

Faith Formation – Week Four

The Doctrine of Jesus Christ

The Person of Christ

In Christ there mysteriously and eternally exists two distinct and inseparable natures in one person: divine and human. His divinity is not diminished or surrendered in any way by being human, nor is his humanity diminished in any way by being divine. When He took on his human nature He did not give up his divine nature, but only the independent expression of some of his divine attributes: Philippians 2:5-11

Jesus Is Fully God *He is the uncreated and distinct second person of the triune God*

- He existed in eternity past with the Father and the Holy Spirit, and with them created the universe: John 1:1-3; Colossians 1:16-17

- He shares all of the attributes of God, lacking none: Hebrews 1:3

- He is equal to, and of the same substance of the Father and the Holy Spirit: Colossians 2:9

Jesus is Fully Human

- He was conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of a virgin woman: Matt. 1:18-25; Luke 1:26-38
- He was tempted by the Devil: Matthew 4:1-11
- He lived a completely sinless life: Hebrews 4:15
- Jesus was crucified, He died, and He rose bodily from the dead: 1 Corinthians 15:3-5
- He ascended bodily up to heaven: Acts 1:9
- He will some day return bodily: Acts 1:11
- He is now exalted and seated at the right hand of the Father: Ephesians 1:20-21

The Work of Christ Christ's purpose on Earth was to glorify the Father by completing the work that the Father gave him to do: John 4:34; 5:36; 17:4

Work of Revealing *Jesus as a prophet*
Matt. 11:20-24; Heb. 1:1-3

Work of Ruling *Jesus as a king*
He is head of the church and ruler of creation: Col. 1:18; 2:10; Revelation 5:13-14

Work of Reconciling Jesus as a priest and a sacrificial lamb

Priest Jesus intercedes and mediates on behalf of believers: 1 Timothy 2:5; Heb. 7:24-27

Sacrificial Lamb Jesus died on the cross for the sins of His people: Matthew 20:28

This sacrifice is:

- *Substitutionary*, He was sacrificed on behalf of and in place of his people: Galatians 3:13; Ephesians 5:2; 1 Peter 2:24; 3:18

- *Propitiatory*, His sacrifice covers sins, therefore appeasing and satisfying the wrath and holiness of God which we deserved: Romans 3:23-26; 1 John 2:1-2; 4:10

- *Redemptive*, paying a price to satisfy the justice of God in order to “buy us back”. We are therefore reestablished from that broken relationship: Galatians 1:4; 3:13; Titus 2:14; Revelation 1:5-6

Application:

His nature validates his work. Had he not been fully God, He would not have been qualified to die for our sins; had He not been fully human, he could not have spilled His blood for us.

Jesus is God and worthy of our worship

Jesus can identify with our sufferings: Hebrews 4:15

We should place our faith in the person and work of Jesus to be saved: Acts 4:12

We should respond with a holy life: 1 Peter 2:24