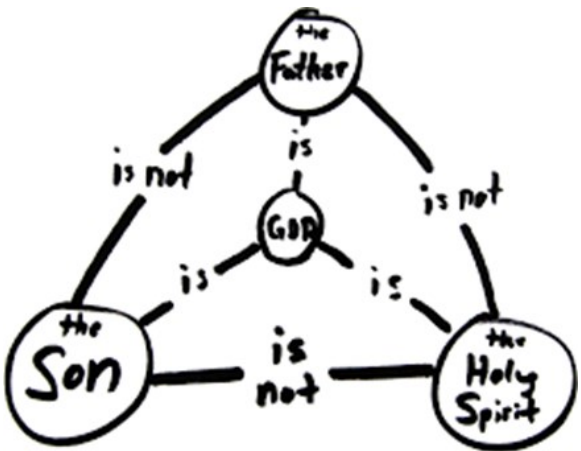


His Credentials

If Christ Jesus our Lord is the all sufficient One who we can depend on it would be worthwhile to examine His credentials.

The Trinity

One being three (3) persons—Father, Son and Holy Spirit.



G3

Mankind (one humanity– many people).

Acts 17:26 "From one man he made all the nations, that they should inhabit the whole earth; and he marked out their appointed times in history and the boundaries of their lands."

Genesis Record

Genesis 1:26 (A plural unity) "Then God said, "Let us make mankind in our image, in our likeness, so that they may rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky, over the livestock and all the wild animals, and over all the creatures that move along the ground." Mankind was made in God's image.

Genesis Record continued/....

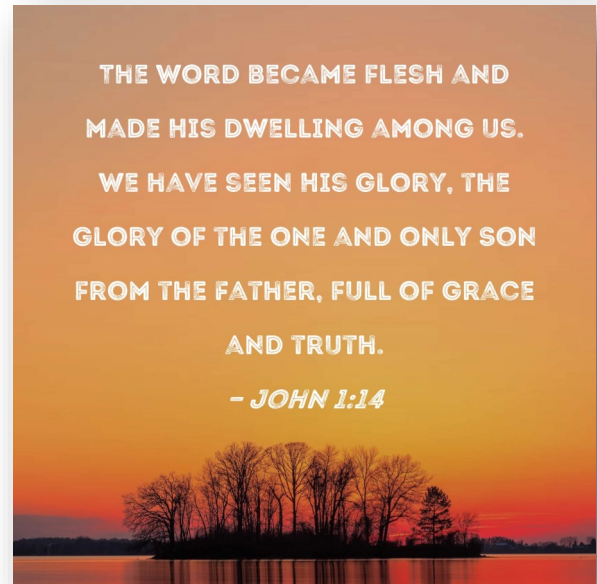
If man was made in the image of God does that mean that God looks like a human being? This image and likeness referred to is not God's attributes but the physical form of God which Jesus would take on when the Word (logos) became flesh.

Jesus physically was the embodiment of God.

Colossians 1:15-17 *"The Son is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. For in him all things were created:*

things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things have been created through him and for him. He is before all things, and in him all things hold together."

The second person of the Trinity was God (Elohim, plural form). A Divine agency of all creation.



Theophany

A theophany is an appearance of God. Abraham was visited by three (3) messengers. One of them was the Lord—**Genesis 18:1** *"The Lord appeared to Abraham near the great trees of Mamre while he was sitting at the entrance to his tent in the heat of the day."* In other instances the Lord also appeared to Moses. There is every reason to believe that this theophany or physical manifestation was the Second Person of The Trinity. The angel of the Lord, in the Old Testament, in all likelihood was the pre-incarnate Son.

**EVERY SPIRIT THAT
CONFESSES THAT
JESUS CHRIST HAS
COME IN THE FLESH
IS FROM GOD.**

1 John 4:2

Pre-Incarnation

This simply means that Jesus existed as the Second Person of the Trinity before He put on human flesh and was born of Mary in Bethlehem. John emphasised the importance of belief in Christ's pre-incarnate state.

John 1:10 *"He was in the world, and though the world was made through him, the world did not recognize him."*

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Exalted above all Creation

Jesus as a Man was exalted by God and revealed as God the Second Person.

Philippians 2:9-11 “Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.”

Worthy of our Allegiance

In this lesson we’ve underscored the pre-eminence of Christ and because of our relationship with Him, we have found him to be all sufficient.

Eimi-Ego-Xtianos

I am a Christian because of His salvation and credentials.

Ezekiel’s Cherubims (Angels)

The four (4) cherubim's of Ezekiel portrayed four (4) interesting characteristics—Ezekiel 1:10

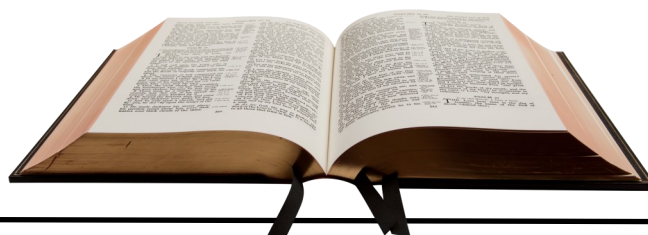
- Face of a man.
- Face of a lion.
- Face of an ox.
- Face of an eagle.



The Four Gospels

The four gospels record the Lord’s earthly ministry, still under the old covenant and the expectation of the pending Kingdom of Heaven on earth as promised by the Old Testament prophets.

Matthew	- Jesus as King	—OT reference “Behold the King” Zachariah 9:9.
Mark	- Jesus as Servant	—OT reference “Behold my servant” Isaiah 42:1.
Luke	- Jesus as Man	—OT reference “Behold the man” Zachariah 6:12.
John	- Jesus is God	—OT reference “Behold your God” Isaiah 40:9.



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Kenosis

The theory of kenosis is that Jesus had to “put aside” some of His Divine attributes to take on a human body.

Philippians 2:5-8

“In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus: Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage; rather, he made himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death— even death on a cross!”

ANOMALIES AND DIFFICULT TEXTS

The following verses and questions cited are either unclear references or passages that clarify the meaning.

Deuteronomy 6:4 *“Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one!”*

Judaism considers this verse their confession of faith. The text is referred to as the “Shema” pronounced “shmah”. It is used in synagogues as a liturgy or statement of faith.

שְׁמַע יִשְׂרָאֵל
Sh'ma Yisra'eil
Hear, Israel

The Shema is understood to emphasise the monotheistic belief of Judaism. It is worth noting that the Hebrew word for “one” as referred to in this verse is “ehad” pronounced “echad” (latter “h” is pronounced with the back of the throat “gh” sound). “Ehad” may imply a Trinity. The word is not an “absolute unit” if it were so it would mean a simple entity. The word “ehad” is a “compound unit” meaning oneness or unity between two or more. It is worth noting that the same Hebrew word for “one” is used in reference to a man and a woman becoming one (ehad) see **Genesis 2:24** *“Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and they shall become one flesh.”* So, the monotheistic God (Elohim) of our faith is one (ehad) not singularly but one in plurality.

