

## Jesus is ABOVE all

St. John the Baptist testified twice about the Lord Jesus Christ that He is heavenly and come from above, “He who comes from above is above all... He who comes from heaven is above all” (John 3:31). This statement declares threefold fact:

### **(1) Christ’s Divine origin and nature:**

Jesus Christ is Lord and God and He is above all in His Divine nature. The word “ALL” means that Christ is above all the prophets, kings, angels and all creatures.

St. Paul explained this in more detail saying, “far above all principality and power and might and dominion and every name that is named not only in this age but also that which is to come” (Eph. 1:21; also see Phil. 2:9)

### **(2) Christ’s Divine Teachings:**

The Baptist continued, “And what He has seen and heard, that He testifies”. Any other teaching is venerable to error, but Christ’s teaching is perfect and infallible that everyone can trust and feel safe.

### **(3) Christ’s Divine Authority:**

One Thousand years before Christ, Solomon asked: “who has ascended into heaven, or descended? Who has gathered the wind in His fists? Who has bound the waters in a garment? What is His name, and what is His son’s name, if you know?” (Proverbs 30:4)

The Lord Jesus answered the same questions that applied them on Himself saying, “No one has ascended to heaven but He who came down from

heaven, that is, the Son of Man who is in heaven” (John 3:13); and also when He calmed the storm and the rough sea; and when He said to the Jews: “You are from beneath; I am from above” (Jn. 8:23). He confirmed His Divine authority by saying after His resurrection, “All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth” (Matt. 28:18).

## By baptism, we are born again from ABOVE

The Lord Jesus said to Nicodemus, “most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God” (John 3:3, 5). In order to have the heavenly nationality, we have to be born from heaven, from the Spirit of God. When we believe in Christ and get baptized, we become heavenly citizens as St. Paul says, “For our citizenship is in heaven”.

## Our food is from ABOVE

As Christians and children of God, our spirituality nutrition is from above. It is a heavenly food, which the world does not know (John 4:32). This food is mainly:

### **(1) The word of God:**

In the book of Isaiah, the Lord says, “for as the rain comes down (from above), and the snow from heaven, and do not return there, but water the earth and make it bring forth and bud, that it may give seed to the sower and bread to the eater, so shall My word be that goes forth from My mouth; it shall not return to me void” (Isa. 55:10, 11) and “All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work” (2 Tim. 3:16; see also 2 Peter

1:21)

### **(2) The Eucharist:**

The Holy Communion is a spiritual food from above. The body of Christ is food indeed, and His blood is drink indeed, and they are heavenly food. The Lord Jesus said, ‘I am the bread of life, your fathers ate the manna in the wilderness and are dead...I am the living bread which comes down from heaven, that one may eat of it and not die. I am the living bread which came down from heaven... the bread that I shall give My Flesh, which I shall give for the life of the world” (John 6:48-51). When we eat the body of Christ and drink His blood, we abide in Him and He in us; we will have heavenly life and eternal life and The Lord will raise us up on the last day (Jn. 6:56)

## Our Throne of Grace is ABOVE

David, the psalmist says, “I will lift up my eyes to the hill (above) from whence comes my help” (Ps. 121:1). “For such a High Priest was fitting for us, who is holy, harmless, undefiled, separate from sinners, and has become higher than the heavens” (Heb. 7:26). “Let us therefore come bodily to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need” (Heb. 4:16)

### Our Heavenly Gifts are from ABOVE

St. James says, "Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and comes down from the father of lights" ( 1:17)

### Our Departed loved ones are ABOVE

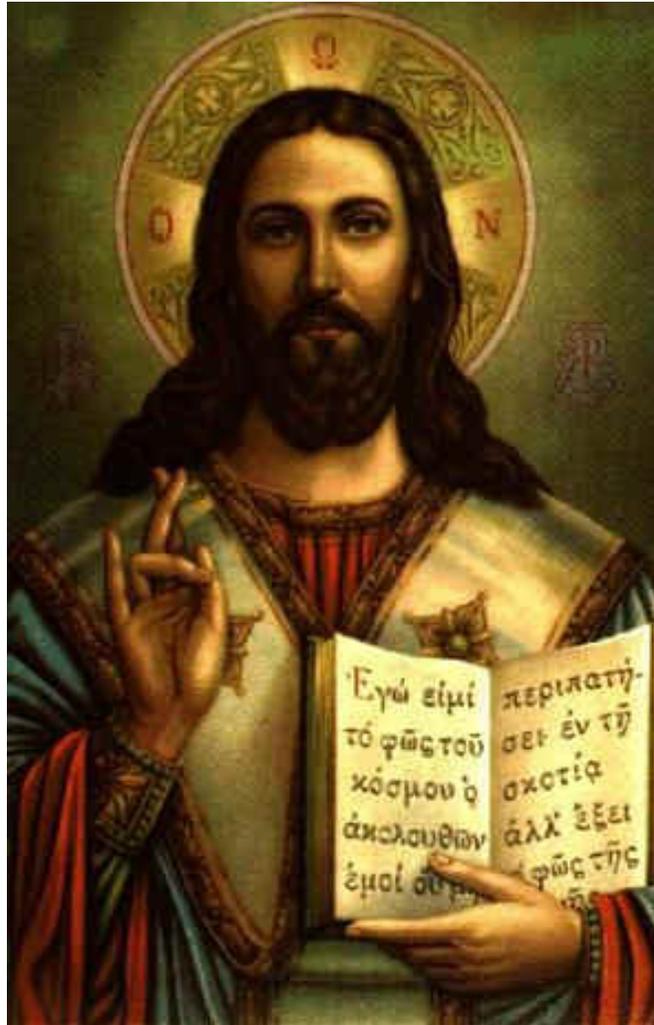
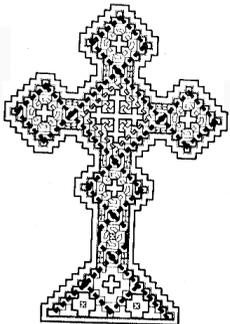
All the prophets, saints, martyrs, relatives and friends who departed are not dead, but they are living in a better life with Christ in heaven above. When the Lord Jesus spoke about the resurrection, he said, "The God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob is not the God of the dead but of the living, for all live to Him" (Luke 20:3)

### Our Final destination is ABOVE

"Lazarus, the beggar died, and was carried by the angels to Abraham's bosom." (Luke 16:22)

### We should seek those things which are ABOVE

"If you were raised with Christ, seek those things which are above... Set your mind on things above..." (Col. 3:1-3)



## Above!

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