

Christmas Series
The Greatest Miracle of All Time
For the Week of December 3, 2023

Reflection

1. **What were some of the takeaways, for you, from Sunday's sermon?**

2. **Were there questions, comments, concerns...?**

So why was Jesus, the Son of God, born as a human? There are several reasons Scripture gives to explain why Jesus had to be a man. For one, Jesus had to be a representative in his nature. Paul called Jesus the "last Adam" (1 Corinthians 15:45) because he represented humanity in the same way as the "first Adam." Secondly, he became a sacrifice similar to those he was sacrificed for, "Therefore he had to be made like his brothers in every respect, so that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make propitiation for the sins of the people" (Hebrews 2:17). A third reason Jesus had to be a human was his role as mediator between God and men (1 Timothy 2:15). A purely divine entity could not be a sympathetic mediator in the same way a human mediator can be (Hebrews 2:18)

-Brandon Clay – Truth Story

Jesus' full humanity was necessary (1 Jn 4:2-3) so that he might represent us in perfect obedience (Rom 5:18-19), that he might stand in our place (Heb 2:16-17), that he might mediate between humans and the Father (1 Tim 2:5), that he might rule over creation as God intended for mankind (Heb 2:5-9), that he might provide us with an example of holiness (1 Jn 2:6), that he might present the blueprint for our resurrection bodies (1 Cor 15:42-44), and that he might sympathize with us as our High Priest (Heb 2:18; 4:15-16). Jesus will be fully human forever (Lk 24:39; Acts 1:11; 7:56; Rev 1:13).

-Wayne Grudem – Systematic Theology

3. **What are ways that Scripture shows how Jesus was human, like us?**

Luke 2:11

Luke 2:52

Mark 1:41, Mark 3:5, John 11:33-35, John 12:27

Matthew 4:1

Matthew 8:23-27, John 4:6

Mark 14:65, 15:15-24, Hebrews 5:8

Mark 15:37

4. What are ways that scripture shows how Jesus was human, not like us?

Luke 1:34-35

Hebrews 4:15, 1 Peter 2:22, 1 John 3:5

5. Why is it important for believers to understand that Jesus was fully man?

6. During this Christmas season, what are ways that you can celebrate more than just the babe in a manger, but the Word that became flesh, the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth?

“It is by far the most amazing miracle of the entire Bible – far more amazing than the resurrection and more amazing even than the creation of the universe. The fact that the infinite, omnipotent, eternal Son of God could become man and join himself to a human nature forever, so that infinite God became one person with finite man, will remain for eternity the most profound miracle and the most profound mystery in all the universe.”

-Wayne Grudem, Systematic Theology