

Names & Titles 2021 Pt. 2

Pastor James Foley – Shared Sunday, April 18, 2021

INTRODUCTION

Thank you for joining us today! Whether you are here in person or watching via the livestream, you are most welcome. Please have a Bible at the ready and be prepared to take some notes. We have much to cover in a relatively short amount of time.

SETTING THE STAGE

NOTE 1 – We are in the midst of a series on the “names and titles” of Jesus Christ. As was noted last week, Scripture employs an array of designations used in reference to Christ (i.e., each providing some unique insight into His nature and work). Moreover, each helps us to understand how we are to live both in and before Him as Christians. Last Sunday we addressed Jesus as the...

1) Almighty

He is both unrivaled in authority and unlimited in power (i.e., omnipotent).

2) Alpha and Omega

He is the source of creation and history—with things will culminating with His good purpose.

3) Amen

He is the sure and certain foundation on whom the promises of God rest (i.e., He who fulfills promises).

NOTE 2 – Let us take the time to consider an additional four names and/or titles this morning...

#1 IMMANUEL

The first title I want to consider appears in the Book of Matthew (i.e., Birth Narrative of Christ)...

Matthew 1:18–23 (Emphasis Mine)

18 This is how the birth of Jesus the Messiah came about: His mother Mary was pledged to be married to Joseph, but before they came together, she was found to be pregnant through the Holy Spirit. 19 Because Joseph her husband was faithful to the law, and yet did not want to expose her to public disgrace, he had in mind to divorce her quietly.

20 But after he had considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, “Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. 21 She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, [lit. the Lord Saves] because he will save his people from their sins.” 22 All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: 23 “The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call him **Immanuel**” (which means “**God with us**”).

NOTE 1 – Matthew 1:23 alludes to a prophecy from Isaiah 7:14 wherein the Christ-child was to be born of a “virgin” and called “Immanuel” (lit. “God with us”). In His coming to earth, Jesus—in the fullest sense of the phrase—existed as “God with us” due to His Incarnation...

Q. What is the “Incarnation”?

A. The reality that God became man in Christ and took upon Himself human flesh and the human experience...

John 1:1–3, 14

1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. 2 He was with God in the beginning. 3 Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. . . . 14 The 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.

Philippians 2:5–7

5 In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus:
 6 Who, being in very nature God,
 did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage;
 7 rather, he made himself nothing
 by taking the very nature of a servant,
 being made in human likeness.

Hebrews 4:14–16

14 Therefore, since we have a great high priest who has ascended into heaven, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold firmly to the faith we profess. 15 For we do not have a high priest who is unable to empathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are—yet he did not sin. 16 Let us then approach God’s throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.

NOTE 2 – “Immanuel” also speaks to the benefit(s) of His abiding presence in our lives. In context, the prophecy of Isaiah foretold of a child who would signal God’s presence in the midst of national distress, ensuring relief and deliverance from earthly enemies and oppressors. Consider...

FYI 1 – In the days of Isaiah, the king of Judah was concerned about a foreign alliance between his adversaries. Would his kingdom be overrun? Through Isaiah, God assured the king that He would be with them, safeguarding the nation with His protective hand. To attest to this promise, God would cause a young maiden (i.e., “virgin”) known to the court to conceive and bring forth a child “Immanuel.” Every time they looked upon the boy, they would be reminded of God’s presence and delivering power!

FYI 2 – Thus said, Christ is present as “God with us” in the midst of our distress, ensuring ultimate relief from every enemy and oppressor (e.g., earthly, spiritual, etc.). Every time we look upon Jesus as the “Immanuel” we are reminded of the One who gives deliverance in every circumstance and victory over every enemy...

Romans 8:35, 37–39

35 Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? . . . 37 No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. 38 For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, 39 neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Q. Contemporary Application?

- A1.** To what degree do you understand that Christ came and lived the life you are now living?
A2. To what degree do you understand and embrace the reality that God ‘empathizes’ with you?
A3. To what degree do you know that God in Christ is “with you” (present) in the midst of “living”?
A4. To what degree do you look to Christ as the One who can bring about deliverance and relief?

#2 EXPRESS IMAGE OF GOD’S PERSON

The second title I want to explore appears in the opening of the Book of Hebrews...

Hebrews 1:1–3a (Emphasis Mine)

1 In the past God spoke to our ancestors through the prophets at many times and in various ways, 2 but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, and through whom also he made the universe. 3 The Son is the radiance of God’s glory and **the exact representation of his being**, sustaining all things by his powerful word.

NOTE 1 – The phrase “exact representation of his being” indicates that Jesus is the “express image” of God (e.g., character, nature and being). In our day, “image” suggests a copy of the real thing. However, this notion does not apply to the underlying Greek phrase...

NOTE 2 – In the first century, this phrase indicated the imprint of a die, such as the impression on coins. Jesus “bears the stamp” of the divine nature itself. This phrase, then, indicates an identity with God so full and complete that Jesus perfectly represents the Father!

QUOTE – “The Son is the perfect imprint, the exact representation of the nature and essence of God in time and space.” –John MacArthur

KEY 1 – Hence the following teaching of Christ to His followers...

John 14:1–9

1 “Do not let your hearts be troubled. You believe in God; believe also in me. 2 My Father’s house has many rooms; if that were not so, would I have told you that I am going there to prepare a place for you? 3 And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am. 4 You know the way to the place where I am going.” 5 Thomas said to him, “Lord, we don’t know where you are going, so how can we know the way?” 6 Jesus answered, “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. 7 If you really know me, you will know my Father as well. From now on, you do know him and have seen him.” 8 Philip said, “Lord, show us the Father and that will be enough for us.” 9 Jesus answered: “Don’t you know me, Philip, even after I have been among you such a long time? Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father.”

KEY 2 – Hence the remarks of the apostle Paul...

Colossians 1:15 (Emphasis Mine)

15 The Son is the **image** of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation.

Colossians 2:9 (Emphasis Mine)

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

Q. Contemporary Application?

- A1.** Have you ever wondered what God “thinks” on a given topic?
- A2.** Have you ever wondered how God would respond in a given circumstance?
- A3.** Have you ever wondered about the overarching purposes of God for time and eternity?
- A4.** Do you want to “accurately” understand the character, nature, heart, mind and mission of God?

FYI – All you have to do is look to and consider Christ and you will see and hear all you need to know!

#3 JUDGE

Our next title for the Lord Jesus appears in the final letter of the apostle Paul (i.e., that we have on file)...

2 Timothy 4:6–8 (Emphasis Mine)

6 . . . I am already being poured out like a drink offering, and the time for my departure is near. 7 I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. 8 Now there is in store for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous **Judge**, will award to me on that day—and not only to me, but also to all who have longed for his appearing.

FYI – This passage identifies Christ as the Judge—the righteous Judge to whom we will one day give account...

Q. Do you realize this is how Jesus presented Himself as well?

Matthew 25:31–46

31 “When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, he will sit on his glorious throne. 32 All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate the people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. 33 He will put the sheep on his right and the goats on his left.

34 “Then the King will say to those on his right, ‘Come, you who are blessed by my Father; take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world. 35 For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, 36 I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.’

37 “Then the righteous will answer him, ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink? 38 When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you? 39 When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?’ 40 “The King will reply, ‘Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.’

41 “Then he will say to those on his left, ‘Depart from me, you who are cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels. 42 For I was hungry and you gave me nothing to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, 43 I was a stranger and you did not invite me in, I needed clothes and you did not clothe me, I was sick and in prison and you did not look after me.’

44 “They also will answer, ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or needing clothes or sick or in prison, and did not help you?’ 45 “He will reply, ‘Truly I tell you, whatever you did not do for one of the least of these, you did not do for me.’ 46 “Then they will go away to eternal punishment, but the righteous to eternal life.”

Q. Contemporary Application?

A1. To what degree do you understand your “accountability “before the Lord?

A2. To what degree are you prepared for judgment (i.e., as it will most certainly come)?

Hebrews 4:13

13 Nothing in all creation is hidden from God’s sight. Everything is uncovered and laid bare before the eyes of him to whom we must give account.

#4 THE BRIGHT MORNING STAR

Our final title for the Lord Jesus appears—once again—in the Book of Revelation...

Revelation 21:12–16 (Emphasis Mine)

12 “Look, I am coming soon! My reward is with me, and I will give to each person according to what they have done. 13 I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last, the Beginning and the End.

14 “Blessed are those who wash their robes, that they may have the right to the tree of life and may go through the gates into the city. 15 Outside are the dogs, those who practice magic arts, the sexually immoral, the murderers, the idolaters and everyone who loves and practices falsehood.

16 “I, Jesus, have sent my angel to give you this testimony for the churches. I am the Root and the Offspring of David, and **the bright Morning Star.**”

KEY – Herein the Lord refers to Himself as the “bright Morning Star.”

Q. What does this mean?

A. The ancients would look to the morning star to herald the dawning of a new day (i.e., being the brightest celestial body). Its appearance announced the coming of the day. Jesus, in Revelation 22, uses this term in reference to Himself, for He is the One who will announce at His Return the dawning of God’s new day...

QUOTE – “When Jesus comes, He will dispel the darkness of man’s night and herald the dawn of God’s glorious day!” –John MacArthur

Q. Contemporary Application?

A1. To what degree are you convinced that the dawning of God’s new day is coming?

A2. To what degree does the hope of the life and/or age to come instill “hopefulness and joy”?

A3. To what degree are you prepared for His Return? To what degree are you watchful and readied?

KEY – With the Lord the best is always ahead...

Proverbs 4:18

18 The path of the righteous is like the morning sun, shining ever brighter till the full light of day.

SUMMATIONS

As we have seen, Scripture is replete with “names and titles” regarding the person, nature and work of Christ. When we speak of Christ, we speak of one who is the Almighty, the Alpha and the Omega, the Amen, Immanuel (God with Us), the Express Image of God’s Person, the Judge and the Bright Morning Star! Yet...

Q. What impact do these principles have on your life and living?

Q. What impact should these principles have in your Christian experience?

A. These are questions only you can answer—yet I would encourage you to look to Him!

CONCLUSION

Thank you for joining us today. If you wish to give online feel free to do so at www.NewLifeBarre.org. If you wish to give in person there are offering boxes throughout the church facility. I close this service with the following blessing...

Numbers 6:24–26

24 ““The Lord bless you
and keep you;

25 the Lord make his face shine on you
and be gracious to you;

26 the Lord turn his face toward you
and give you peace.”