

# Isaiah 11:1-5 – The Work of The Christ Child

Calvin, Alexander, TSK, Henry, HebrewLexicon, Barnes, Geneva, JFB, Clarke, Poole, Delitzsch, INT, Maclaren  
Brothers and sisters in Jesus Christ: There is a popular carol titled “Mary, did you know....?” The songwriter questioned whether Mary knew who Jesus would be and what he would do. It has a beautiful tune...but the words cause concerns. Why? Because the Bible said **Mary knew who her Son would be and what he would do!** Others had no expectations of Jesus because **he was born in poverty**, he was born in the **back ward part of Israel**, he **showed nothing of the grandeur** (伟大) of his family tree – like David and Solomon, and his only **skill was carpentry**. Today you will hear who this Christ-child was and what he would do.

Our headings are:

**The Christ-child comes From Jesse**

**The Christ-child is Full of the Holy Spirit**

**The Christ-child gives Freedom to sinners**

Our goals are: **That you will praise and serve the Lord for his glorious work of redeeming you through Jesus.**

## **The Christ-Child comes From Jesse**

1 There shall come forth **a Rod** from the **stem of Jesse**, And **a Branch** shall grow out of his roots.

### **1. Jesus would come from the family of Jesse, the son of Obed, the son of Ruth.**

Jesus was even prophetically (先知性地) called David, 150 years after David died.

**Hosea 3:5** Afterward the children of Israel shall return and seek the LORD their God and **David their king**. They shall fear the LORD and His goodness **in the latter days**.

This was confirmed in the New Testament.

**Acts 2:30** "Therefore, being a prophet, and knowing that **God had sworn with an oath to him** that of the fruit of his [David's] body, according to the flesh, **He would raise up the Christ to sit on his throne**,

### **2. But why is Jesus called a “rod?”**

A rod (杆) was used for protecting the sheep. Sometimes “rod” is translated Branch...

**Isaiah 4:2** In that day the **Branch of the LORD** shall be beautiful and glorious; And the fruit of the earth shall be excellent and appealing For those of Israel who have escaped.

Jesus is called a “rod” because of the work he would do: Protect his sheep! The rod was a weapon. This is why David could say: “Your rod and your staff comfort me.” It was enemy that needed to worry.

### **3. But why is Jesse called a “stem” or a “stump 树桩 – the stump from which the Rod would grow?”** A better translation would

be “dry stem.” Jesse was called a dry stem to make the comparison between him and Jesus relevant and clear.

**God appealed back to Jesse, not David, because the days of Jesse were ordinary.** Jesse’s grandmother, Ruth, was a Moabite, a widow without children, and dirt poor! Bethlehem (House of Bread) had had a long famine 饥荒 before Ruth.

**Similarly, at the time of Jesus, things were dire 悲惨的. The royal cedar 香柏 had been cut down and only a stump remained.** So Israel looked like a dried stump...a burned out tree. The nation was small. Many Jews were still dispersed 被分散 around the world. The people had no power. Rome controlled Israel.

### **4. From that burned out stump would grow a new Branch.** It would grow into a majestic tree so that the world could have shade under it! That’s why we sing, “Joy to the World.” **What beautiful fruit he bears!**

**Isaiah 53:2** For He shall grow up before Him as a tender plant, **And as a root out of dry ground**. He has no form or comeliness 美容, 漂亮容颜...

## **5. Lessons:**

**a. God always keeps his promises.** God confirmed his keeping of that promise in 2 genealogies (家谱) of Jesus. So read his promises throughout the Bible and know he will fulfill them. This will strengthen your faith.

**b. It doesn’t matter how dark the times in your life are. When you know Jesus, there is always hope. Your spiritual struggles, family pains, employment concerns... God knows. Joy will come in the morning.**

**c. But there is a much bigger lesson: Coming from poverty and obscurity ( 费解 ) was part of the humiliation ( 卑**

微 ) of Jesus. This was necessary to meet the full force of God's condemnation. He had to suffer in life and in death.

## **The Christ's Child is Full of the Spirit**

2 The Spirit of the LORD shall rest upon Him, The Spirit of **wisdom and understanding**, The Spirit of **counsel (谋略) and might (能力)**, The Spirit of **knowledge and of the fear** of the LORD.

### **1. The Holy Spirit had to rest on the Christ-child, a man, in order for him to be qualified for his work of redeeming man.**

"Rest" meant that God's Spirit remained on him throughout his life. Remember the dove at Jesus' baptism (洗礼)? The

Spirit wasn't a visitor. He was pictured as oil on the head. Later, Jesus confessed his anointing (膏抹) from Isaiah 61.

Luke 4:18 "The **Spirit of the LORD is upon Me, Because He has anointed Me** To preach the gospel to the poor; He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted (伤心的人), To proclaim liberty to the captives And recovery of sight to the blind, To set at liberty (释放) those who are oppressed;

### **2. The Holy Spirit would give the Christ-child wisdom and understanding in a boundless (无限的) way!**

Colossians 2:3 in whom are **hidden all the treasures of wisdom** and knowledge.

Jesus had to know when to speak, how to speak, and what to speak.

### **3. The Holy Spirit would give the Christ-child counsel and might.** "Counsel" does not refer to advice but to **rule or administration.**

John 5:22 "For the Father judges no one, but has committed all judgment to the Son, 27 "and has given Him authority to **execute judgment** also, because He is the Son of Man.

Isaiah 42:1 "Behold! My Servant whom I uphold, My Elect One in whom My soul delights! I have put My Spirit upon Him; He will **bring forth justice (公义) to the Gentiles (外邦人)**."

Look at evidence of the Christ-child's might.

Isaiah 9:6 For unto us a Child is born, Unto us a Son is given; **And the government (政权) will be upon His shoulder.** And His name will be called Wonderful, Counselor, **Mighty God**, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

### **4. The Holy Spirit would give the Christ-child knowledge and the fear of God.**

Matthew 11:27...and no one knows the Son except the Father. **Nor does anyone know the Father except the Son**, and the one to **whom the Son wills to reveal Him.**

John 2:25 and had no need that anyone should testify of man, for **He knew what was in man.**

### **Look at the fear of God in the Christ-child. Fear of God = religion. Knowledge leads to fear of God.**

The people of Jesus' time acknowledged that he had no fear of men, only fear of God. Hebrews confirms this.

Matthew 22:16..."Teacher, we know that You are true, and teach the way of God in truth; **nor do You care about anyone, for You do not regard the person of men.**

Hebrews 5:7 who, in the days of His flesh, when He had offered up prayers and supplications (祈求), with vehement (感情强烈的) cries and tears to Him who was able to save Him from death, and was heard **because of His godly fear.**

3 **His delight** is in the **fear of the LORD**, And He shall **not judge by the sight of His eyes**, Nor decide by the **hearing of His ears;**

### **5. The Christ-child would desire to live in the fear God.** The idea is to be drawn to fear of God **like one would be drawn to a beautiful (delightful) smell.** How would this be translated into real life?

**The Christ-child would not judge by outward appearance (外貌), or just by what he hears other people say.**

Job 34:19 Yet He is not partial to princes, Nor does He regard the rich more than the poor; For they are all the work of His hands.

**He would judge perfectly.**

Romans 2:16 in the day when God will judge the secrets of men by Jesus Christ, according to my gospel.

## **6. Lessons:**

**a. The Christ-child had to endure growing up and learning as a man so that that credit would come to you.** He had to read...memorize...be taught. **Christ successfully kept all the terms of the covenant for you.**

**b. The fear of God is the foundation of wisdom.**

Ephesians 1:17 that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give to you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him,

**c. Do you ask God for all the graces of his Spirit? He offers them to you.**

**The Christ's Child brings Freedom for Sinners**

4 But with **righteousness He shall judge the poor**, And decide with **equity (正直) for the meek (谦卑人) of the earth...**

**1. The Christ-child would then bring freedom to the poor because of his righteous judgment.**

**Who were these poor?** These poor were those who had nothing with which they could appeal to God to avoid punishment for the debts they owed him. These were the spiritually poor. Yes, Jesus was the (spiritually) poor man's king.

**We know this was referring to spiritual poverty when we see the parallel between "poor" and "meek."**

Psalms 72:2 He will judge Your people with righteousness, And Your poor with justice.

Jesus would justify the "spiritually" poor because they **truly recognized their spiritual poverty and cried for help.**

Matthew 11:5 "The blind see and the lame walk; the lepers (大痲瘋) are cleansed and the deaf hear; the dead are raised up and the **poor have the gospel preached to them.**

Matthew 11:28 "Come to Me, all you who **labor and are heavy laden (劳苦担重担的)**, and I will give you rest.

So this was not referring to people with no jobs, but people with struggles (挣扎), burdened with sins... Gentiles included!

Romans 15:12 And again, Isaiah says: "There shall be a root of Jesse; And He who shall rise to reign over the Gentiles, **In Him the Gentiles shall hope.**"

4...He shall **strike the earth with the rod of His mouth**, And with the **breath of His lips He shall slay the wicked.**

**2. The Christ-child would then destroy the arrogant (傲慢的人).** And note the play with words! Jesus would condemn and destroy the wicked with the rod that came from his mouth. (Aroma of death and life!)

Hebrews 4:12 For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any **two-edged sword**, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow(骨髓) ...

Henry: Killing terrors shall arrest their consciences, killing judgments shall ruin them, their power, and all their interests; and in the other world everlasting tribulation (苦难) will be recompensed to those that trouble his poor people.

5 **Righteousness shall be the belt of His loins**, And **faithfulness the belt** of His waist.

**3. Righteousness, which is an attribute of Christ's Divinity (神性), and righteousness which he earned as a man, would be bequeathed 馈赠, 传给 on his children, pictured by his loins 腰间, 尤指性器官...the means of multiplying (繁衍).**

**4. Faithfulness, pictured the constancy (持续性) of God's protection.** He does not leave his children and adopt another family. He holds them dear. He never leaves his bride.

**5. Lessons:**

**a. Jesus is not some weak baby in the manger (马槽) that causes people to feel sentimental (感情用事的) every year.** No. Jesus pierces the hearts of sinners with his rod... **the sharp sword of God's Word**...so they are left with nothing but surrender on their lips.

**b. The Christ-child then secured the one he saves!**

**c. Those who do not surrender will be condemned by that same sword – The Word of God.**

**Conclusion:**

The Christ child came from the unknown Jesse, but he was filled with the Spirit, and so brought freedom for sinners. The Christ-child exceeded his parents' expectations.

Brothers and Sisters in Jesus Christ:

**1. Seeing your wonderful redemption 救赎, and seeing the Christ-child's great transcendence 超越, 超然性 so that you might receive that redemption, don't you love Jesus more?** Won't it make you serve the Lord better?

**2. And seeing this great redemption, and seeing the Christ-child's great transcendence, don't you want to tell others so that they can learn of Jesus** and be set free from their spiritual prison? At the very least, you can make contact for us, so that we can meet and take them the message of Jesus Christ.

Finally: If you are still in prison today, Jesus came to set the prisoner ( 囚徒 ) free. He paid in full for your freedom when he died on the cross. Don't stay in prison. Get out, or die there.