

Our topic of study is Jesus - fully human. Jesus Christ, according to the Bible, is truly God and He is also truly man.

In studying this topic, our question for the night could be worded this way:

**IF JESUS IS GOD, WAS HE ACTUALLY A MAN ALSO, OR DID HE ONLY APPEAR TO BE A MAN?**

The reason I asked it that way is because this was a major issue for centuries in the Christian faith. I think the big issue today is in the question: Is Jesus actually God? That seems to be where our religious debate is today, but back in the first century and for many centuries after, the question was: Is Jesus actually human?

*1 John 4:1-3*

*Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, for many false prophets have gone out into the world. By this you know the Spirit of God: every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God, and every spirit that does not confess Jesus is not from God. This is the spirit of the antichrist, which you heard was coming and now is in the world already.*

*Colossians 2:8-9*

*See to it that no one takes you captive by philosophy and empty deceit, according to human tradition, according to the elemental spirits of the world, and not according to Christ. For in him the whole fullness of deity dwells bodily.*

Whether we realize it or not, this topic is a very big deal.

I'd like to answer our question by giving 7 Biblical defenses that Jesus was actually a man.

**Biblical Defense #1** - The Bible plainly says that Jesus was a man. **1 Timothy 2:5; Acts 17:31; Acts 2:22**

**Biblical Defense #2** - The Bible teaches that Jesus grew up like any other human. **Luke 2:40, 46, 52**

What we find in Luke 2 is clear teaching of the Bible that Jesus grew up like any other human. He grew physically, mentally, and spiritually. He asked questions. He learned things. And He progressed like humans learn, grow, and progress.

**Biblical Defense #3** - The Bible demonstrates that He had human characteristics.

- 1) Jesus looked like an average Jew. **John 4:9; Isaiah 53:2**
- 2) Jesus had flesh and blood. **Hebrews 2:14**
- 3) Jesus had a soul like any other human. **Matthew 26:38**
- 4) Jesus had a spirit like any other human. **Luke 23:46**

**Biblical Defense #4** - The Bible teaches that He had normal human needs.

- 1) Jesus was hungry and needed to eat. **Matthew 4:2**
- 2) Jesus was thirsty and needed to drink. **John 19:28; John 4:7**
- 3) Jesus was tired and needed to rest. **John 4:6**
- 4) Jesus needed a human and needed to sleep. **Matthew 8:24**
- 5) Jesus was emotional and needed to express Himself. **Luke 19:41; Mark 3:5**

All of these needs that are mentioned of Jesus are also needs that reveal He is human.

**Biblical Defense #5** - The Bible gives titles of Him that indicate He is a human.

- 1) Jesus is called the Son of man. **Luke 19:10**

This a very unique title given only to Jesus. It has reference to His Messiahship (Dan. 7:13-14), but the title itself indicates that He is a man.

- 2) Jesus is called the man who is the mediator between God and man. **1 Timothy 2:5**
- 3) Jesus is called Jesus - an average human name. **Matthew 1:21**

Jesus was a normal and popular name of the first century Jewish culture (Col. 4:11). The name Jesus is derived from the Old Testament name Joshua, and it essentially means "Yahweh saves." The name speaks of a deliverer or savior. Jesus' "birth certificate" name was Jesus. He was not named Immanuel - God with us (Is. 7:14). He was named Jesus. This used to be confusing for me until I was taught that what Isaiah meant was that Jesus' character and essence would be that of Immanuel - God with us. Jesus' legal name did not need to be Immanuel in order to fulfill what Isaiah prophesied, but Jesus life, character, and person needed to fit that description.

- 4) Jesus is called a carpenter - the title of a human occupation. Mark 6:3

**Biblical Defense #6** - The Bible teaches that He physically suffered like any other normal human body could suffer.

- 1) Jesus' literal face was hit, beaten, and spit upon. It was a physical body that was taking the punches. **Matthew 26:67**
- 2) Jesus' literal head wore a crown of thorns. **John 19:2**

- 3) Jesus' literal hands were pierced by nails and His body was hung on a cross. **John 20:25; Acts 5:30**

Everything about Jesus' suffering that led to His death indicates that He was truly a human.

**Biblical Defense #7** - The Bible teaches that He died like any other human. **John 19:33**

Jesus' death indicates that yes, Jesus was a human. He was fully capable of death and He did die, just as all men die. Jesus needed to be human in order to die. He needed to shed His blood on a cross and die in order for men to be forgiven by God (Ephesians 1:7). He needed to be human in order to shed His blood and die for us.

Through the course of our lesson we saw the Jesus was called a man. He grew up like any other human. He had human characteristics. He had human needs. He had human titles. He suffered like a human. And he died like a human. So **our answer to the question is yes. The Bible teaches that Jesus was actually a man. Jesus is the GOD-MAN. Fully and completely God - Fully and completely man.**