

I Believe In the Deity of Jesus Christ, God's Son (Part 2 – His Humanity)

Read – *John 1:1–14*

Text – *John 1:14 "And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth."*

Theme – Jesus Christ is God and the Son of God, and He is also man, and the Son of Man.

Introduction:

Three weeks ago, we began a series entitled "What I Believe." Our plan is to use a simple statement of faith which I memorized years ago as our outline for this series. That statement of faith is:

"I believe in the inspiration of the Bible, and in the deity of Jesus Christ, God's Son, in Whom we have salvation from sin by faith through grace. I believe that the Holy Spirit indwells every believer and gives guidance and power as we surrender to the Lordship of Christ. I believe that God has given to the church the responsibility to evangelize the world through the preaching of the gospel and personal soul winning. I will seek to live today so as to be ready to meet Him at His coming."

Three weeks ago, in our first lesson, we examined the statement "I believe in the deity of Jesus Christ, God's Son." We discussed the fact that Jesus Christ is God and the Son of God. We examined some evidence concerning why we believe He is God:

We learned that He possessed (possesses) the attributes of deity.

1. He is ETERNAL –

John bare witness of him, and cried, saying, This was he of whom I spake, He that cometh after me is preferred before me: for he was before me. (John 1:15 AV)

Jesus said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Before Abraham was, I am. (John 8:58 AV)

2. He is OMNISCIENT –

In whom are hid all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge. (Colossians 2:3 AV)

3. He is OMNIPOTENT –

He demonstrated power over demons – Mark 5:11–15

over disease – Luke 4:38–41

over death – John 11:38–44

over the elements of nature – John 2:3–11

over ALL THINGS – *And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. (Matthew 28:18 AV)*
4. He is IMMUTABLE (i.e. unchanging) –
Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and to day, and for ever. (Hebrews 13:8 AV)

We learned that He exercised the privileges of deity. (i.e. He did the things that God does.)

Example – He CREATED.

ILLUS – Man with withered arm got a new one.

ILLUS – Feeding of 5000 involved creation of food.

We learned that He is referred to by names that imply deity.

Example – Alpha and Omega

Example – I AM

And We learned that He CLAIMED to be deity! He claimed to be God.

It is important to us as Christians to understand why we believe that Jesus is the Son of God! But there is another side to this coin... Not only is Jesus Christ God and the Son of God, but He is also man, and the Son of Man.

It is this aspect of our belief that we want to examine today.

It has been said that Jesus Christ was 100% God and 100% man.

It has also been said that He was just as much God as if He had never been man, and just as much man as if He had never been God.

I. Definitions

A. Son of man

QUESTION – What does the term Son of man mean, and what are some of the ways it is used in scripture?

1. It is used primarily as a description of Christ.
 - ♦ **He used it to describe Himself about 80 times! (It was His favorite description of Himself.**
 - ♦ **It describes Him as the Representative Man.**
 - ♦ **It describes Him as "the last Adam"**
1 Corinthians 15:45 "And so it is written, The first man Adam was made a living soul; the last Adam [was made] a quickening

spirit."

- It describes His mission.

Luke 19:10 For the Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost.

(This is interesting, for it brings out the fact that the salvation of mankind had to be accomplished by a man.)

QUESTION – Could not God have just ignored our sin? Why was the atonement for sin needed, and why did it require a **MAN**?

ANSWER – God's holiness and God's justice could not be ignored, but must be satisfied.

- It is used in reference to His death and resurrection.

Matthew 12:40 For as Jonas was three days and three nights in the whale's belly; so shall the Son of man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth.

QUESTION – Why is that interesting?

ANSWER – It teaches us that a **MAN** died, and a **MAN** rose from the dead.

- It is used in reference to His second coming.

Luke 12:40 Be ye therefore ready also: for the Son of man cometh at an hour when ye think not.

QUESTION – Again, why is this significant?

ANSWER – Again, because it points out the fact that a **MAN** is coming again.

2. It is Jesus' **RACIAL** name.

- "Son of David" is His distinctly Jewish name.
- "Son of God" is His distinctly divine name.

QUOTE "It (the name Son of Man) transcends purely Jewish limitations and has application to the salvation of the entire race." (Unger's Bible Dictionary)

READ – John 1:49–51 (When Nathanael referred to Him as the "King of Israel" Jesus expanded it into the "Son of Man".

ILLUS – I had an interesting discussion with someone (just yesterday) about Jesus Christ. This person does not believe that Jesus is the Son of God, or that He is his savior. When I confronted him about the claims of Jesus Christ, he kept going back to the same argument, that Jesus was speaking only to the Jews, and that all his statements have to be interpreted from a Jewish perspective. As I later studied this term "Son of Man," though, I realized that the very name He used for Himself most often expanded His ministry and influence beyond the Jews to all mankind.

"He came to seek and to save ALL the lost."

II. The Bible clearly teaches that Jesus Christ was a man.

QUESTION – What verses come to mind to support this?

ANSWER – Let's turn to a few

A. He was born of a woman.

READ – *Galatians 4:4* "**But when the fulness of the time was come, God sent forth his Son, made of a woman, made under the law,**"

1. **Teaches that His father was God and His mother was Mary – He was a man, but also the Son of God.**
2. **Notice how this verse not only teaches His deity and His humanity, but also stresses the virgin birth. cf. Isaiah 7:14**

QUESTION – *How important is the virgin birth? Does it matter whether we believe it or not?*

B. He was "found in fashion as a man "

READ *Philippians 2:8* "**And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross.**"

1. *He had all the outward indications that He was a man ("fashion = appearance")*
2. *He had the ultimate indication that He was a man in that He DIED!*

C. He is the go-between... the mediator between man and God.

READ *1 Timothy 2:5* "**For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus;**"

1. *He was called a man in this verse.*
2. *He is described as the REPRESENTATIVE MAN – our advocate with God. Cf. 1 John 2:1*

D. He was made flesh, and lived amongst men.

READ *John 1:14* "**And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth.**"

E. This entire concept is one of the great mysteries of scripture.

READ *1 Timothy 3:16* "**And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: God was manifest in the flesh, justified in the Spirit, seen of angels, preached unto the Gentiles, believed on in the world, received up into glory.**"

ILLUS – The Council of Chalcedon (451 A.D.) failing to penetrate the

mystery of the divine and human natures of Christ, offered four precautions that would protect the Christian from error when contemplating this mystery. 1.) Attribute true and proper divinity to Christ. 2.) Attribute true and proper humanity to Christ. 3.) Do not so mingle the human and divine that you end up with a being neither human nor divine. 4.) Do not dissect Christ so that there are two persons in one being. (***E. Goodrick, Is My Bible The Inspired Word of God , Multnomah, 1988***)

III. It is precious truth that Jesus was / is man.

A. Without His humanity, we would not know about God.

QUESTION – If you wanted to communicate your love to a colony of ants, how could you most effectively do it? (**Allow for discussion here**) Step on them? Yell at them? Obviously it would be best to become an ant. Only in this way could your existence and what you are like be communicated fully and effectively. The best and clearest answer to how we know there is a God is that he has visited us. The other indications are merely hints. What confirms them conclusively is the birth, life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

John 1:18 No man hath seen God at any time; the only begotten Son, which is in the bosom of the Father, he hath declared him.

B. Without His humanity, there would have been no atonement.

Romans 8:3 "For what the law could not do, in that it was weak through the flesh, God sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and for sin, condemned sin in the flesh"

C. Because of His humanity, He knows and understands our experiences.

- ♦ He experienced sorrow (Matthew 26:37)
- ♦ He experienced natural growth (Luke 2:40) (especially precious to the teenagers, going through the pangs of adolescence... and the parents who are suffering along with them.)
- ♦ He experienced hunger (Luke 4:2)
- ♦ He experienced weariness... sleepiness (Luke 8:23)
- ♦ He experienced poverty (Luke 9:58)
- ♦ He experienced all that goes along with having a physical body (Luke 24:39)

ILLUS – Gold City quartet sing a song entitled "The Search is Over." One of the verses goes "He knows what you're going through. He's walked in your shoes. And he's felt the pain 'til His tears fell like rain and His heart broke in two. He knows how it feels alone when all of His friends were gone, and He walked up that hill, doing His Father's will, to die for you."

D. He experienced humanity, and all that entails, yet without sin.

Hebrews 4:15 "For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin."

Conclusion:

John 1:14 "And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth."

Jesus Christ is God and the Son of God, and He is also man, and the Son of Man.

"I believe in the inspiration of the Bible, and in the deity of Jesus Christ, God's Son..."

Next week we'll examine the next statement in our outline, which is "... in Whom we have salvation from sin by grace through faith." Our key verse we be Ephesians 2:8–9. I encourage you to prayerfully read that daily until next week's lesson.

*Please direct questions, comments, and submissions to [William E. Johnson](#)
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