

# Break Free...

*A Thought for the Week From Patrick Kemper at  
No Strongholds Ministries*

## Week 10

### Who Do You Say He is?

*Mark 8:29 (KJV)*

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

Recently, God put into my heart a new curiosity regarding the meaning behind the word *Messiah*.

For all the answers that we don't have (specifically, why God would create a world and a people, knowing their free will would create such issues) it never ceases to amaze me the care and detail God integrated into His plan to always remind us that He is so much more intelligent and in control than we will ever understand.

There are no surprises for Him, nothing catches Him off guard or provides an "ah-ha" moment for Him, but boy, did I get one today.

At the end of today's verse, Peter tells Jesus that he believes Him to be *the Christ*. As a kid, growing up under the influence of church in the Midwest, I always thought "Christ" was just Jesus' middle name.

I want to show you something that is carefully embedded in the language of the Bible. At first, it will appear to be pontification, but I really want to encourage you to try and stay with me for the sixty-or-so seconds it will take you to read it. One word, four levels, one meaning that will cause you to wonder what else you have been missing.

In the Greek, Christ is *Christos* (5547), an epithet of **Messiah** (anointed).

If we look at the root word of Christos, we find *Chrio* (Kree'-o 5548) meaning, "... to **consecrate by the idea of contact.**"

The root word of Chrio is *Chraomai* (krah'-om-ahee 5530) which means "... to **furnish what is needed.**"

If we follow this word back one more level to its root, we discover the word *Cheir* (Kire 5495), whose meaning is, "... **the hand, or the power.**"

Why have I attempted to bore you with a Greek lesson you did not request? Read the meanings of the words (in red) in the opposite order, starting with the last one (the deepest root of the chain):

*Cheir* – the hand, or the power

Chraomai – to furnish what was needed  
Chrion – consecrating through the idea of contact  
Christ - the Messiah.  
Was I right?  
Does that stir something in you, causing you to wonder what else you have been missing? I hope so.

## *Application*

For all the answers you seek, all the questions you can pose concerning the issues of life you encounter, there is a constant to which you should cling.

### *Psalm 46:1-7 (ESV)*

- <sup>1</sup>God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.  
<sup>2</sup>Therefore we will not fear though the earth gives way, though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea,  
<sup>3</sup>though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble at its swelling. *Selah*  
<sup>4</sup>There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy habitation of the Most High.  
<sup>5</sup>God is in the midst of her; she shall not be moved; God will help her when morning dawns.  
<sup>6</sup>The nations rage, the kingdoms totter; he utters his voice, the earth melts.  
<sup>7</sup>The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress. *Selah*

Knowing all the details is not always necessary. Sometimes just knowing, for sure, that everything will be okay is enough. Having all the information is not necessarily what we need when things are complicated and overwhelming. What we desire is having the peace that comes from knowing (when all is said and done) it will be okay. God's promise is all we need to submit and follow.

### *Psalm 46:4 (NIV)*

- <sup>4</sup>There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy place where the Most High dwells.

There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God... Jesus Christ is the River. There have been so many others who had the name Jesus (or some variant thereof during the time God the Son (Jesus the Christ) walked planet Earth), and today there are many more who bear that name. But only one has ever been called Jesus the Christ, *Christos*, because only He is the hand (or power) that could furnish what was needed and did so by coming to earth (contact) to provide the redemption we would need. Peter recognized that Jesus as the Christ, the *Christos*.

Do you have something going on in your life right now that could use some peace?

When you discover that Jesus the Christ (at His root) is the power to furnish what is needed through contact with your life, is that enough for you?

Such knowledge was enough for Peter.

Who do you say He is?

# Homework for the Week...

1.) Who do you say Jesus is? Be honest. Is He, in your life, the one who by contact, is the power to furnish what is needed? If you have never experienced Him in this way, you can. Submit your life and ask God to come and lead you through life... His way. If you already have a relationship with Jesus, but He has not been allowed to function in that capacity, invite Him to assume that role. Allow Him to be your Source of help and comfort. Who can you contact to help you? In your writing, what needs work and what methods will you use to begin accomplishing this? Be specific.

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2.) Mid-week check. List the opportunities you have had and how you responded (this is your obedience indicator). If you are still posting a doughnut, more than likely you weren't all that truthful when you asked God for chances to respond and improve. Check your heart; be authentic. Ask God to show you the way through what is blocking you from submitting in obedience.

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3.) How are you doing compared to the way you started the week? If you still need improvement, refuse to move on to the next session. Stay here, submit, and choose to be obedient no matter what it takes. Explain how you have improved, or make a commitment to continue working. When you are operating in obedience in this area of your life... turn the page and move to the next session.

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