March 2007

## Christ Jesus

In my thoughts and discussion I have now chosen to refer to my beloved Lord and Savior as Christ Jesus, rather than Jesus Christ, unless it is otherwise quite necessary. Christ means anointed, so it's either Jesus the anointed or the anointed Jesus. What is the difference? All my life, until I entered the Christian fellowship, essentially every time I heard His name mentioned, it was by someone using His holy name as a swear word. It was generally using His name as the most hateful of the many expressions of an angry, hate-filled person's vocabulary. I heard it this way many many thousands of times, no few of which came from my own lips. I very seldom hear His name used that way anymore. It is not because there are fewer hating hearts, but because I am rarely around them now. But even so, when I hear, or see His name Jesus Christ, even in the most loving reverent way, I feel, at the very least a slight twinge, a sickening feeling in my heart. It is clearly the result of my subconscious memories of that "early time" and that almost universally common derogatory use of His name. Sometimes it even causes me heart tears. They hurt all over my chest and tend to clog my throat. Calling my dear Lord, Christ Jesus feels and sounds delightful to my ear, and absent of that awful hate with which His precious name has come to be associated. If that has bothered you at all as it has me, try this, it might ease the problem for you as well.