

The Savior

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Today — The Silence, The Scene, The Savior — behold Him, remember who He is and why He came — be strengthened, be encouraged, be hopeful!

Luke 2:8-11

Now there were in the same country shepherds living out in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. And behold, an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were greatly afraid. Then the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid, for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy which will be to all people. For there is born to you this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.

The titles the angel used to describe who Jesus was/is, **Savior**, **Christ**, and **Lord**, was an affront, an insult to the Roman Emperors of Christ's time — but those titles also served as inspiration and encouragement to those who would believe!

Gustav Deissmann in his book *Light from the Ancient East...* tells us of an official inscription from the town council of Ephesus about Julius Caesar, 46-44 B.C.,
"The God made manifest, off-spring of Ares and Aphrodite,
and common savior of human life."¹
Word was God became flesh. God manifested in flesh.

An inscription dated 17 March, 24 B.C., gives to the Emperor Augustus the title
"god of god."
"Jesus Himself is God from God, Light from Light, True God from True God!"²
The Nicene Creed, 325 A.D.

In many inscriptions and papyri of the Greek East,
Emperor Augustus is called "the son of a god."
This is My beloved Son! Truly Son of God!

Roman Emperor Nero 50-54 A.D. is called "Son of the greatest of the gods,
Tiberius Claudius."
Son of the Highest! The Angel Gabriel said to Mary.

John in Revelation — 95 A.D., exiled to Patmos by Emperor Domitian, a cruel and paranoid tyrant, assassinated by court officials, his memory condemned to oblivion by the Senate. John starts Revelation with 1:5,8, calling Jesus ruler over the kings of the earth, Alpha and Omega, Beginning and the End, the Almighty — until triumphal return of Jesus in Revelation 19.

¹ Deissman, Adolf. *Light from the Ancient East* (Wipf & Stock, 2004)

² Forbes, Alexander Penrose. *A Short Explanation of the Nicene Creed*. (John Henry Parker, 1852)

Revelation 19:11-16

Now 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. His eyes were like a flame of fire, and on His head were many crowns. He had a name written that no one knew except Himself. He was clothed with a robe dipped in blood, and His name is called The Word of God. And the armies in heaven, clothed in fine linen, white and clean, followed Him on white horses. Now out of His mouth goes a sharp sword, that with it He should strike the nations. And He Himself will rule them with a rod of iron. He Himself treads the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God. And He has on His robe and on His thigh a name written: KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS.

Listen — Domitian and every other Roman Emperor who knew of Jesus and His robust titles would have been **freaking out at the mention of them by the church, yet the church never quit stating the facts!** Jesus was a challenge to their fake authority. Roman emperors were fallen, sinful, cheap imitations of Jesus, Who alone is Savior, Christ, and Lord! **They were nothing more than demonic impersonators of Him who is the Great I AM.**

Today — I thank God for our **elected officials** who understand Who Jesus is, and who they are in relationship to Him. Encourage them, support them, pray for them. But for our elected officials who deny the Person and authority of Christ, pray they come to know who Jesus is, who really is Savior, Christ, and Lord, the One they must one day give an account to at the Judgment Seat of Christ! **There is only One Savior, Christ and Lord, His name is Jesus!**

The Savior

What does Jesus save us from?

Sin

Matthew 1:21

And she will bring forth a Son, and you shall call His name JESUS, for He will save His people from their sins.

Penalty of Sin

Romans 6:23

For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

1Thessalonians 5:9

For God did not appoint us to wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Power of Sin

Romans 6:14,18

For sin shall not have dominion over you, for you are not under law but under grace... And having been set free from sin, you became slaves of righteousness.

Power of Satan

Genesis 3:15

And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your seed and her Seed; He shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise His heel.

Act 26:18

... to open their eyes, in order to turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan to God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins and an inheritance among those who are sanctified by faith in Me.

1 John 3:8

...For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that He might destroy the works of the devil.
“God rest Ye merry gentlemen let nothing you dismay, remember Christ our Savior born on Christmas day, **to save us all from Satan’s power** when we were gone astray, oh tidings of comfort and joy...”

Hallelujah — our Savior saves from the penalty and power of sin and Satan!

Christ — Messiah, Anointed One

Luke 4:18-19

“THE SPIRIT OF THE LORD IS UPON ME, BECAUSE HE HAS ANOINTED ME TO PREACH THE GOSPEL TO THE POOR; HE HAS SENT ME TO HEAL THE BROKENHEARTED, TO PROCLAIM LIBERTY TO THE CAPTIVES AND RECOVERY OF SIGHT TO THE BLIND, TO SET AT LIBERTY THOSE WHO ARE OPPRESSED; TO PROCLAIM THE ACCEPTABLE YEAR OF THE LORD.”

Poor, brokenhearted, captive, blind, oppressed, unfavored

Act 10:38

God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power, who went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with Him.

(however oppressed to bring healing).

Lord

Eternal God, Creator of all, Sustainer of life, Redeemer of mankind, Judge of the living and the dead, Ruler of the universe, King of Kings and Lord of Lords.

Philippians 2:9-11

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.

Conclusion

Remember —

There is...

Only One Savior, Christ, and Lord.

Only One who was crucified, dead, buried and resurrected.

Only One who God has highly exalted and given the name above every name.

Only One who will cause every knee to bow and every tongue to confess that He is Lord!

That One is Jesus!

No wonder the angel proclaimed “Don’t be afraid, good tidings of great joy to all people!”

No wonder a multitude of the heavenly host joined in, praising God and saying:

“Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, goodwill toward men!”

Savior, Christ and Lord has come for us!

Behold Him!

Worship Him!

Believe Him!

Rejoice in Him! Rest in Him!

Proclaim Him!

Discussion Question

1. How do you think the political and religious atmosphere in Jesus' time, compares to today?
2. Should that make it harder or easier for a follower of Christ to be bold in declaring their faith?
3. Since Jesus has already destroyed the works of the devil, "We only have to fight a defeated foe." How does that change your perspective of dealing with satanic adversity?
4. Read aloud Philippians 2:9-11. Discuss why this verse has so much power, and in what situations it can be used.

NOTES