

# Supernatural Life Forum



## President's Greetings – February 2025

As we step into the second month of the year, let us take a moment to reflect on God's faithfulness and the grace that has carried us this far. February is often associated with love, and what greater love is there than the unending, unchanging love of God revealed in Christ?

This month, let us be intentional in sharing His love—not just in words but in action. Whether through kindness, encouragement, or simply being present for those in need, may we embody the love that transforms lives. As 1 John 4:19 reminds us, "We love because He first loved us."

No matter what this month holds, we can be assured that we are deeply loved, fully known, and eternally secure in Christ. Let's continue to grow in faith, walk in grace, and live with expectation for all that God is doing in and through us.

May February be a month of deepening relationships—both with God and with one another. Keep pressing forward, knowing that His love sustains, empowers, and leads us every step of the way.

**Blessings,**  
**Samuel Sanni**

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## The Defeat of Death and the Devil

*"Since the children have flesh and blood, he too shared in their humanity so that by his death he might break the power of him who holds the power of death—that is, the devil—and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by their fear of death." – Hebrews 2:14–16*

### Christ's Victory Over Death

One of the greatest truths of the gospel is that Jesus Christ took on human flesh and blood to confront death directly. By stepping into our humanity, He met death head-on and overcame it through His atoning sacrifice. Death was the ultimate consequence of sin, holding power over humanity and keeping people enslaved in fear. However, through His death and resurrection, Christ paid the penalty for sin, shattered the grip of death, and guaranteed that it is not the final destination for believers. As Paul declares in 1 Corinthians 15:55–57, death is now a defeated enemy, no longer reigning over us.

### Freedom from the Fear of Death

The fear of death has long been one of humanity's greatest anxieties, leading to despair, hopelessness, and a life driven by self-preservation. Many cultures throughout history have placed great emphasis on elaborate afterlife preparations, while modern society often seeks ways to extend life indefinitely. Yet, in Christ, the sting of death is removed. Jesus declares in John 11:25, *"I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die."* Death, for believers, is no longer an end but a transition into eternal life. This truth frees us to live boldly, no longer shackled by the fear of mortality. Instead of living for self-preservation, we are now empowered to live for God's glory and purpose.

### The Defeat of the Devil

Before Christ's sacrifice, the devil wielded power through accusation and fear of judgment. Revelation 12:10 describes him as *"the accuser of the brethren,"* constantly reminding people of their guilt before God. However, at the cross, Christ disarmed the devil by removing his strongest weapon—our guilt. Through His work, we are justified and free, as Colossians 2:14–15 proclaims: *"Having canceled the charge of our legal indebtedness... he took it away, nailing it to the cross. And having disarmed the powers and authorities, he made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them by the cross."*

### A Public Victory and a Legal Defeat

Christ's victory over the devil was not just a personal triumph but a cosmic declaration of God's sovereignty. The cross and resurrection serve as a divine victory parade, displaying His conquest over sin, death, and Satan. In ancient times, victorious generals would parade through cities, showcasing their defeated enemies. In the same way, Christ's resurrection is the ultimate triumph, demonstrating that the enemy's power has been broken. The devil's defeat is both legal—because our sins are forgiven—and spiritual, as his authority has been stripped away.

### Living in the Victory of Christ

## The Gospel

C. Baxter Kruger

The Gospel is the astonishing news that something has happened to the Son of God, and the equally astonishing news that in Him something has happened to the human race. If the whole human race fell into ruin in Adam- a creature, a mere man- what happened to the human race in the death of Jesus Christ, the incarnate Son of God? Paul tells us. When Jesus Christ died, we died. But that is only the beginning. When He rose, we rose. He ascended and sits at the right hand of God the Father almighty, the place of honor and love and delight and complete and utter acceptance, and Paul tells us that in His ascension we too were lifted up and seated with Him at the Father's right hand-and there and then welcomed, accepted, embraced forever.

The Gospel is the good news of what became of the Son of God and of what became of us in Him. It is the news that Adam and all of us were crucified with Christ, dead and buried, and on the third day Adam and all of us were quickened with new life and raised with Jesus, and then lifted up to the Father's right hand in Jesus' ascension and seated with Christ.

What happened on the cross? Why did Jesus die? How do we understand the meaning of His death?

The death of Jesus Christ was part of a seamless movement in which the Triune God laid hold of the human race and decisively and sovereignly altered its very existence, cleansing it of all alienation, quickening it with new life and lifting it up into union with the Father, Son, and Spirit.

It is finished.

(Taken from Dr. C. Baxter Kruger's brilliant book- Jesus and the Undoing of Adam )

Because of Christ, death has lost its sting, and the devil's accusations hold no power over those who are in Him. Imagine a courtroom where an accuser presents evidence against you, only to find that your record is spotless. This is what Christ has done—through His blood, our sins are wiped clean, leaving the enemy with no grounds for condemnation. When fear or accusations arise, we can remind ourselves of this truth: in Christ, we are justified, free, and victorious.

### Practical Takeaway

Take time to reflect on the reality of Christ's victory over death and the devil. Celebrate the freedom you have from the fear of death by living boldly and confidently in God's purpose. When doubt, fear, or accusations come, hold onto the truth that your victory is already secured in Christ.

**Application Question:** *How does Christ's victory over death and the devil give you courage and hope for both life and eternity?*

## Jesus: Greater Than Moses

*"Therefore, holy brothers and sisters, who share in the heavenly calling, fix your thoughts on Jesus, whom we acknowledge as our apostle and high priest. He was faithful to the one who appointed him, just as Moses was faithful in all God's house. Jesus has been found worthy of greater honor than Moses, just as the builder of a house has greater honor than the house itself. For every house is built by someone, but God is the builder of everything. Moses was faithful as a servant in all God's house, bearing witness to what would be spoken by God in the future. But Christ is faithful as the Son over God's house. And we are his house, if indeed we hold firmly to our confidence and the hope in which we glory."*

### Jesus – The True Apostle and High Priest

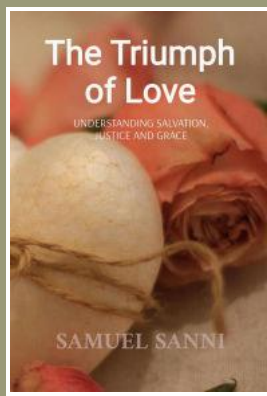
The call to "fix our thoughts on Jesus" is an invitation to see Him as the fullness of divine revelation. He is both Apostle—the one sent from God to humanity—and High Priest—the one who represents humanity before God. In Him, God and humanity are perfectly reconciled. As 1 Timothy 2:5 declares, *"For there is one God and one mediator between God and mankind, the man Christ Jesus."* Jesus is the way to the Father (John 14:6) and the fullness of God in human form (Colossians 2:9). By becoming flesh and dwelling among us (John 1:14), He reveals God's grace and truth.

### Jesus is Greater Than Moses

The contrast between Moses and Jesus is not about rejecting Moses but about recognizing that he was a servant pointing to the Son. Moses was a faithful steward of God's house, but Christ is the builder of the house itself. The Law given through Moses served as a guide, revealing human sinfulness (Romans 3:20) and pointing toward the need for salvation. Jesus fulfills the Law (Matthew 5:17) and brings grace and truth (John 1:17). While Moses mediated the old covenant, Jesus establishes the new covenant in His blood. His resurrection is the ultimate sign of His authority, as seen in John 2:19–21, where He speaks of raising the temple of His body. Christ, as the image of the invisible God (Colossians 1:15–17), is not merely a messenger but the very fulfillment of God's promises.

### We Are His House

Hebrews 3:6 declares that "we are His house" if we hold firmly to our confidence in Christ. This affirms our inclusion in the life of God through Him. As living stones, we are being built into a spiritual house (1 Peter 2:5), no longer strangers but members of God's household (Ephesians 2:19–22). The work of Christ in us is ongoing, and Philippians 1:6 assures us that *"He who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus."* Being part of His house means allowing His life to be lived through us (Galatians 2:20), holding fast to our faith even in difficult times.



**The Triumph of Love**  
by Samuel Sanni

## The Surpassing Glory of Christ

The contrast between Moses and Christ is ultimately about moving from shadow to substance. Moses bore witness to what was to come; Christ fulfills it. Colossians 2:17 reminds us that *"these are a shadow of the things that were to come; the reality, however, is found in Christ."* Every promise of God finds its "Yes" in Him (2 Corinthians 1:20). Even when our faith wavers, He remains faithful (2 Timothy 2:13).

### Reflection Questions:

1. How does seeing Jesus as both Apostle and High Priest impact your faith?
2. In what ways is Jesus greater than Moses in your personal spiritual journey?
3. What does it mean for you to be part of the house of Christ?
4. How can we hold firmly to our confidence in Christ in daily life?

### Prayer Focus:

- Thank God for sending Jesus as the fulfillment of the Law and the true revelation of God.
- Ask for a deeper understanding of Christ's role as Apostle and High Priest.
- Pray for confidence and steadfastness in your faith in Christ.

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## BOOK REVIEW – *The Doctrine of Jesus Christ* by T.F. Torrance

It is evident that the late Professor Thomas F. Torrance was a towering theologian, and as Alister McGrath affirmed, he was one of the greatest English-speaking theologians of the latter half of the 20th century. Torrance's writings have profoundly impacted my understanding of theology, and *The Doctrine of Jesus Christ* is another remarkable contribution among his many works. Though Torrance can be challenging to read, especially for non-academic audiences, his central message remains clear and deeply enriching.

### The Centrality of Christ

Torrance begins this volume by emphasizing that while the Person of Christ has been extensively studied, His work has often been overlooked. He cites his teacher, H.R. Mackintosh, who remarked, *"In point of fact, it is at the Cross that the full meaning of 'God in Christ' has broken on the human mind."* For Torrance, Christian faith must be rooted in the doctrine of the Person and Work of Jesus Christ, who serves as the actual ground of our believing knowledge.

One of the dominant themes in Torrance's theology, and particularly in this book, is that the doctrines of revelation and God are only possible because of the Incarnation—God becoming man in Jesus of Nazareth. Torrance affirms that we know God because of Jesus and that salvation is found in Him alone. Everything we understand about the Father and the Holy Spirit is revealed through Christ, making this book essential reading for theologians and students of Christology.

### Christ as Mediator and Fulfillment of the Law

To illustrate his point, Torrance references the Westminster Confession, which affirms Christ as the Mediator between God and humanity, the Prophet, Priest, and King, and the Head and Savior of the Church. This confessional statement encapsulates the heart of the book—Jesus Christ as both divine and human, the one through whom redemption is fully realized.

*In a world clouded by fear, uncertainty, and distorted teachings about the afterlife, *The Triumph of Love* offers a refreshing, Christ-centered perspective on salvation, divine justice, and grace. Samuel Sanni embarks on a journey through the heart of Scripture, early church teachings, and contemporary theology to unveil the transformative love of God. This book challenges traditional views of eternal punishment, presenting a hopeful and inclusive vision of redemption that extends beyond the grave.*

*With careful biblical exegesis and insights from early church fathers, Samuel explores complex theological themes like hell, eschatology, and restorative justice. He confronts the ways in which modern Christianity has strayed from the original message of the Gospel, urging readers to rediscover the hope and mercy found in Christ's victory through His incarnation, death, and resurrection.*

*This profound work not only offers theological reflection but also invites personal transformation—encouraging readers to rethink their beliefs about judgment, salvation, and the nature of God's love. *The Triumph of Love: Understanding Salvation, justice and Grace* is a call to embrace a faith rooted in grace, hope, and unity, inspiring a renewed commitment to live out the message of the Gospel in daily life.*

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**All Things Are Yours**  
*Poem By Samuel Sanni*

All things are yours, in Christ alone,  
A kingdom vast, a royal throne.  
No lack, no fear, no striving vain,  
His fullness flows like endless rain.

The world, the times, both now and then,  
All rest secure in Him—Amen!  
Life and death, the days ahead,  
All placed beneath the crown He shed.

In Him, you rise, in Him, you stand,  
A child of grace by His own hand.  
No power can steal, no storm can shake,  
What Christ has sealed will never break.

So walk in light, let joy abound,  
For heaven's treasure now is found.  
All things are yours, forever true,  
For Christ is yours—and He holds you.

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**Historical and Theological Foundations**

In Chapter 1, Torrance explores the relationship between the Gospel and history, emphasizing that Jesus is not a mythological figure but a historical person whose life and work are central to faith. This directly challenges the Hegelian philosophy of history, which views historical events as mere appearances rather than essential realities. Torrance counters this notion, asserting that *"history becomes the sphere of God's operation and the medium of divine Redemption."* Christianity is not primarily about abstract ideas but about the Person of Jesus Christ and His redemptive work.

The chapter also highlights the indispensable role of the Old Testament in understanding the Gospel. Torrance insists that Christ's incarnation took place within the framework of Israel's history, through which God progressively revealed Himself. He warns against reducing Christology to Greek philosophical categories, emphasizing that true knowledge of Christ must be rooted in biblical revelation.

**Knowledge of God Through Christ**

In Chapter 2, Torrance builds on this foundation by affirming that sinful humanity cannot know God apart from His self-revelation in Christ. Drawing from Emil Brunner, P.T. Forsyth, and Karl Barth, he argues that any attempt to know God outside of Christ leads to failure. He writes, *"Our business is to examine the New Testament witness to Christ as divine Saviour and as the very presence of God to men."* Ultimately, one must either accept the apostolic testimony of Christ's deity and redemptive work or reject it entirely.

**The Apostolic Witness to Christ**

The remainder of the book delves deeply into the apostolic witness, examining the testimony of the Gospels and Epistles. Torrance makes a compelling case that the heart of the Gospel is not merely a set of teachings but the Person of Christ Himself. He states, *"The Christian Gospel is the Christ—God with us, Immanuel. That is the Good News."* The Evangelists place Christ at the very center of faith, presenting Him as the object of worship and the foundation of salvation.

**The Doctrine of Christ in Its Fullness**

Torrance's *The Doctrine of Jesus Christ* is a comprehensive Christological study, covering both the Person and work of Christ. He presents Christ as fully divine and fully human, the Incarnate Word, the suffering Servant, the Risen Lord, and the One who reveals the Father. The book intricately weaves together the themes of Christ's incarnation, atonement, resurrection, and exaltation, making it a vital resource for ministers and students of theology.

**Final Thoughts**

This book is a rich and profound exploration of Christology. While it may not be an easy read for laypeople, it is well worth the effort. Torrance masterfully demonstrates that the Person and work of Christ are inseparable, forming the very essence of Christianity. This is a must-read for anyone serious about understanding the depth of Jesus Christ's identity and mission.

