Christ And Life

Introduction:

In this lesson, we want to look at "Christ & Life" on four different levels; the source of physical life, the life He gave up, and life He offered as a sacrifice, and the life He gives now.

I) Christ the Source of All Life

- A) The creation of physical life.
 - 1. Bible speaks of the creation account in numerous passages, mainly **Genesis 1 & 2**.
 - a. Psalms 24:1 The earth is the LORD'S, and all its fullness, The world and those who dwell therein.
 2 For He has founded it upon the seas, And established it upon the waters.
 - b. Psalms 33:6 By the word of the LORD the heavens were made, And all the host of them by the breath of His mouth.
- B) New Testament gives us more information as to the Son of God's role.

John 1:1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. 2 He was in the beginning with God. 3 All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made.

John 1:10 He was in the world, and the world was made through Him, and the world did not know Him.

Hebrews 1:1 God, who at various times and in various ways spoke in time past to the fathers by the prophets, 2 has in

these last days spoken to us by <u>His Son</u>, whom He has appointed heir of all things, <u>through whom also He made the worlds</u>;

- 1. More Bible passages on this subject but we see Jesus' role as deity in the creation.
- 2. Facts about human life.
 - a. Man and woman was made in the beginning.

Matthew 19:4 And He answered and said to them, "Have you not read that He who made them at the beginning 'made them male and female,'

- b. All of mankind came from Adam and Eve. This excludes other "creations" before or after *Genesis 1*.
- c. Man was made in God's image, *Genesis* 1.26-27.

II) The Life Christ Gave Up

A) Examples of sacrifice

- 1. Grace Kelly was in numerous movies, won Academy Award for Best Actress, in "The Country Girl." At the ripe old age of 26 she walked away from it all when she married Prince Rainier III. But really she lived a life of luxury and glamor as Princess of Monaco.
- 2. King Edward VIII, in 1931, gave up his position as Princes of Wales to marry a commoner, American socialite Wallis Simpson. Because it was forbidden he gave up his throne.

B) Think of what Christ Gave up

1. The splendor of heaven.

Revelation 4:2 Immediately I was in the Spirit; and behold, a throne set in heaven, and One sat on the throne. 3 And He who sat there was like a jasper and a sardius stone in appearance; and there was a rainbow around the throne, in appearance like an emerald. 4 Around the throne were twenty-four thrones, and on the thrones I saw twenty-four elders sitting, clothed in white robes; and they had crowns of gold on their heads. 5 And from the throne proceeded lightnings, thunderings, and voices. Seven lamps of fire were burning before the throne, which are the seven Spirits of God. 6 Before the throne there was a sea of glass, like crystal. And in the midst of the throne, and around the throne, were four living creatures full of eyes in front and in back.

Revelation 4:9 Whenever the living creatures give glory and honor and thanks to Him who sits on the throne, who lives forever and ever, 10 the twenty-four elders fall down before Him who sits on the throne and worship Him who lives forever and ever, and cast their crowns before the throne, saying: 11 "You are worthy, O Lord, To receive glory and honor and power; For You created all things, And by Your will they exist and were created."

- 2. There are a lot of things I don't understand about Revelation but I do understand heaven is beyond compare to this earth in majesty, beauty, and glory.
- 3. He left heaven to come to earth, not to live in luxury but as a common person.
- 4. To be a servant, remember His washing of Peter's feet in

John 13.

5. Best described in *Philippians 2*.

Philippians 2:5 Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus, 6 who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God, 7 but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, and coming in the likeness of men. 8 And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross.

III) The Life Which Was Sacrificed

- A) What do we think about as we observe the Lord's Supper?
 - 1. The shame of being treated as a criminal?
 - a. Arrested in the middle of the night.
 - b. Being falsely accused and being convicted.
 - c. Being handed over to the Romans.
 - d. Being beaten by the Romans.
 - e. Him standing before a crowd and hearing them shout to release Barabbas and condemning.
 - f. Him being paraded through the town as people looked on.
 - g. Being nailed to the cross.

Hebrews 12:2 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 has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

- h. Hanging on the cross and feeling the pain and suffering of death.
- B) Isaiah speaks of this event.

Isaiah 53:1 Who has believed our report? And to whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed? 2 For He shall grow up before Him as a tender plant, And as a root out of dry ground. He has no form or comeliness; And when we see Him, There is no beauty that we should desire Him. 3 He is despised and rejected by men, A Man of sorrows and acquainted with grief. And we hid, as it were, our faces from Him; He was despised, and we did not esteem Him. 4 Surely He has borne our griefs And carried our sorrows; Yet we esteemed Him stricken, Smitten by God, and afflicted. 5 But He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities; The chastisement for our peace was upon Him, And by His stripes we are healed. 6 All we like sheep have gone astray; We have turned, every one, to his own way; And the LORD has laid on Him the iniquity of us all. 7 He was oppressed and He was afflicted, Yet He opened not His mouth; He was led as a lamb to the slaughter, And as a sheep before its shearers is silent, So He opened not His mouth. 8 He was taken from prison and from judgment, And who will declare His generation? For He was cut off from the land of the living; For the transgressions of My people He was stricken. 9 And they made His grave with the wicked-But with the rich at His death, Because He had done no violence, Nor was any deceit in His mouth. 10 Yet it pleased the LORD to bruise Him; He has put Him to grief. When You make His soul an offering for sin, He shall see His seed, He shall prolong His days, And the pleasure of the LORD shall prosper in His hand. 11 He shall see the labor of His soul, and be satisfied. By His knowledge My righteous Servant shall justify many, For He shall bear their iniquities. 12 Therefore I will divide Him a portion with the great, And He shall divide the spoil with the strong, Because He poured out His soul unto death, And He was numbered with the transgressors, And He bore the sin of many, And made intercession for the transgressors.

- 1. Jesus referred to His body and blood being given for us.
- 2. He was our Passover lamb, His blood was shed for our sins.

Matthew 26:26 And as they were eating, Jesus took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to the disciples and said, "Take, eat; this is My body." 27 Then He took the cup, and gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you. 28 "For this is My blood of the new covenant, which is shed for many for the remission of sins.

IV) The Life Christ Gives Us

- A) It is because of His sacrifice we have hope.
 - 1. Hope in the resurrection.

1 Corinthians 15:20 But now Christ is risen from the dead, and has become the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. 21 For since by man came death, by Man also came the resurrection of the dead. 22 For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ all shall be made alive. 23 But each one in his own order: Christ the firstfruits, afterward those who are Christ's at His coming.

2. Hope in the forgiveness of sins.

Ephesians 1:7 In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace

- B) Because of His death we have the New Covenant.
 - 1. Gives us access to God, to the Most Holy Place.
 - 2. We have an advocate with the Father in Heaven.
- C) Because of His death we have a new life.
 - 1. Free from sin.
 - 2. This should make us want to be more like Jesus.
 - We can look forward to His return.

1 Corinthians 11:24 and when He had given thanks, He broke it and said, "Take, eat; this is My body which is broken for you; do this in remembrance of Me." 25 In the same manner He also took the cup after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in My blood. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me." 26 For as often as you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death till He comes.

Conclusion:

This Sunday is special, not because of a date on a calendar, but because we remember the life Jesus gave us, His sacrifice, and our salvation.