

It's All about Jesus: A Treasury of Insights on Our Savior, Lord, and Friend by Randy Alcorn, Harvest House Publishers, Eugene, OR, 2020. (18 Quotes selected by Doug Nichols)

1. Christ Is Fully Revealed in God's Word.

“True Christ-followers understand that though there are many competing opinions about Him, the only authentic Jesus is the one revealed in God's Word. Hence, they believe that Jesus was both man and God, was born of a virgin, lived a perfect life, performed great miracles, died for their sins, rose from the dead, and ascended to the right hand of God. And that isn't all. They believe that Jesus has made a way for them to have eternal life, delivering them from eternal Hell and granting them eternal life in Heaven. They believe that Jesus, the God-man, is going to return to Earth to set up His eternal kingdom” [page 11].

2. One Can Get to Know Christ through the Bible and Others' Words.

I believe that first by reading the Bible verses and then reading others' words about Jesus that are in keeping with Scripture, you can actually come to know many great truths about Him through this book. That's a remarkable claim, but I stand by it. [page 12]

3. Christ Made an Unparalleled Impact on the World.

I'm aware that not every person cited in this book was or is a Jesus-follower, I quote Napoleon, Albert Einstein, and others who weren't known as believers, but particular things they said about Jesus seemed worthy of inclusion--perhaps even more so because while apparently not knowing him as Savior, they still recognized His unparalleled impact. Furthermore, various famous people said good things about Jesus while living biblically inconsistent or even immoral lives, treating others unjustly, or holding to doctrinal heresies. Some own slaves and were advocates for segregation. Some, including the reformer Martin Luther, made anti-Semitic statements. [pages 12-13]

4. Salvation Is by Faith Only in Christ.

In Christo solo is Latin for “In Christ alone”. It was one of the five central assertions of the Reformation, and it means that Salvation is by faith *only in Christ*, not by our own efforts. What could possibly be more important than contemplating this Jesus upon whom our entire lives, both present and eternal, depend? “Grace and knowledge of our Lord and savior Jesus Christ; To him be the glory, both now into the day every eternity. Amen.” 2 Peter 3: 18 [page 15]

5. Few Like Jesus for Who He Truly Is.

Kevin DeYoung has said, “Just about everybody in America likes Jesus, but few like him for who he truly is.” [page 19]

6. Many Deny Who Christ Is.

Sadly, many religious professionals deny Christ’s deity, miracles, atonement, and/or resurrection and view the gospel accounts as myth and distortion. To them, “the historical Jesus” was merely a moral teacher and example that the church has turned into a god, falsely claiming that he performed miracles and was superhuman. These skeptical scholars suppose the Gospel accounts in the New Testament letters to be a human invention and argue that the church elevated Jesus to a divine status he never claimed to. (This raises the question of why all apostles were tortured, in every one of them but John died for what they believed. No one endures that kind of suffering for what they know to be a lie.) [page 20]

7. Getting Things Right about Jesus.

Biblical Christianity is not simply a religion *about* Christ but a relationship *with* Christ. If we get it right about Jesus, we can afford to get some minor things wrong. But if we get it wrong about Jesus, in the end it won't matter what else we get right. [page 21]

8. Knowing Christ through the Bible.

Who is Jesus Christ? You’ve never met him in person, and you don't know anyone who has. But there is a way to know who he is. How? Jesus Christ--the divine person revealed in the Bible--as a unique excellence in a spiritual beauty that speaks directly to our souls and says, “Yes this is truth.” It's like seeing the sun and knowing that it is light, or tasting honey and knowing that it is sweet. -- John Piper [page 21]

9. In an Impartial Investigation Christ Is Who He says He Is.

After six years given to the impartial investigation of Christianity, as to its truth or falsity, I come to the deliberate conclusion that Jesus Christ was the Messiah of the Jews, the Saviour of the world, and my personal Saviour. -- Lew Wallace [page 23]

10. Who Do You Believe Christ Is?

The battle for human souls pivots on the issue of Christ’s identity. He’s the watershed, the dividing line between Hell and Heaven. Who do you believe, in your mind and deep in your heart, that He really is? Every person must give an answer--and when their answer is right could not be more consequential or eternally significant. -- Randy Alcorn [page 23]

11. Perfect God, Perfect Man.

Remember, Christ was not deified man, neither was he a humanized God. He was perfectly God, and at the same time perfectly man. --Charles Spurgeon [page 24]

12. Two Mysteries in Christ.

Here are two mysteries for the price of one--the plurality of persons within the unity of God, and the union of the Godhead and manhood in the person of Jesus. On these two mysteries, all else hangs. --J.I. Packer [page 24]

13. The Gospel.

The gospel isn't the gospel if Jesus wasn't God or wasn't man. Randy Alcorn [page 25]

14. How Can Christ Help Us.

If Jesus Christ is not true God, how can he help us? If he is not true man, how could he help us? Diedrich Bonhoeffer [page 25]

15. Christ's Manhood Seen, His Godhead Not Seen.

The Christ was twofold: man is what was seen, but God is what was not seen. As man, he truly ate as we do ... As God, he fed the five thousand with five loaves. Cyril of Jerusalem [page 25]

16. Christ Is the God-man.

Jesus didn't put on a body as if it were a coat. He wasn't made of two separable components, man and God, to be switched on and off at will. Rather, he was and is and always will be a man *and* God. When Christ died, he might have appeared to shed his humanity; but when he rose in an indestructible body, he declared his permanent identity as the God-man. This is a mystery so great it should leave us breathless.--Randy Alcorn [page 26]

17. The Deity of Christ Is Key.

The deity of Christ is the key doctrine of the scriptures. Reject it, and the Bible becomes a jumble of words without any unifying team. Accept it, and the Bible becomes an intelligible and ordered revelation of God in the person of Jesus Christ. --J. Oswald Sanders [page 27]

18. If Christ Is Not God, He Is Not Even Good.

If Jesus is not God, then there is no Christianity, and we who worship Him are nothing more than idolaters. Conversely, if he is God, those who say he was merely a good man, or even the best of men, are blasphemers. More serious still, if He is not God, then He

is a blasphemer in the fullest sense of the word. If he is not God, He is not even good. --
J. Oswald Sanders [page 28]