

Welcome to Calvary Church, Brighton



**Today 16th Sept 2018 speaker Philip Wells, Full-time Elder.
This morning - "Q: Who is Jesus?" #3 of 5
A: "He is the Christ"**

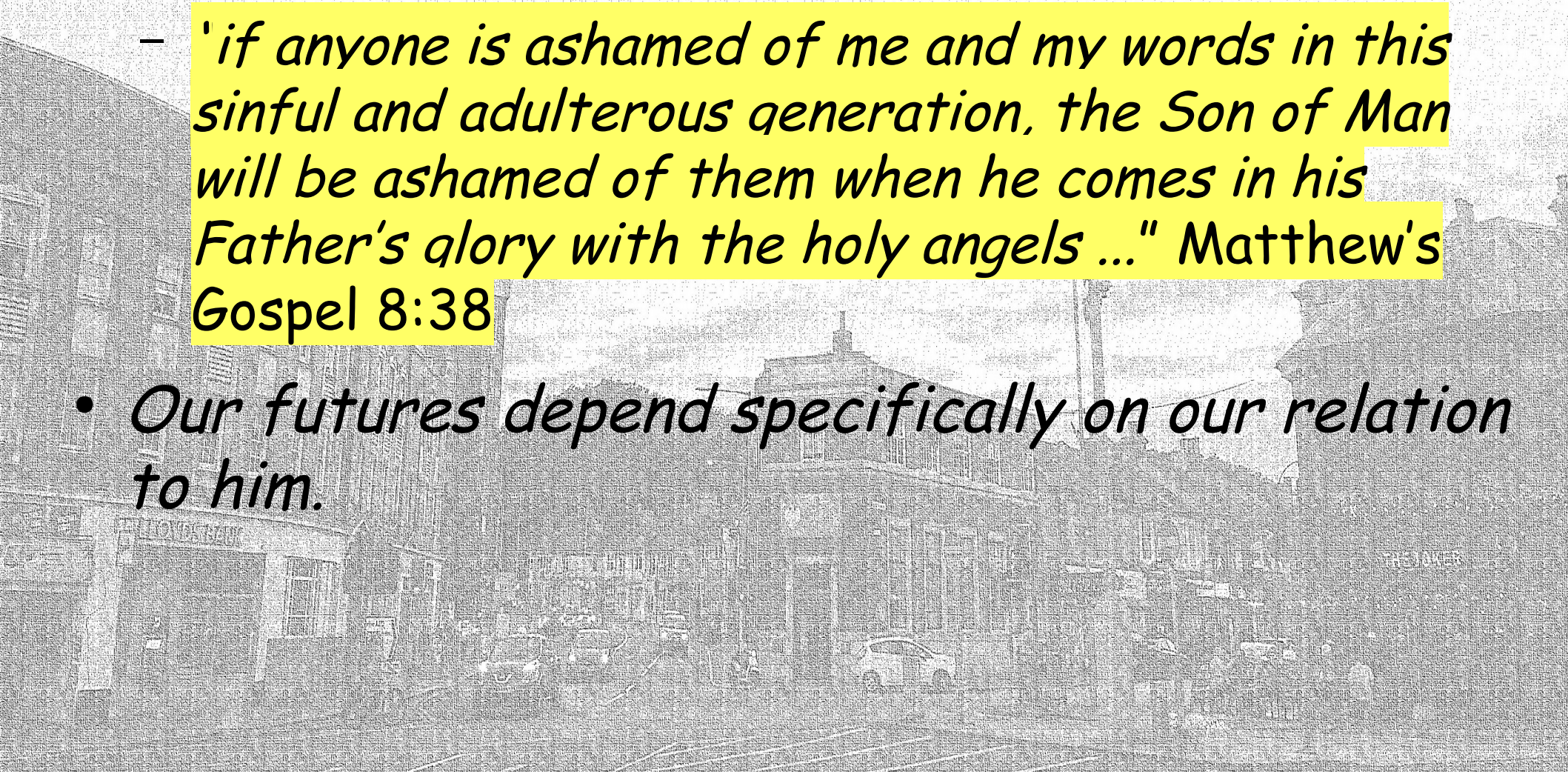
www.calvary-brighton.org.uk

calvary-brighton.sermon.net



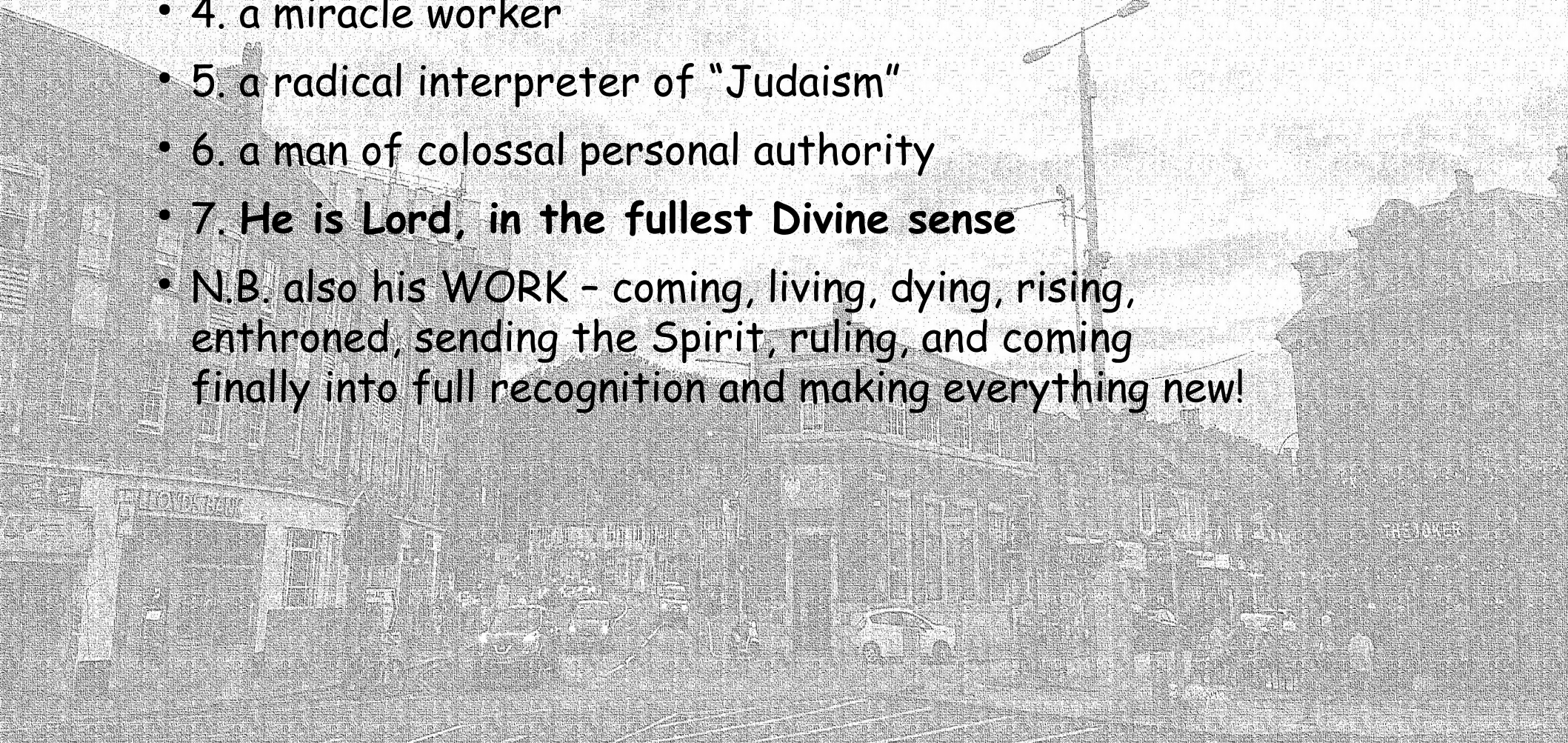
Who is Jesus?

- This is the most vital and important question that we could ask today
- Why?
 - *'if anyone is ashamed of me and my words in this sinful and adulterous generation, the Son of Man will be ashamed of them when he comes in his Father's glory with the holy angels ...' Matthew's Gospel 8:38*
- *Our futures depend specifically on our relation to him.*



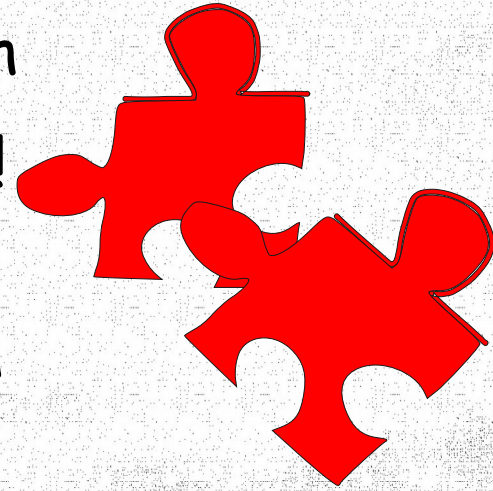
Who is Jesus? - so far.

- 1. a real historical person
- 2. an obscure person
- 3. a superb Teacher
- 4. a miracle worker
- 5. a radical interpreter of "Judaism"
- 6. a man of colossal personal authority
- 7. **He is Lord, in the fullest Divine sense**
- N.B. also his WORK - coming, living, dying, rising, enthroned, sending the Spirit, ruling, and coming finally into full recognition and making everything new!

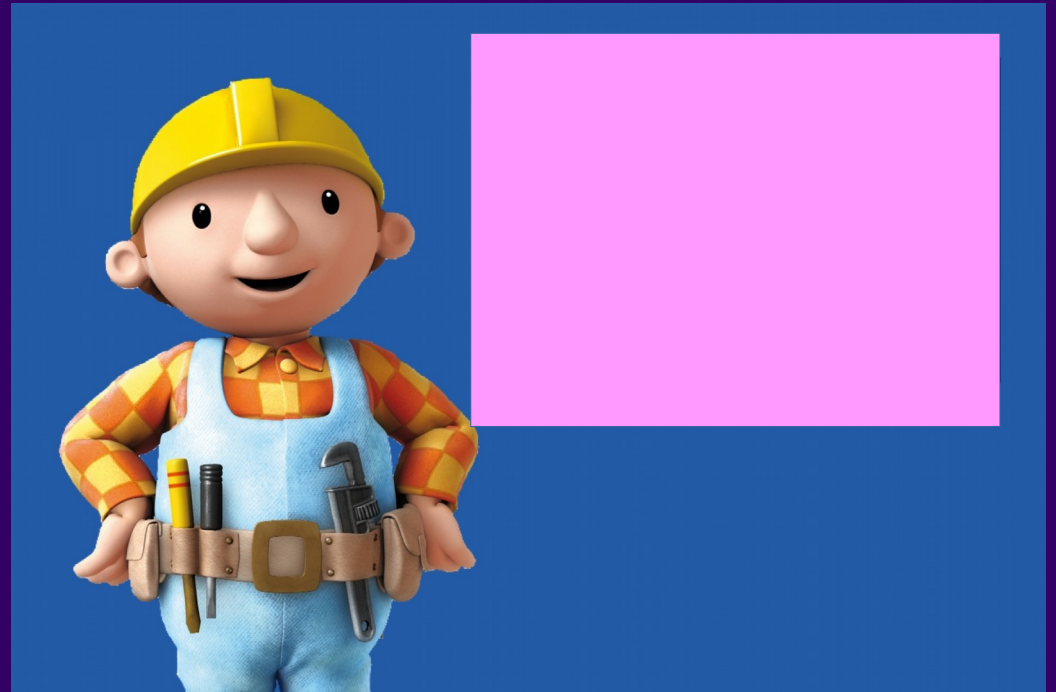
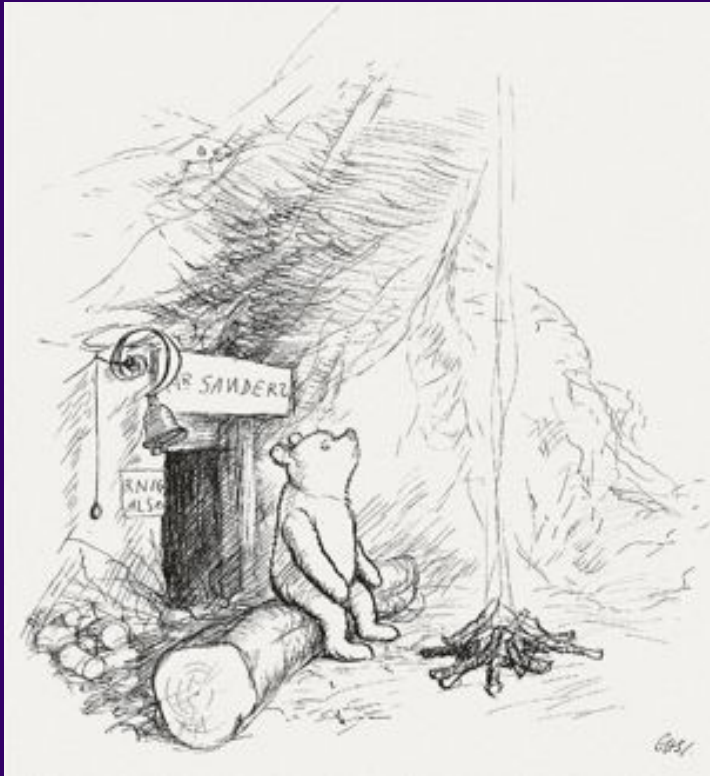


Who is Jesus - answer - "He is the Christ"

- N.B. Greek (New testament of Bible) = Christos/Christ
- N.B. Hebrew (Old testament of Bible) = Messiah
- A question of subtlety, complexity and mystery!
- **1. What are the pieces of the jigsaw?**
 - From the Hebrew roots / Hebrew Scriptures
 -
- **2. Putting the jigsaw together - what did people understand, and misunderstand**
 - The only person who really knew all along was Jesus himself!
 -
- **3. What response of relationship is expected?**
 - You can't remain neutral



N.B. Christ is not Jesus' surname



- N.B. "Jesus the Christ" is not Jesus' surname
- "Winnie the Pooh" IS a name
- Bob the Builder is his job
 - What he comes to do

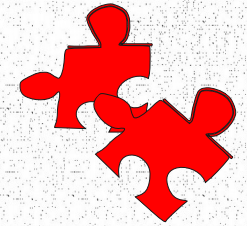
N.B. Our culture has its own understanding of Messiah, largely from the Bible!

- Jeremy Corbyn - Political Leader of the Labour Party
- International Business Times:
- By Yasmin Alibhai-Brown, Updated August 11, 2016 11:55 BST
- *Caption: Corbyn has morphed into some sort of messiah for the hard Left*

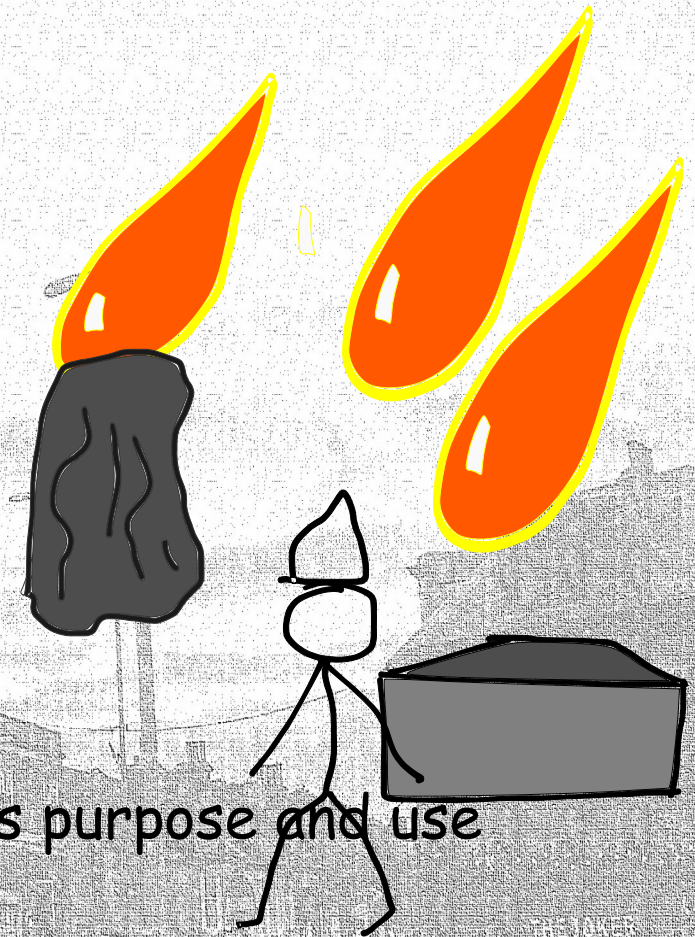


- it's certainly clear that people have an idea what a Messiah out to be
- i.e. someone who can sort out "real life" for the general people by his personal influence and political power
- (Actually a very helpful analogy!!)

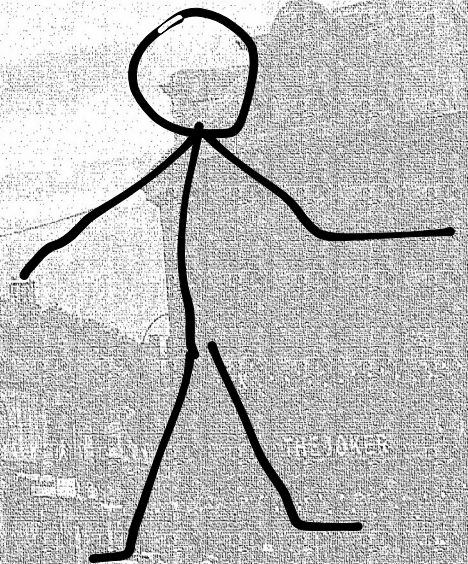
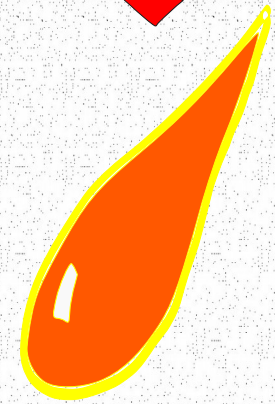
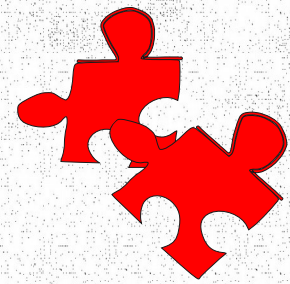
1. What are the pieces of the jigsaw?(an intriguing preparation)



- Christ : Greek = Messiah : Hebrew
 - Messiah translated only x2 in AV.
 - But that statistic is very misleading!!
 - Anointed One x38 (in key places)
- Messiah from Mashach = to anoint
 - To smear with oil, or to pour oil
 - e.g. A Stone (x1), bread
 - e.g. Priests
 - And their priestly stuff
 - = to set them apart specially for God's purpose and use
 - = to commission, to activate them
 - e.g. prophets (x1)
 - e.g. Kings



1. What are the pieces of the jigsaw?



- **Esp: Kings**

- e.g. **Hannah's prayer** (before there was any King in Israel)
 - "those who oppose the LORD will be shattered ...
 - "He will give strength to his **King**
 - And exalt the horn of his **Anointed**" (1 Sam 2:10)
- e.g. **David**
 - "the LORD said, Rise and **anoint** (mashach) him: he is the one. So Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the presence of his brothers, and from that day on the Spirit of the LORD came upon David in power" (1 Sam 16:13)
- e.g. **Cyrus - WHO WAS A FOREIGNER**
 - "This is what the LORD says to his **Anointed** (Meshiah), to Cyrus whose right hand I take hold of ... [LORD chooses him ... works with/through him]
 - To subdue nations before him [global ... judging]
 - For the sake of ... Israel my chosen [to redeem his people]
 - I strengthen you [God's power] Isaiah 45:1 ff
 - ==> i.e. **someone who can sort out "real life" for the general people by his personal influence and political power**

1. What are the pieces of the jigsaw?

- *Psalm 2 is the Messiah's manifesto*

- **The problem**

- The rebellious and irreverent nations 1,2
- The plot and conspire against the LORD and his Anointed

- **The solution**

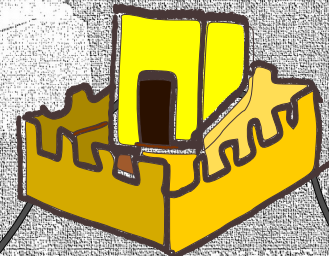
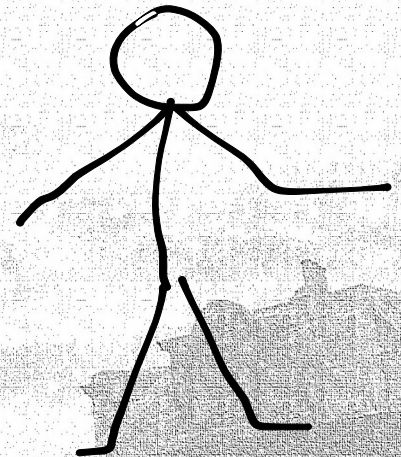
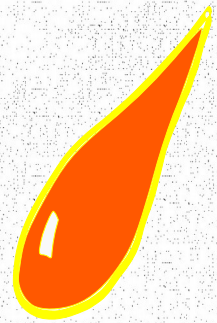
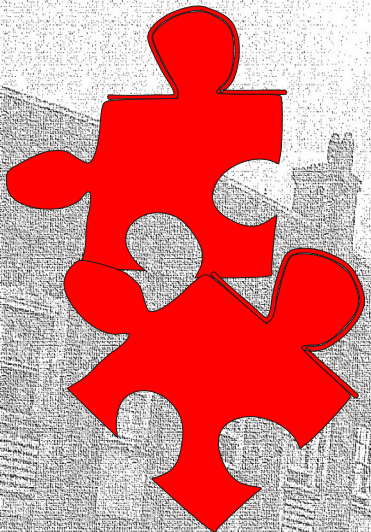
- God laughs v.4
- And terrifies v.5
- HIS KING, IN ZION (HQ)

- **The person (v.7-9)**

- By God's decree
- King = Son
- Nations are his to hold and rule

- **The warning (v.10-12)**

- Wise up!
- Kiss the son lest he be angry
- Take refuge in him = blessed



2. Putting the jigsaw together - what did people understand, ... and misunderstand

- General population at the time of Jesus

- They knew that Christ was prophesied and was coming ...

- Woman at the well "I know that Messiah - called Christ is coming. When he comes he will explain everything to us " John 4:25

- Some expected multiple figures e.g. the Prophet, ?? the servant??

- Some expected multiple Christs

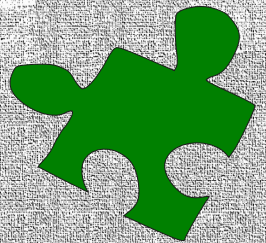
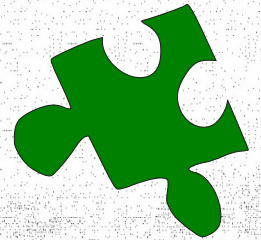
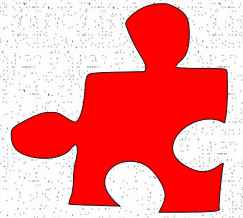
- Jesus " false Christs and false prophets will appear .." Matthew 24:24

- Jesus was always prepared to check and challenge people about the Christ



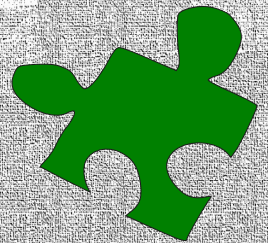
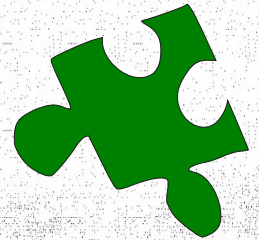
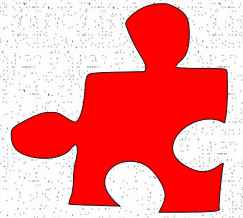
2. What did people understand, and misunderstand

- ?? N.B. John the Baptist's puzzle ...
 - Matthew 11:2 "... he heard the works of the Christ ... Are you the one who was to come, or should we expect someone else?"
 - Jesus: "the blind receive sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, the good news is preached to the poor. Blessed is the one who does not fall away on account of me"
 - Q: what happens to all the bits about "nations" "ruling" "smashing with an iron rod"???
 - A: you can't see the whole thing, but believe on the basis of what you can already see!!



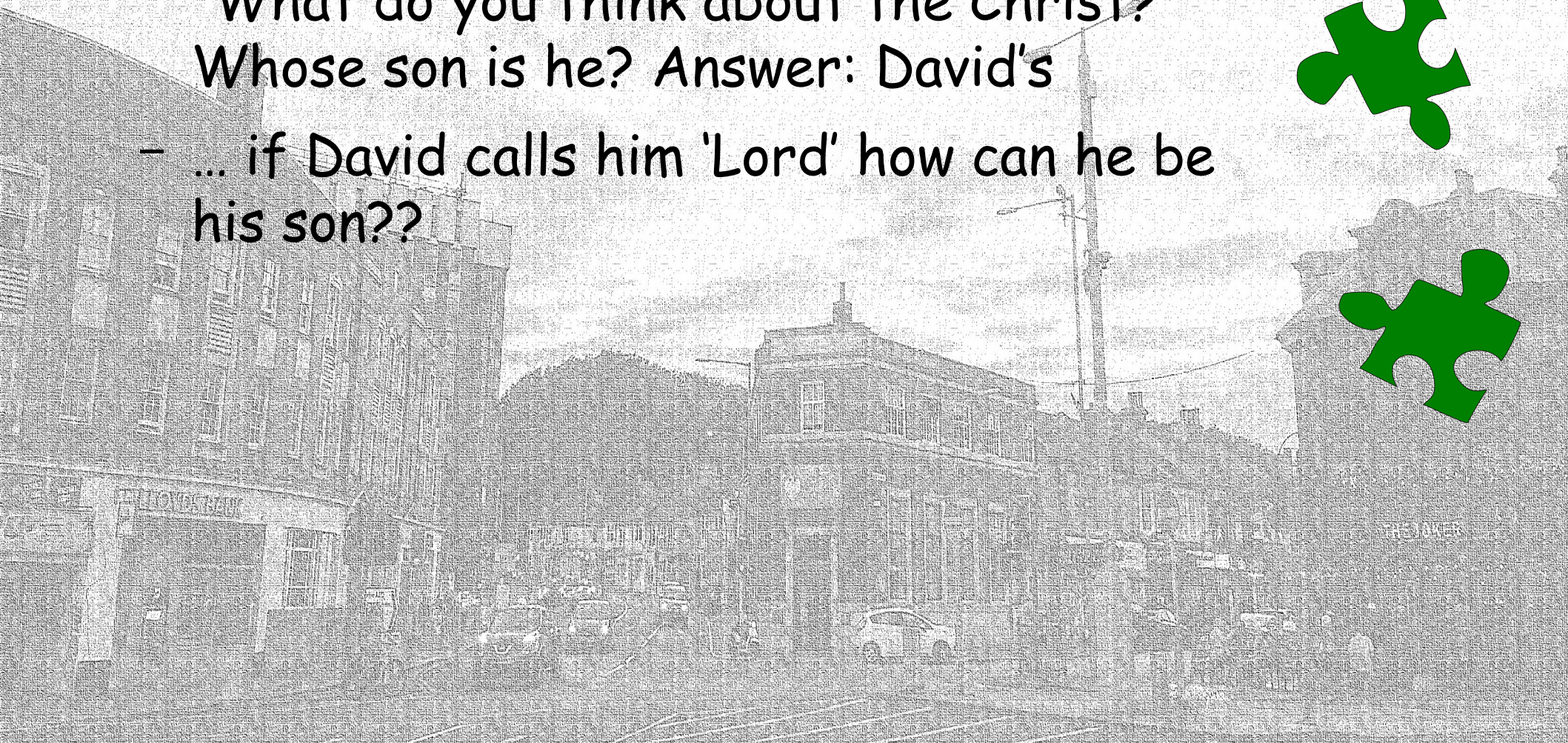
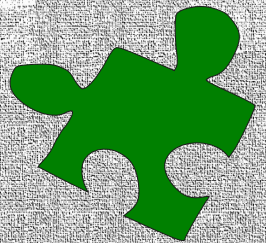
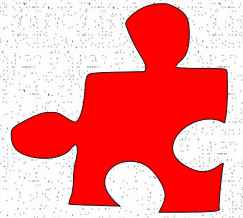
2. What did people understand, and misunderstand

- ?? At the turning point of his ministry
 - Jesus: "who do they say that [I] am?"
 - They: "some say John.. others say Elijah, Jeremiah ... one of the prophets"
 - Jesus: But you, who do you say that I am
 - Peter: "you are the Christ the son of the living God"
 - v.21 He explained that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer ... be killed ... on the third day be raised ..."
 - Peter: "Never Lord!"
 - Jesus: "Get behind me Satan! You are a stumbling block to me; you do not have in mind the things of God but the things of man"
- i.e. A Christ who reigns and rules, but does not suffer
- Jesus is Christ ... but he is not the Christ that Peter is thinking of!
- And you ...?



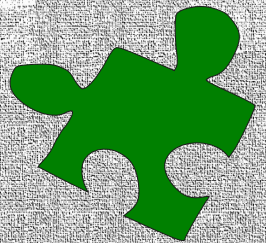
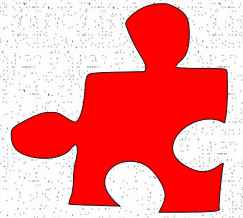
2. What did people understand, and misunderstand

- ?? in the last week in Jerusalem (Matthew 22:41)
 - David's son and also David's Lord
 - "What do you think about the Christ? Whose son is he? Answer: David's
 - ... if David calls him 'Lord' how can he be his son??



2. What did people understand, and misunderstand

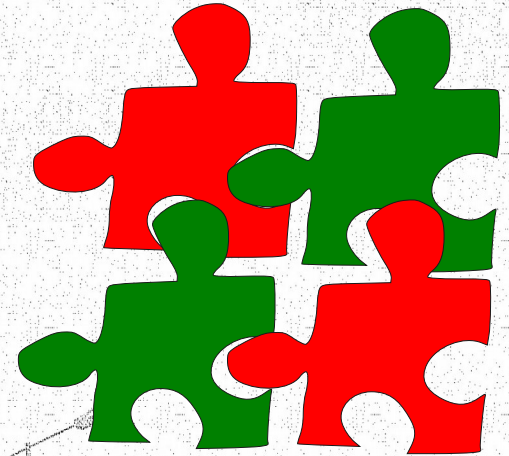
- ?? in the last week
- ?? At his trial (Matthew 26:63)
 - "the high priest said to him: I charge you under oath by the living God. Tell us if you are the Christ, the son of God?"
 - Jesus; "Yes it is as you say ... But I say to all of you: In the future you will see the Son of Man sitting at the right hand of the Mighty One and coming on the clouds of heaven"
 -
 - High priest tore his robe - "Blasphemy! ... He is worthy of death"
- Irony: they thought Jesus couldn't be the Christ and their rejection moved him to the next step of the plan the Father had given to Jesus the Christ



2. What did people understand, and misunderstand

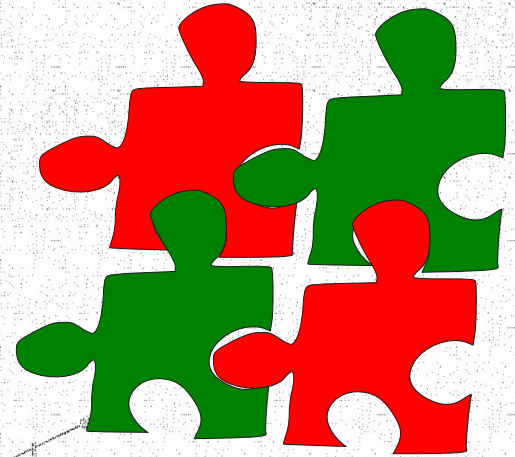
- ??? post-resurrection:

- In his resurrection Acts 2:36
- *Therefore let all Israel be assured of this: God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Christ*
- *Crowd: "Brothers, what shall we do?"*
- *Peter: "Repent and be baptised in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. The promise is for you ..." Acts 2:36*



3. If this is so, what would be the response?

- Put all the pieces together - As his job/role
 - The Christ - the King +
 - Son of David - the hands-on King who rules the world and brings the world into order and submission +
 - Son of God - who can call God his Father +
 - Priestly King who suffers for his people and offers the sacrifice of himself
 - Is there a better Christ than this?



3. If this is so, what would be the response?

- **Understand the fullness of his job, his plan**
 - *He is King over all the world now, and is waiting to come back and finish his Kingdom*
- **Stop working against him**
 - *"I think the world is like this ... [all people are good]"*
 - *"I think God is like this ... [just slightly less moral than me]"*
 - *"I think his Kingdom ought to be like this ... [filled with [[unrepentant]] people like me]"*
 - *Submit to what he says!*
- **Ask for his mercy**
 - *Son of David have mercy on me!*
 - *Kiss the Son lest he be angry*
- **Look forward to his fulfilment**
 - *Like John the Baptist - trust and wait eagerly for the fulfilment of all things*

