



# CHRIST & MISSION

## *Christology*

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*Christology*

# CHRIST & MISSION

## *Christocentric*

### The Preeminence of Christ

He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through him and for him. And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together. And he is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything he might be preeminent. For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross.

(Colossians 1:15-20 ESV)



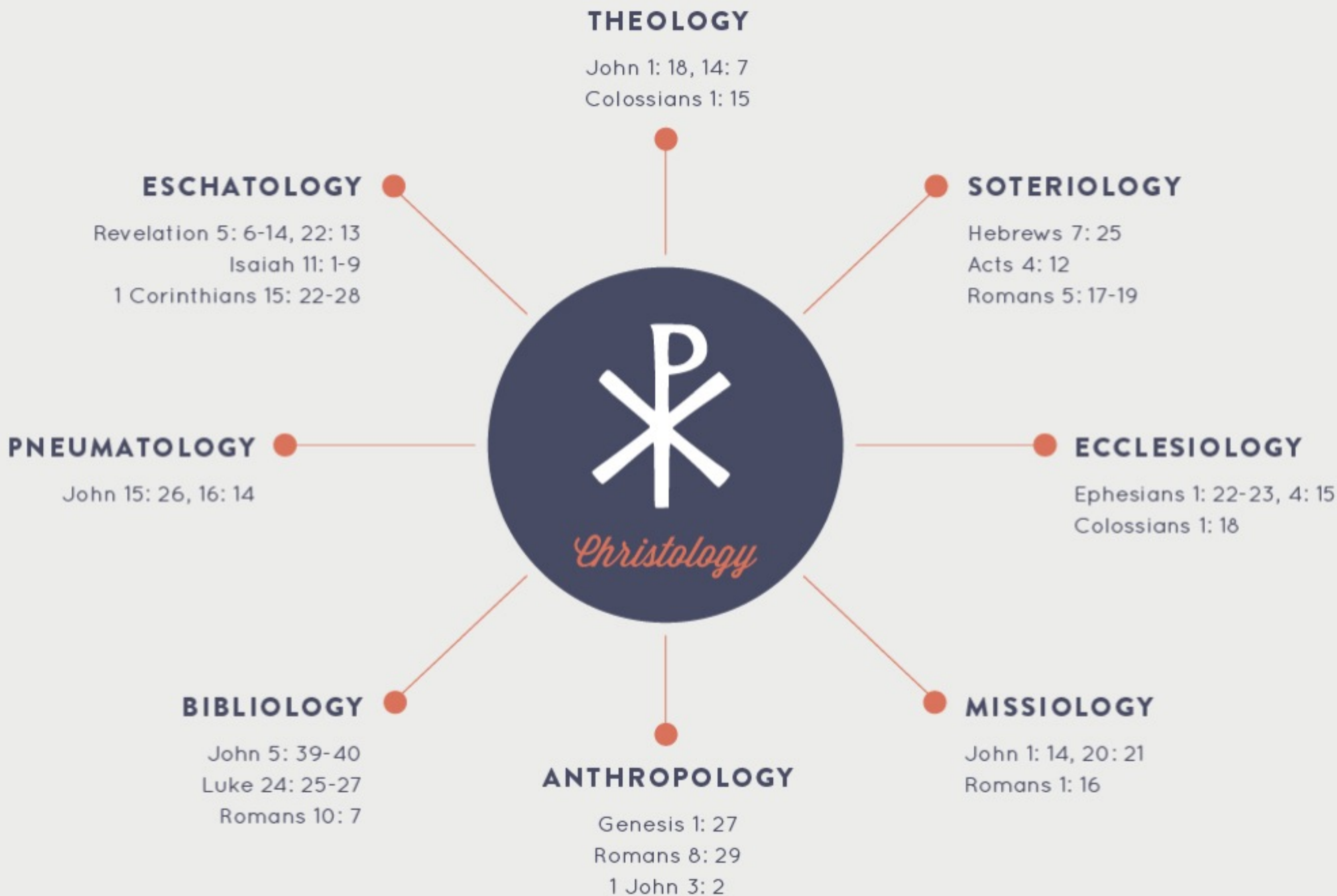
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*Christocentric*

- First in understanding God
- First in the order Created world
- First in the importance of the world
- First in the Church
- First in the Resurrection
- First in Salvation







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## *Incarnation*

The incarnation is God's method in Christ for reaching the world.

Eternity entered time (and culture) for the plan of God, in the Person of Christ.



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## *Incarnation*

The Word Became Flesh

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. In him was life, and the life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

(John 1:1-5 ESV)





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## *Incarnation*

The true light, which gives light to everyone, was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not know him. He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him. But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.

And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.

(John 1:9-14 ESV)



*Defining  
the terms*

# CHRIST & MISSION

*Terms*

Glory

Dwelt

Culture

Incarnation





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## *Incarnation*

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(John 1:14 ESV)



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## *Incarnation*

Glory is seen through the balanced presentation of truth and grace. Truth and grace are displayed on the platform of presence.



*Culture and  
Truth*

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## *Incarnation*

HIGH GRACE AND LOW TRUTH

BIBLICAL FIGURE: AHAB & JEZEBELL

- No Discernment
- No Backbone
- Comfort is put above Truth.





*Culture and  
Truth*

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## *Incarnation*

HIGH TRUTH AND LOW GRACE

BIBLICAL FIGURE: PETER, ELIJAH, SOME @ CORINTH

- Self righteousness
- Self interest
- Keeping a coded standard that creates a firewall.



*Culture and  
Truth*

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## *Incarnation*

LOW GRACE AND LOW TRUTH

BIBLICAL FIGURE: JONAH

- Angry at the outside
- Misunderstands grace
- Quits rather than cares.



*Culture and  
Truth*

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## *Incarnation*

HIGH GRACE AND HIGH TRUTH  
BIBLICAL FIGURE: JESUS

- The biggest problem we will face is being Christ-like.





*Living  
History:  
When  
Incarnation  
is in the  
Past*

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## *Trauma and Incarnation*

How do we mark what caused a church to seek to preserve a culture?

Trauma.

Catholic  
Fundamental  
Evangelical



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*Language  
of Mission*

# CHRIST & MISSION

## *The Mission*

### THE COMMAND OF DISCIPLESHIP.

Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. And when they saw him they worshiped him, but some doubted. 18 And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

[Matthew 28.16-20]





*Language  
of Mission*

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## *The Mission*

### THE MISSION OF THE CHURCH

mission - what you do. short and repeatable.  
{direction.}

vision - what you see when it is done.  
{inspiration.}

values - who you are. the sin qua non.  
{definition.}

strategy - how and when we do it.  
{implementation.}



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## *Colonial: Age of Establishment*

Colonial: Expansion of European culture as well as Christianity

Technologically: Agrarian

Pluralistic: Philosophy, Religion, Government

Church: Local Parish

Engagement: Come to us

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## *Frontier: Age of Expansion*

Pioneer: Expansion of West

Technologically: Agrarian/Industrial

Pluralistic: Regional, Federal

Church: Pioneer

Engagement: We go to you

*History &  
Incarnation*





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## *Modern: Age of Expulsion*

Urban/Consumer: Full Effects of Post Modernity and Industrial Revolution moving to Info Age

Technologically: Industrial/Information

Pluralistic: Secular, Global

Church: Hub and Network

Engagement: Drawing you to us (phase 1)

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## *Acts 17* *Lessons and Questions*

- Be Emotionally connected to people and their practices (v. 16)
- Be Intellectually Connected to the Culture (vv 18,21)
- Be Artistically Connected to Culture (v.28)
- Be gracious with the culture.
- Be Whole heartedly committed to truth (vv-29-31)
- Build the language of culture that is shared.

*The Culture Wars*



*Gospel  
Language*

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*Speaking Truth  
through Culture*

Life

Place

Meaning





# CHRIST & MISSION

*Pastor your City, and your  
City will be your Church*

Presence

Truth

Grace

*The Church  
on Mission*