

The Humanity of Jesus

Part 1

Introduction.

1. The purpose of this series of lessons is to study “The Humanity of Jesus.”
2. We will examine what the Bible teaches about Jesus prior to His humanity until now.
3. This will be a detailed study that will take 4 lessons to cover it with the depth its deserves.
4. Part 1 will focus on Jesus before material creation and His incarnation.

Jesus As Eternal Spirit

1. The Bible teaches God the Father is an eternal Spirit. (Deut. 33:27; Psa. 90:2; 1 Tim. 1:17).

Deut 33:27 "The eternal God is a dwelling place, And underneath are the everlasting arms; And He drove out the enemy from before you, And said, 'Destroy!'

Ps 90:2 Before the mountains were born Or You gave birth to the earth and the world, Even from everlasting to everlasting, You are God.

1 Tim 1:17 Now to the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only God, {be} honor and glory forever and ever. Amen. This verse is true of the Father and the Son. See 1 Tim. 6:15,16; Rom. 16:27; Jude 25.

- a. Though it is impossible to comprehend, God has always existed.
- b. God is not a man. (Num. 23:19; Hos. 11:9; Matt. 16:17).

Num 23:19 "God is not a man, that He should lie, Nor a son of man, that He should repent; Has He said, and will He not do it? Or has He spoken, and will He not make it good?

Hos 11:9 I will not execute My fierce anger; I will not destroy Ephraim again. For I am God and not man, the Holy One in your midst, And I will not come in wrath.

Matt 16:17 And Jesus said to him, "Blessed are you, Simon Barjona, because flesh and blood did not reveal {this} to you, but My Father who is in heaven.

- c. He is Spirit. (Jn. 4:24; Psa. 139:7-10).
2. The Bible teaches the Holy Spirit is an eternal Spirit. (Heb. 9:14).

Heb 9:14 how much more will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without blemish to God, cleanse your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?

3. The Bible also teaches that Jesus is an eternal Spirit.

- a. Most people believe Jesus had His beginning in Bethlehem of Judea and some believe Jesus was Michael the archangel who was created by God prior to material creation.
- b. Those who believe Jesus was originally Michael the archangel deny Jesus was ever Deity and maintain He was created by God the Father before material creation.
- c. Jesus did not have a beginning. (Jn. 1:1-3; 8:58; 17:5; Col. 1:15-17).

John 1:1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

John 1:2 He was in the beginning [before creation] with God.

John 1:3 All things came into being through Him, and apart from Him nothing came into being that has come into being.

John 8:58 Jesus said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, before Abraham was born, I am."

John 17:5 "Now, Father, glorify Me together with Yourself, **with the glory which I had with You before the world was.**

Col 1:15 He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of [before and pre-eminent over] all creation.

Col 1:16 For by Him all things were created, {both} in the heavens and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities--all things have been created through Him and for Him.

Col 1:17 He is before all [created] things, and in Him all things hold together.

1) One who is "before all things" cannot be created.

2) One who is "before all things" and by whom "all things were created" must be Deity.

3) One who can hold "all things" together must be Deity. See Heb. 1:3

4) **One cannot evolve into Deity or cease to be Deity.**

5) Deity is eternal.

b. The New Testament teaches us the Father created "all things" including man through Jesus His Son. (Jn. 1:1-3; 1 Cor. 8:6; Heb. 1:2).

c. Jesus, before His incarnation, was Spirit - not fleshly.

1) The Old Testament does not clearly convey the pre-existence of Jesus.

2) It spoke of the coming of the Messiah - Jesus.

3) It did infer His eternal existence. (Isa. 9:6; Mic. 5:2).

Is 9:6 For a child will be born to us, a son will be given to us; And the government will rest on His shoulders;

And His name will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, **Eternal Father**, Prince of Peace.
“Eternal Father” is literally “father of eternity.”

Mic 5:2 "But as for you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, {Too} little to be among the clans of Judah, From you One will go forth for Me to be ruler in Israel. **His goings forth are from long ago, From the days of eternity.**"

d. Neither the Father, the Son nor the Holy Spirit are by nature physical beings. (Jn. 1:1; 4:24; Heb. 9:14).

John 1:1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

John 4:24 "God is spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth."

Heb 9:14 how much more will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without blemish to God, cleanse your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?

1) Though God is “Spirit,” He could appear in a human form. (Gen. 18:22; Exod. 33:20-23).

Gen 18:22 Then the men turned away from there and went toward Sodom, while Abraham was still standing before the LORD.

Ex 33:20 But He said, "You cannot see My face, for no man can see Me and live!"

Ex 33:21 Then the LORD said, "Behold, there is a place by Me, and you shall stand {there} on the rock;

Ex 33:22 and it will come about, while My glory is passing by, that I will put you in the cleft of the rock and cover you with My hand until I have passed by.

Ex 33:23 "Then I will take My hand away and you shall see My back, but My face shall not be seen."

2) Though Jesus by nature is Spirit, He appeared in a fleshly form. (Jn. 1:14; Phil. 2:5-8).

e. The Old Testament did prophesy the coming of One who would become flesh. (Isa. 7:14; 9:6-7; Isa. 53; Mic. 5:2; Psa. 110:1).

f. Jesus had a fleshly body during His entire life upon the earth - birth to ascension.

The Incarnation of Christ

1. God sent His Son into the world in the days of the Roman empire.

2. During the 32 or 33 years Jesus lived on the earth He was God [Deity] in a human body. (Matt. 1:23; Jn. 1:1-2; 1:14; Phil. 2:5-8; 1 Tim. 3:16; Heb. 2:14).

Matt 1:23 "BEHOLD, THE VIRGIN SHALL BE WITH CHILD AND SHALL BEAR A SON, AND THEY SHALL CALL HIS NAME IMMANUEL," which translated means, "GOD WITH US."

John 1:1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

John 1:2 He was in the beginning with God.

John 1:14 **And the Word became flesh**, and dwelt among us, and we saw His glory, glory as of the only begotten from the Father, full of grace and truth.

Phil 2:5 Have this attitude in yourselves which was also in Christ Jesus,

Phil 2:6 who, although He existed in the form of God, did not regard equality with God a thing to be grasped,

Phil 2:7 but emptied Himself [became flesh], taking the form of a bond-servant, {and} being made in the likeness of men.

Phil 2:8 Being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. One who is "spirit" only cannot be crucified. See Lk. 24:39

1 Tim 3:16 By common confession, great is the mystery of godliness: **He who was revealed in the flesh**, Was vindicated in the Spirit, Seen by angels, Proclaimed among the nations, Believed on in the world, Taken up in glory.

Heb 2:14 Therefore, since the children share in flesh and blood, He Himself likewise also partook of the same, that through death He might render powerless him who had the power of death, that is, the devil,

- a. During the time of His incarnation and now Jesus is exactly like the Father having all of His Divine attributes. (Jn. 14:9; Jn.10:30; Col. 1:15; 2:9; Heb. 1:3).

John 14:9 Jesus said to him, "Have I been so long with you, and {yet} you have not come to know Me, Philip? He who has seen Me has seen the Father; how {can} you say, 'Show us the Father'?"

John 10:30 "I and the Father are one."

Col 1:15 He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn [before and pre-eminent over] all creation.

Col 2:9 For in Him all the fullness of Deity dwells in bodily form,

Heb 1:3 And He is the radiance of His glory and the exact representation of His nature, and upholds all things by the word of His power. When He had made purification of sins, He sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high,

- b. As a human being, Jesus could hunger and thirst, experience temptation, become tired, suffer pain and sorrow and even death
- c. The fulness of God dwelt in Him while on the earth and still dwells in Him as One who has always been Deity.
 - 1) **Deity is not new with Jesus.**
 - 2) He was Deity before creation, during the time leading up to His incarnation, the time He spent on earth and remains forever Deity.
 - 3) He is "the exact representation of "His nature" [God].
 - 4) Jesus possessed and still possesses all the Divine attributes of God. (Col. 2:9).
- d. The antichrists denied Jesus having come in the flesh.(1 Jn. 2:18; 4:3; 2 Jn. 7).

1 John 2:18 Children, it is the last hour; and just as you heard that antichrist is coming, even now many antichrists have appeared; from this we know that it is the last hour.

1 John 4:3 and every spirit that does not confess Jesus is not from God; this is the {spirit} of the antichrist, of which you have heard that it is coming, and now it is already in the world.

2 John 1:7 For many deceivers have gone out into the world, those who do not acknowledge Jesus Christ {as} coming in the flesh. This is the deceiver and the antichrist.

- 1) They denied that Jesus was flesh because of their belief that flesh is evil.
- 2) Some contended Jesus only appeared to be flesh during His alleged incarnation, but he did not have a fleshly body since flesh is evil.
- 3) Others believed Jesus had a fleshly body for a short time after His baptism to just before the cross.
- 4) The denial Jesus was flesh meant Jesus was not really born of the virgin Mary.
- 5) It denies His atonement on the cross, His bodily resurrection and the fact Jesus knows what it is like to be human. (Heb. 2;18; 4:15)

Heb 2:18 For since He Himself was tempted in that which He has suffered, He is able to come to the aid of those who are tempted..

Heb 4:15 For we do not have a high priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but One who has been tempted in all things as {we are, yet} without sin.

- 6) As already stated, the antichrists denied Jesus' bodily atonement on the cross, His bodily resurrection because they believed flesh is evil.
- 7) They could not accept His alleged blood atonement because this would mean Jesus was flesh and blood.

Conclusion.

1. Next week we will study the body of Jesus after His resurrection.
2. We will discuss if Jesus was raised in His pre-resurrection physical body or, as some contend, was raised with a spiritual body.
3. We will also study the body of Jesus at His ascension.
4. We will begin to answer the question "Did Jesus enter heaven with His physical body or with a spiritual body or with a spiritual and physical body?"

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