

The Two Jesuses:

Jesus of Nazareth and Jesus the Christ

The Man The Messiah

Today we want to look at how Jesus of Nazareth and Jesus the Christ both play essential roles in the plan of salvation and how they culminate in John 18:7-11, fulfilling the purpose of the Gospel as stated in John 20:31.

The Dual Identity of Jesus

In John 18:7-11, we find Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane, confronted by a detachment of Roman soldiers and temple officials led by Judas.

Twice, Jesus identifies Himself by saying, "I am He."

The first time, His divine authority is displayed as they fall backward.

The second time, He fully submits to arrest.

This passage reveals two essential roles in the plan of salvation:

- 1. Jesus of Nazareth – the human, the suffering servant, the one who would be arrested, beaten, and crucified.**
- 2. Jesus the Christ – the divine, the sovereign Son of God, in total control of the situation, fulfilling the plan of redemption.**

John 20:31 tells us that John's Gospel was written "so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in His name."