# KARDIOLOGY 101: HOW TO GUAR D YOUR HEART THE PERSON AND WORK OF JESUS CHRIST

# THE PERSON AND WORK OF JESUS CHRIST

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#### 2. JESUS IS PREEMINENT

Jesus is the *prōtos*: He is first, having preeminence over all. He is the chief that holds the greatest rank and the highest office. He is supreme above all and exalted over all. Nothing is above Him and no one ranks higher. There is no power or authority above Jesus Christ.

<u>Philippians 2:9-11</u> Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth, and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

<u>Colossians 1:18</u> And He is the head of the body, the church, who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in all things He may have the preeminence.

#### 1. JESUS IS GOD, THE EXPRESS IMAGE & FULLNESS OF GOD

Jesus is the physical and visible representation of God Himself. When man sees and knows Jesus, he sees and knows God. His essence and character are a complete, accurate, and perfect expression of God because Jesus, as a member of the Godhead, is Himself deity.

<u>John 10:30, 12:45</u> "I and My Father are one." (12:45) "And he who sees Me sees Him who sent Me."

<u>Colossians 1:15, 19, 2:9</u> He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. (19) For it pleased the Father that in Him all the fullness should dwell. (2:9) For in Him dwells all the fullness of the Godhead in bodily form.

<u>Hebrews 1:3a</u> [Jesus is] the brightness of His glory and the express image of His person . . . .

# 3. JESUS IS THE SON OF GOD

Jesus called God His Father (John 5:18) and the Father called Jesus His Son (Matt. 3:17). He is the unique Son, the only begotten Son of the Father (John 3:16), born fully man and fully God.

Matthew 26:63b-64a And the high priest answered and said to Him, "I adjure You by the living God that You tell us if You are the Christ, the Son of God." Jesus said to him, "It is as you said."

<u>John 1:32a, 34</u> And John bore witness, saying . . . "And I have seen and testified that this is the Son of God."

<u>I John 5:20</u> And we know that the Son of God has come and has given us an understanding, that we may know Him who is true; and we are in Him who is true, in His Son Jesus Christ.

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# 4. JESUS IS IMMANUEL

Jesus partook of flesh and blood (Heb. 2:14), was made like us (Heb. 2:17), and lived among us (John 1:14). He is God with us—the God who abides with mankind.

<u>Isaiah 7:14</u> Therefore the Lord Himself will give you a sign: Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a Son, and shall call His name Immanuel.

Matthew 1:22-23 Now all this was done that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the Lord through the prophet, saying: "Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and bear a Son, and they shall call His name Immanuel," which is translated, "God with us."

Matthew 28:20b "... and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age."

#### 6. JESUS IS GOD'S SERVANT

God the Father sent Jesus His Son as a servant to bless mankind. Jesus did not cling to His prerogatives of deity but gave up His right to be served and became a servant (Phil. 2:6-7). He obeyed the Father and submitted to His plans, not speaking on His own authority, but speaking only what God commanded Him (John 12:49).

<u>Matthew 12:18a</u> Behold, My servant whom I have chosen, My Beloved in whom My soul is well pleased.

Matthew 20:28 Just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many.

Acts 3:26 . . . God, having raised up His Servant Jesus, sent Him to bless you, in turning away every one of you from your iniquities.

#### 5. JESUS IS THE HEIR OF ALL THINGS

God the Father has granted that Jesus the Son be the heir of everything. God has also granted that His adopted sons, believers in Jesus, are joint heirs alongside Jesus.

<u>Psalm 2:8</u> Ask of Me, and I will give You the nations for Your inheritance, and the ends of the earth for Your possession.

<u>Hebrews 1:2</u> [God] has in these last days spoken to us by His Son, whom He has appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the worlds.

Romans 8:16-17 The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs-heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with Him, that we may also be glorified together (cf. Galatians 4:7; Titus 3:7; James 2:5).

# 7. JESUS IS THE HEAD OF THE BODY (CHURCH)

God the Father appointed Jesus the Son as the Head of the body, the Church. Jesus is the exalted leader and ruler of the Church and the One to whom the Church is subject. His intimacy with and love for the body compels His tender care for her. He nourishes and cherishes the body in order to produce growth in purity and holiness that the body may be a glorious reflection of Himself.

Ephesians 1:22-23 And He put all things under His feet, and gave Him to be head over all things to the church, which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills all in all (cf. Eph. 5:23, 26-27, 29-30; Col. 1:18).

Colossians 2:19... holding fast to the Head, from whom all the body, nourished and knit together by joints and ligaments, grows with the increase which is from God (cf. Eph. 4:15-16).

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# 8. JESUS IS THE BRIDEGROOM OF THE CHURCH

Jesus purchased the Church (His bride) with the bride-price of His own life and blood (I Cor. 6:19-20; I Pet. 1:18-19). In Jewish tradition, after the bride-price was paid, the groom would return home to prepare a dwelling for his bride (John 14:2-3). In turn, the bride would prepare her wedding garments in anticipation of her groom's return. The bridegroom's return was announced with the sound of a shofar (trumpet, I Thessalonians 4:16-17) followed by the wedding ceremony, the consummation of the marriage, and the week-long wedding feast.

Revelation 19:7-8, 9 Let us be glad and rejoice and give Him glory, for the marriage of the Lamb has come, and His wife has made herself ready. And to her it was granted to be arrayed in fine linen, clean and bright, for the fine linen is the righteous acts of the saints. (9). . . blessed are those who are called to the marriage supper of the Lamb.

# 10. JESUS IS THE SCAPEGOAT

Jesus is the scapegoat—the goat of departure. Levitical law required that on the Day of Atonement the High Priest cast lots to select one goat for sacrifice and another as the scapegoat, "to make atonement upon it" (Lev. 16:5-22). The High Priest laid hands on the head of the scapegoat, confessed the iniquities of Israel, symbolically transferring them onto the goat. The goat was then released into the wilderness, representing the nation's sins departing.

<u>Leviticus 16:22a</u> The goat shall bear on itself all their iniquities . . .

<u>Isaiah 53:6, 11b, 12b</u> And the Lord has laid on Him the iniquity of us all. (11b) . . . He shall bear their iniquities. (12b) He bore the sin of many.

<u>II Corinthians 5:21</u> For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.

#### 9. JESUS IS THE CHIEF CORNERSTONE, CAPSTONE & LIVING STONE

Jesus is the stone, chosen by God, upon which the church is built. He is the foundation upon which Jews and Gentiles are united into one household. He is also the stone of stumbling, rejected by those who do not believe on Him. (cf. Matt. 21:42; Rom. 9:32-33; I Pet. 2:4-8.)

<u>Isaiah 28:16</u> Therefore thus says the LORD God: "Behold, I lay in Zion a stone for a foundation, a tried stone, a precious cornerstone, a sure foundation; whoever believes will not act hastily."

<u>Acts 4:11</u> This is the stone which was rejected by you builders, which has become the chief cornerstone.

<u>Ephesians 2:20</u> having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief cornerstone.

# 11. JESUS IS THE SACRIFICIAL SIN OFFERING

Jesus is the sin offering, selected as a sacrifice "for the people" (Lev. 16:5-28). Levitical law required that on the Day of Atonement the High Priest sprinkle the blood of the sin offering on the mercy seat in the Holy Place and on the altar to make atonement for sin. Afterwards, the remains of the sin offering were burned outside the camp.

<u>Leviticus 16:9</u> [he] shall bring the goat on which the LORD's lot fell, and offer it as a sin offering.

<u>Hebrews 9:12, 13:11-12</u> Not with the blood of goats and calves, but with His own blood He entered the Most Holy Place once for all . . . (13:11-12) For the bodies of those beasts, whose blood is brought into the sanctuary by the high priest for sin, are burned outside the camp. Therefore Jesus also, that He might sanctify the people with His own blood, suffered outside the gate.

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# 12. JESUS IS THE LAMB OF GOD

Jesus is the Passover (Paschal) Lamb, the Lamb of God. The Passover  $(p\bar{a}\underline{s}ach)$  is an annual feast commemorating the LORD's passing over the houses of the children of Israel in Egypt, but killed the firstborn of the Egyptians (Exodus 12).  $P\bar{a}\underline{s}ach$  means a sparing or an exemption. The Israelites were spared God's judgment when they put the blood of a yearling lamb, without blemish, on the doorposts of their home. Jesus, the Lamb, suffered and shed His blood on the day of Passover.

<u>John 1:29</u> ... John saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, "Behold! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!"

<u>I Corinthians 5:7</u> For indeed Christ, our Passover, was sacrificed for us.

<u>I Peter 1:19</u> [you were redeemed] with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot.

#### 14. JESUS IS THE INTERCEDING HIGH PRIEST

Jesus is the living, interceding High Priest Who talks with the Father on our behalf. He appears before God's throne, interceding for our eternal salvation, which was obtained at His own expense. His pleading prevails over the enemy's accusations against us (Rev. 12:10).

Romans 8:33-34 Who shall bring a charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. Who is he who condemns? It is Christ who died, and furthermore is also risen, who is even at the right hand of God, who also makes intercession for us (cf. I John 2:1).

<u>Hebrews 7:25, 9:24</u> Therefore He is also able to save to the uttermost those who come to God through Him, since He ever lives to make intercession for them. (9:24) For Christ has not entered the holy places made with hands, which are the copies of the true, but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God for us.

#### 13. JESUS IS THE GREAT HIGH PRIEST

God the Father appointed Jesus the Son as Great High Priest. His role as High Priest is a marvelous and grand display of both His deity and His humanity (Heb. 2:17). Christ's role as High Priest is multifaceted and joins attributes such as eternal, immutable, faithful, and holy, to His work as interceder, helper, sympathizer, redeemer, reconciler, and mediator of the New Covenant.

<u>Hebrews 5:5, 10</u> So also Christ did not glorify Himself to become High Priest, but it was He who said to Him: "*You are My Son, today I have begotten You.*" (10) called by God as High Priest . . .

Hebrews 7:24, 26 But He, because He continues forever, has an unchangeable priesthood. (26) For such a High Priest was fitting for us, who is holy, innocent, undefiled, separate from sinners, and has become higher than the heavens. (See also Hebrews 3:2, 7:28.)

# 15. JESUS GIVES AID TO THOSE TESTED BY ADVERSITY

The Greek word for aid in Hebrews 2:18 is  $bo\bar{e}th\acute{e}\bar{o}$ , from  $bo\bar{e}$ , meaning a cry or exclamation, and  $th\acute{e}\bar{o}$ , meaning to run. This word literally means to run at a cry. Jesus hears the cries of the sufferer and compassionately runs alongside to uphold, assist, and help. The opposite of  $bo\bar{e}th\acute{e}\bar{o}$  is to frustrate or hinder. Jesus will never add hindrance or frustration to our suffering.

Hebrews 2:16, 18 For indeed He does not give aid to angels, but He does give aid to the seed of Abraham. (18) For in that He Himself has suffered, being tempted, He is able to aid those who are tempted.

<u>Hebrews 4:15-16</u> For we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but was in all points tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

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#### 16. JESUS IS THE MEDIATOR OF THE NEW COVENANT

A mediator intervenes to unite two parties and bring about an agreement between them. Jesus' death paid the debt owed by the offender (man) to the Offended Party (God), thus instituting a new agreement (Covenant) between these two parties. (See I Tim 2:5-6.) The New Covenant supersedes The Old Covenant.

<u>Hebrews 8:6</u> But now He has obtained a more excellent ministry, inasmuch as He is also Mediator of a better covenant, which was established on better promises.

Hebrews 9:15 And for this reason He is the Mediator of he new covenant, by the means of death, for the redemption of the transgressions under the first covenant, that those who are called may receive the promise of eternal inheritance (cf. Hebrews 12:24).

#### 18. JESUS IS THE RECONCILER

To reconcile means to bring a change in relationship from one of hostility and enmity to one of peace. Jesus' death was the catalyst to bring reconciliation to the relationship between God and mankind.

Romans 5:10-11 For if when we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of His Son, much more, having been reconciled, we shall be saved by His life. And not only that, but we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received the reconciliation.

Colossians 1:20-21 and by [Jesus] to reconcile all things to Himself, by Him, whether things on earth or things in heaven, having made peace through the blood of His cross. And you, who once were alienated and enemies in your mind by wicked works, yet now He has reconciled.

#### 17. JESUS IS THE PROPITIATION

The blood sacrifice of Jesus Christ satisfied and appeased the Father's wrath against sinners. Only a righteous sacrifice could satisfy God's holy justice.

<u>Romans 3:25a</u> [Christ Jesus] whom God set forth to be a propitiation by His blood, through faith, to demonstrate His righteousness . . . .

<u>Hebrews 2:17</u>... in all things He had to be made like His brethren, that He might be a merciful and faithful High Priest in things pertaining to God, to make propitiation for the sins of the people.

<u>I John 2:2, 4:10</u> And He Himself is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the whole world. (4:10) In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins.

# 19. JESUS IS THE REDEEMER & THE RANSOM

Jesus is both the redeemer (purchaser) and the ransom (price paid). He is the redeemer in that He purchased mankind out of slavery to sin, thus freeing man from the bondage of death. He is the ransom in that His blood was the actual price paid for the purchase of mankind.

<u>I Corinthians 1:30</u> You are in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God-and righteousness and sanctification and redemption . . . .

<u>Ephesians 1:7</u> In [Jesus] we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace.

Revelation 5:9 And they sang a new song, saying: "You are worthy to take the scroll, and to open its seals; For You were slain, and have redeemed us to God by Your blood out of every tribe and tongue and people and nation."

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# 20. JESUS IS THE AUTHOR AND FINISHER OF OUR SALVATION

Jesus is the author of our salvation in that He caused, originated, and founded it; He is the very source of salvation. Jesus is the finisher of our salvation in that He completed or perfected our salvation through His obedience to the Father and subsequent suffering unto death.

<u>Hebrews 2:10</u> For it was fitting for Him, for whom are all things and by whom are all things, in bringing many sons to glory, to make the author of their salvation perfect through sufferings.

<u>Hebrews 5:9</u> And having been perfected, He became the author of eternal salvation to all who obey Him.

<u>Hebrews 12:2a,b</u> looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross . . .

# 22. JESUS IS SAVIOR

Jesus is the One who saves. God the Father sent Jesus the Son to rescue and deliver the world from the penalty of sin, which is death. Jesus the Savior offers life, immortality, repentance, and forgiveness.

<u>Luke 2:11</u> For there is born to you this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.

Acts 5:30-31 The God of our fathers raised up Jesus whom you murdered by hanging on a tree. Him God has exalted to His right hand to be Prince and Savior, to give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins.

<u>II Timothy 1:10</u> [We are saved by grace that has] been revealed by the appearing of our Savior Jesus Christ, who has abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel.

#### 21. JESUS IS THE MESSIAH

Jesus is the Messiah, the Anointed One for whom the Jews were waiting. In Bible times prophets, priests, and kings were anointed, which represented being set apart for God's service. Jesus was anointed by Mary prior to His death (John 12:3-8), and He claimed to be the Anointed One from Hebrew prophecy (Luke 4:17-21; Is. 61:1).

<u>John 1:41</u> [Andrew] first found his own brother Simon, and said to him, "We have found the Messiah" (which is translated, the Christ).

<u>John 4:25-26</u> The woman said to Him, "I know that Messiah is coming" (who is called Christ). "When He comes, He will tell us all things." Jesus said to her, "I who speak to you am He."

<u>John 6:69</u> "Also we have come to believe and know that You are the Christ, the Son of the living God."

# 23. JESUS IS THE BREAD OF LIFE

God the Father sent Jesus the Son from heaven to earth as the bread of life. The Father sent this Bread that mankind may never hunger, but have eternal and life-giving sustenance. Jesus said His flesh and body was the bread that He willingly gave so that mankind might live.

<u>John 6:33, 48</u> For the bread of God is He who comes down from heaven and gives life to the world. (48) "I am the bread of life."

<u>John 6:51</u> "I am the living bread which came down from heaven. If anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever; and the bread that I shall give is My flesh, which I shall give for the life of the world."

<u>Luke 22:19</u> And He took bread, gave thanks and broke it, and gave it to them, saying, "This is My body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of Me."

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# 24. JESUS IS THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD

Jesus is the light of the world, offering both light and life to those who believe in Him. The Light allows mankind to become "sons of light" and rescues them from being overtaken by the darkness of evil.

<u>John 8:12</u> Then Jesus spoke to them again, saying, "I am the light of the world. He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness, but have the light of life."

<u>John 12:35-36</u> Then Jesus said to them, "A little while longer the light is with you. Walk while you have the light, lest darkness overtake you; he who walks in darkness does not know where he is going. While you have the light, believe in the light, that you may become sons of light."

Revelation 21:23 And the city had no need of the sun or the moon to shine in it, for the glory of God illuminated it, and the Lamb is its light.

# 25. JESUS IS THE DOOR—THE WAY OF SALVATION

The "door" was the only entrance and exit of the sheep pen. The door allowed the sheep to access the security inside the pen as well as the pasture outside the pen. Metaphorically, Jesus is the "door" to God, offering sole access and the only means by which mankind can approach God the Father for salvation.

<u>John 10:9</u> "I am the door. If anyone enters by Me, he will be saved, and will go in and out and find pasture."

<u>John 14:6</u> Jesus said to him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me."

Acts 4:12 Nor is there salvation in any other, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.

#### 26. JESUS IS THE GOOD, GREAT, & CHIEF SHEPHERD

Jesus is called the Good Shepherd, the Great Shepherd (Heb. 13:20), and the Chief Shepherd (I Peter 5:4). In biblical times the shepherd tenderly cared for and nourished his own sheep. The sheep knew their shepherd's voice and the shepherd personally knew each of his sheep. The shepherd led his sheep from place to place, and protected his sheep with his own life.

<u>Matthew 2:6</u> But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are not the least among the rulers of Judah; For out of you shall come a Ruler who will shepherd My people Israel.

<u>John 10:11, 14-15</u> "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd gives His life for the sheep." (14-15) "I am the good shepherd; and I know My sheep, and am known by My own. As the Father knows Me, even so I know the Father; and I lay down My life for the sheep."

# 27. JESUS IS THE RESURRECTION AND THE LIFE

Jesus was victorious over death and rose from the dead, becoming a symbol of the first of many to be resurrected to eternal life (I Cor. 15:20). The Father gave Jesus the authority to resurrect every human being from the grave and dispense judgment of either eternal life or eternal punishment. Only through Christ can one be resurrected to eternal life (John 14:6; I Cor. 15:21).

<u>John 5:21, 28-29</u> For as the Father raises the dead and gives life to them, even so the Son gives life to whom He will. (28-29) . . . for the hour is coming in which all who are in the graves will hear His voice and come forth-those who have done good, to the resurrection of life, and those who have done evil, to the resurrection of condemnation.

<u>John 11:25</u> Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live."

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#### 28. JESUS IS THE VINE

Jesus is the vine; true believers are the branches of the vine. The relationship between the vine and the branches is inseparable. It is a relationship of intimate and complete union. The branch receives life and continual nourishment from the vine so that it may thrive and produce the kind of fruit that is expected from that vine.

John 15:1 "I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser."

John 15:4-5 "Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in Me. I am the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing."

<u>John 15:8</u> "By this My Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit; so you will be My disciples."

# 30. JESUS IS LORD AND KING

Jesus is mighty and powerful over all. He is owner and possessor of everything. He is the supreme Lord and Sovereign God over the entire universe.

John 13:13 "You call Me Teacher and Lord, and you say well, for so I am."

<u>Philippians 2:11</u> And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

<u>Revelation 17:14</u> These will make war with the Lamb, and the Lamb will overcome them, for He is Lord of lords and King of kings . . .

<u>Revelation 19:16</u> And He has on His robe and on His thigh a name written: KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS.

# 29. JESUS IS THE WORD

Jesus is the Word: *lógos*, to speak. He came forth from God the Father to speak on His behalf. Jesus came to earth to represent God and to speak His truth in order that mankind may come to know God.

John 1:1, 14 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. (14) And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.

<u>John 17:8</u> "For I have given them the words which You have given Me; and they have received them, and have known surely that I came forth from You; and they have believed that You sent Me" (cf. John 3:34).

<u>Revelation 19:13</u> He was clothed with a robe dipped in blood, and His name is called The Word of God.

# 31. JESUS IS THE JUDGE

God the Father has ordained Jesus to judge the world (John 9:39). He shall judge the living and the dead at His appearing and His kingdom (II Tim 4:1). The wicked are judged for eternal punishment and believers for eternal rewards. Jesus' judgment will be executed in faithfulness, righteousness, and according to the will of the Father (John 5:30).

<u>John 5:27</u> and [the Father] has given Him authority to execute judgment also, because He is the Son of Man.

<u>Acts 17:31a</u> because God has appointed a day on which He will judge the world in righteousness by the Man whom He has ordained.

Revelation 19:11 Then I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse. And He who sat on him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness He judges and makes war.

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