Jesus is the Christ sermon for 12-18-16

**Christ is not a title as much as it is a description of who Jesus is.**

**Christ means the “Anointed One” or the “Chosen One” and is the Greek equivalent of the Hebrew title “Messiah”.**

Christ is not “letters after Jesus’ name” meant to impress anyone.

The title Christ denotes the selection of Jesus, the walk of Jesus, and the clearance of Jesus.

* **Christ denotes the selection of Jesus in that He was chosen as the Savior and Priest of mankind and the King of Kings.**
  + **Ephesians 2:13** (NKJV)

**13**But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ.

* + **Psalm 110:4** (NKJV)

**4**The Lord has sworn  
And will not relent,  
“You *are* a priest forever  
According to the order of Melchizedek.”

* + **Revelation 19:11-16** (NKJV)

**11**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. **12**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. **13**He *was* clothed with a robe dipped in blood, and His name is called The Word of God. **14**And the armies in heaven, clothed in fine linen, white and clean, followed Him on white horses. **15**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. **16**And He has on *His* robe and on His thigh a name written:

KING OF KINGS AND  
LORD OF LORDS.

* **Christ is a title denoting the walk of Jesus in that He was appointed by and filled with the power of the Holy Spirit completely.**
  + People were anointed or appointed for an office of service such as a king or a priest by pouring oil on their heads which symbolizes the Holy Spirit.
  + Hence, the title “Christ” tells us that Jesus was appointed, approved, and empowered by the Holy Spirit. **Jesus was the Holy Ghost man.**
    - **Luke 4:18** (NLT)

**18**“The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,  
    for he has anointed me to bring Good News to the poor.  
He has sent me to proclaim that captives will be released,  
    that the blind will see,  
that the oppressed will be set free,

* + - **Acts 10:38**

**38**And you know that God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power. Then Jesus went around doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him.

* **Christ is a title denoting the clearance of Jesus in that He has the right to know every secret and execute God’s righteousness.**
  + Not just anybody could save the universe.
    - The one to be the Savior—the Messiah—had to go through an approval process in which He first needed to be visibly endorsed by the Holy Spirit and then proven through His sufferings and temptations to be entirely without sin and willing to submit to the will of the Father even unto death.
  + **Because Jesus was chosen and then perfected, He has the authorization to initiate events that will rock this world.**
    - **Revelation 5:1-10** (NLT)

Then I saw a scroll in the right hand of the one who was sitting on the throne. There was writing on the inside and the outside of the scroll, and it was sealed with seven seals. **2**And I saw a strong angel, who shouted with a loud voice: “Who is worthy to break the seals on this scroll and open it?” **3**But no one in heaven or on earth or under the earth was able to open the scroll and read it.

**4**Then I began to weep bitterly because no one was found worthy to open the scroll and read it.

* As Matthew Henry comments, this scroll “…represents the secret purposes of God about to be revealed. The designs and methods of Divine Providence, toward the Church and the world, are stated, fixed, and made a matter of record.”
  + John wept because he was overcome with grief that God’s decrees and righteous judgement was not able to be revealed. No one was found worthy to initiate the events necessary to right all the wrongs of our present world.
  + “It was not a failure of faith; it was the outburst of an earnest heart, to which the knowledge of God and the destinies of his fellowmen were very dear. Those who have longed to see the end of oppression, fraud, and sorrow on the earth, to know something of the laws which govern the present, and of their issue in the future, will understand these tears. “The words, ‘ I wept much,’ can only be understood by those who have lived in great catastrophes of the Church, and entered with the fullest sympathy into her sufferings Without tears the Revelation was not written, neither can it without tears be understood.”—Charles Ellicott
    - Do we yearn for Jesus to make everything right?
    - Does oppression, suffering, and sin make us angry?
    - Do we believe that vengeance truly is God’s and that He will deliver on His promise to make the wicked pay for their destruction?
    - Do we have so much skin in the game of that we emotionally respond to the idea that maybe all we have worked for was for nothing?
    - Or are we playing it safe so that if Jesus doesn’t deliver on His promises we aren’t disappointed or left without a contingency plan?
* The Apostle John had poured his entire being into God’s plans and intentions for the universe as laid out by Christ to the point that the thought of God not performing His judgments or revealing His Word was devastating.

**5**But one of the twenty-four elders said to me, “Stop weeping! Look, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the heir to David’s throne, has won the victory. He is worthy to open the scroll and its seven seals.”

**6**Then I saw a Lamb that looked as if it had been slaughtered, but it was now standing between the throne and the four living beings and among the twenty-four elders. He had seven horns and seven eyes, which represent the sevenfold Spirit of God that is sent out into every part of the earth. **7**He stepped forward and took the scroll from the right hand of the one sitting on the throne. **8**And when he took the scroll, the four living beings and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb. Each one had a harp, and they held gold bowls filled with incense, which are the prayers of God’s people. **9**And they sang a new song with these words:

“You are worthy to take the scroll  
    and break its seals and open it.  
For you were slaughtered, and your blood has ransomed people for God  
    from every tribe and language and people and nation.  
**10**And you have caused them to become  
    a Kingdom of priests for our God.  
    And they will reign on the earth.”

* Jesus Christ has been given all power and all access to God’s work and plans. Give Him access to the secret places of your heart. Trust Him with every precious interest.
  + **Jesus Christ is worthy—He’s been cleared—to receive all honor, glory, and power; so, give it to Him.**