works.

11 Believe me that I am in the Father, and the Father in me: or else believe me for the very works' sake."

Abilities.

Able to save people from their sins.

Hebrew 7:25

This was the main reason for God to come as a man, only a pure, sinless and perfect God-Man could take the punishment in place of Mankind.

"Wherefore he is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by him, seeing he ever liveth to make intercession for them."

Romans 10:9-11

"9 That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved.

10 For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.

11 For the scripture saith, Whosoever believeth on him shall not be ashamed."

1 Timothy 2:5,6.

- "5 For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus;
- 6 Who gave himself a ransom for all, to be testified in due time. "

Control or Subdue.

Phil 3:20,21.

"20 For our conversation is in heaven; from whence also we look for the Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ:

21 Who shall change our vile body, that it may be fashioned like unto his glorious body, according to the working whereby he is able even to subdue all things unto himself."

Secure or Keep.

2 Timothy 1:12.

"For the which cause I also suffer these things: nevertheless I am not ashamed: for I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that he is able to keep that which I have committed unto him against that day."

We have to ask the question of all people, "what are you going to do with Jesus?"

We all must make an individual decision, a "Not Decision" like "I'm thinking about it" is actually making a decision because we are making a choice by that simple action, you may not have another chance to make that decision again, no one knows what the next few minutes hold for each of us.

ACCEPT or REJECT NOW.

The Bible text records that we all will ultimately be judged by Jesus, it will then be too late to make a decision.

Many people believe in the man Jesus, but right now you should believe on Jesus the Son of God and be saved today,

"Jesus, by faith save me."

Luke 9:21-24.

Luke 2:42-52.

The Bible tells us that on earth Jesus is both God and man, as God, He is able to work miracles, he can forgive sins, he has the power to conquer death and then is able to predict and control the future. However, the Jewish nation only had an image of God as a brilliant cloud or a tower of flames. The arrival, abilities and powers of Jesus caused great confusion. How could a baby, born in a lowly situation in Bethlehem, an apparent child of a carpenter who came from the known bad town of Nazareth, be the looked for Messiah from God?

So we have to ask, "why did God take on a human form?" We can see the answer when as a twelve year old, Jesus sat in the temple talking to the religious leaders. "Everyone who heard him was amazed of his understanding and answers." <u>Luke 2:47.</u>

For the first time the people could talk directly with God in a visible form. Jesus was able to talk to everyone without having to say, "God is here, beware!" because Jesus, the man as God was in a form which allows us to approach without fear.

Jesus was God and a man in one person, This means that God and man can have a happy relationship together again.

Jesus has given us access to God and the eternal life He original planned for us, <u>John 17:1-3.</u>

- "I These words spake Jesus, and lifted up his eyes to heaven, and said, Father, the hour is come; glorify thy Son, that thy Son also may glorify thee:
- 2 As thou hast given him power over all flesh, that he should give eternal life to as many as thou hast given him.
- 3 And this is life eternal, that they might know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent."

Jesus the Mediator

To be a mediator that person has to have some relationship with both parties,

1 Tim 2:5.

"5 For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus;"

Jesus the High Priest.

As a man Jesus had experience what life was like, Heb 4:15-16,

"5 For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin.

16 Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need."

Heb 7:24-27,

"24 But this man, because he continueth ever, hath an unchangeable priesthood. 25 Wherefore he is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by him, seeing he ever liveth to make intercession for them.

26 For such an high priest became us, who is holy, harmless, undefiled, separate from sinners, and made higher than the heavens;

27 Who needeth not daily, as those high priests, to offer up sacrifice, first for his own sins, and then for the people's: for this he did once, when he offered up himself."

Jesus revealed God to man.

John 14:9-11,

"9 Jesus saith unto him, Have I been so long time with you, and yet hast thou not known me, Philip? he that hath seen me hath seen the Father; and how sayest thou then, Show us the Father? 10 Believest thou not that I am in the Father, and the Father in me? the words that I speak unto you I speak not of myself: but

the Father that dwelleth in me, he doeth the works.

11 Believe me that I am in the Father, and the Father in me: or else believe me for the very works' sake."

If Jesus was not God then His death on the cross would be a total waste, it would mean nothing. A pure, perfect man must take the punishment for our disobedience of God, only God Himself is that pure and perfect, therefore, God Himself was the only one who could take the punishment in our place.

Jesus deserves all the honour and glory for he has conquered death for us in our place, He should have the highest place in our hearts.

Mark 8:29,

"29 And he saith unto them, But whom say ye that I am? And Peter answereth and saith unto him, Thou art the Christ."