

Divinity and Humanity of Jesus Christ
John 1:1-14, 2024-04-21A, #1

Introduction: Today, I want to talk to you about the divinity and humanity of Jesus Christ. This study is important because one of the main characteristics of a false religion is a denial of the divinity of Jesus Christ. In the first century, the problem was a denial of the humanity of Jesus Christ.

I. The Divinity of Jesus Christ Always Existed (John 1:1-3).

A. There was never a point in time when Jesus became God:

1. “Was” in John 1:1-4 translate imperfect tense Greek verbs *ēn* (ἦν), which means continuous action in the past.
 - a. Greek verbs describe not only the time of the action but the kind of action that is occurring.
 - b. A present tense Greek verb describes continuous action in the present (Ephesians 5:18; Galatians 5:16).
 - 1) A perfect tense Greek verb describes an action completed in the past with continuous results (John 5:24).
 - 2) An aorist tense Greek verb describes a once-for-all action (Ephesians 6:11).
 - c. “The Word was God” – The imperfect tense means the Word was always God (John 1:1).
2. The Bible teaches that Jesus always existed (John 1:1; cf. Isaiah 9:6 cf. Micah 5:2). Two of the names for Jesus are “Mighty God” and “Everlasting Father.”

B. “With God” – There are three different Greek prepositions that are translated “with:”

1. “Sun” (σὺν) is the Greek preposition most often translated “with” and it means “among others” (John 18:1; Acts 2:14; 4:27, Strong’s 4862).
2. Para (παρὰ) means “by the side of” or “next to” (John 14:17, 23, 25; 17:5, Strong’s 3844).
3. Pros (πρὸς) is the preposition that John uses which means “face-to face” which involves intimacy (John 1:1, 2; cf. Exodus 33:11, Strong’s 4314).

II. The Humanity of Jesus Christ Had a Beginning in Bethlehem (John 1:14; cf. Matthew 1:18-25; Luke 1:26-38).

A. The birth of Jesus Christ in Bethlehem is call “the incarnation” (John 1:14’.

B. “Was made” translates the aorist tense Greek verb *ginomai* (γίνομαι) which means “to come into existence, to begin to be.”

C. “Flesh” translates the Greek noun *sarx* (σάρξ), which here means “human nature.”

D. “Dwelt” translates the Greek verb *skēnoō* (σκηνόω) which means “to take up residence, to tabernacle.”

E. “We beheld His glory” (John 1:14).

1. When Jesus became human, He emptied Himself of the full manifestation of His glory (John 17:5; Philippians 2:7).
 2. The disciples saw glimpses of the glory of Jesus:
 - a. The turning of water to wine (John 2:1-11).
 - b. The healing of the sick, give insight to the blind, cleansing of lepers, made the deaf to hear (Matthew 11:4-5).
 - c. Walking on the water (Matthew 14:25-33).
 - d. The raising of Lazarus from the dead (John 11:40-44).
 - e. The Mount of Transfiguration (Matthew 17:1-2; Mark 9:2-3).
- F. “Only begotten” translates the Greek adjective *monogenēs* (μονογενής) which means “unique, one of a kind” (John 1:14, 18; 3:16; 1 John 4:9).

III. Illustrations of the Divinity and Humanity of Jesus Christ:

- A. There were certain things that human nature did not know (Mark 5:30; 13:32).
- B. The human nature became hungry (Mark 11:12-14).
- C. The human nature became tired (John 4:6).
- D. The human nature perspired in the Garden of Gethsemane (Luke 22:39-44).
- E. The human nature suffered and died (Luke 23:46; 24:25-26).
- F. The divine nature stilled the storm on the Sea of Galilee (Mark 4:35-41).
- G. The divine nature appeared on the Mount of Transfiguration (Matthew 17:1-2; Mark 9:2-3; Luke 9:28-35).
- H. The divine nature feared over 5000 with two fish and five loaves of bread (John 6:5-13).
- I. The divine nature raise Lazarus from the dead (John 11:43-44).
- J. Jesus rode into Jerusalem on a donkey because He was human; He rode back on the clouds to the third heaven because He was divine (Matthew 21:4-5; Acts 1:9-11).
- K. Jesus died because He was human but He rose from the dead because He is God (Matthew 21:4-5).

IV. The Significance of Understanding the Divinity and Humanity of Jesus Christ:

- A. One of the characteristics of false religions is a denial of the divinity of Jesus Christ.
- B. We have a Savior who understands our struggles:
 1. Jesus understands rejection (John 1:10-11; cf. Isaiah 53:3).
 2. Jesus understands our temptations (Hebrews 4:15-16; cf. Matthew 4:1-11).
 3. Jesus understands insults (Matthew 26:67).
 4. Jesus understands suffering in pain (John 19:1-2; cf. Isaiah 50:6; 52:14; 53:5).
 5. Jesus understands denial by someone close (Luke 22:34).
 6. Jesus understands betrayal by someone close (John 6:64).
 7. Jesus understands direct and indirect attacks by Satan through someone who is close (Matthew 4:1-11; 16:21-23).

C. Hymn: What a Friend We Have in Jesus, #435

Pastor-Teacher, Julius R. Malone