

The Glorious Gospel
Part 3: Jesus Christ
Providence Baptist Church
June 22, 2025

I. Review: What Has Happened to Humanity?

- A. **Genesis 1:26–27; 31** Then God said, “Let us make man in our image, after our likeness. And let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over the livestock and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.” [27] So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them . . . And God saw everything that he had made, and behold, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.
 - 1. Humanity in the “image and likeness” of God (**vv. 26–27**)
 - 2. We are “like” God and “represent” God (what an honor!)
 - 3. We behold the perfect “image” and “likeness” of God in Jesus Christ.
- B. **Genesis 3** and “cosmic treason”
 - 1. **Genesis 3:1–7** Now the serpent was more crafty than any other beast of the field that the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, “Did God actually say, ‘You shall not eat of any tree in the garden?’” [2] And the woman said to the serpent, “We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden, [3] but God said, ‘You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the midst of the garden, neither shall you touch it, lest you die.’” [4] But the serpent said to the woman, “You will not surely die. [5] For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.” [6] So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate, and she also gave some to her husband who was with her, and he ate. [7] Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked. And they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves loincloths. (cf., **Romans 5:12** “Therefore, just as sin came into the world through one man, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men because all sinned . . .”)
 - 2. We rejected God’s rule and reign in a futile effort to be our own gods.
 - a. **Isaiah 53:6** “All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned—every one—to his own way; and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all.”
 - b. **Romans 3:23** “for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God”
 - c. **The Baptist Catechism** (Benjamin Keach/1693): Question 18: What is sin? Answer: Sin is any want of conformity unto, or transgression of, the law of God (1 John 3:4; Rom. 5:13).
 - 3. “Glorious Ruins” (‘glorious’ because we still retain the image of God; ‘ruins’ because the image is radically shattered)
- C. “Day of Judgement! Day of Wonders!”
 - 1. A universal reckoning before God
 - a. **Romans 3:19** “Now we know that whatever the law says it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be stopped, and the whole world may be held accountable to God.”

- b. **2 Corinthians 5:10** “For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may receive what is due for what he has done in the body, whether good or evil.”
- 2. The question of the ages: How will we stand in the judgment?

II. The Person and Work of Christ

- A. Who is Jesus? According to the world? According to much of evangelicalism?
- B. Why is this a crucial question to answer rightly (i.e., *biblically*)? What is at stake?
 - 1. The Godhead (Trinity/the one true God)
 - 2. The Gospel
 - 3. Idolatry
 - 4. Eternity
- C. Jesus Christ: the God-Man
 - 1. Jesus is fully God
 - a. **John 1:1–4** “In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. [2] He was in the beginning with God. [3] All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. [4] In him was life, and the life was the light of men.” (cf., **John 1:14** “And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.”)
 - b. **Colossians 1:15–19** “He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. [16] For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through him and for him. [17] And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together. [18] And he is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything he might be preeminent. [19] For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell . . .” (cf., **Colossians 2:9** “For in him the whole fullness of deity dwells bodily . . .”)
 - c. **Hebrews 1:1–3** “Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets, [2] but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed the heir of all things, through whom also he created the world. [3] He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature, and he upholds the universe by the word of his power.”
 - d. **John 8:58–59** Jesus said to them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, before Abraham was, I am.” [59] So they picked up stones to throw at him, but Jesus hid himself and went out of the temple.
 - e. **John 10:30** “I and the Father are one.”
 - f. **John 14:8–9** Philip said to him, “Lord, show us the Father, and it is enough for us.” [9] Jesus said to him, “Have I been with you so long, and you still do not know me, Philip? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, ‘Show us the Father’?”
 - 2. The Incarnation: God Made Flesh

- a. **Isaiah 9:6** “For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.”
 - b. **Luke 1:28–33** And he came to her and said, “Greetings, O favored one, the Lord is with you!” But she was greatly troubled at the saying, and tried to discern what sort of greeting this might be. And the angel said to her, “Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. And the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.” (cf., **Luke 2:10–11** And the angel said to them, “Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.”)
 - c. **Summary:** “Remaining what he was he became what he was not.”
 - d. Wayne Grudem: “[The incarnation] 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” (*Systematic Theology*, 563).
- D. Why the Incarnation? (Salvation: Death and Resurrection)
1. The death of Christ
 - a. **John 3:16** “For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.”
 - b. **Galatians 4:4–5** “But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons.” (cf., **Romans 3:23–25** “for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, whom God put forward as a propitiation by his blood, to be received by faith.”)
 - c. **Louis Berkhof:** “God might have demanded a personal atonement of the sinner, but the latter would not have been able to render it. In view of this fact God graciously ordained that Christ should take the place of man as his *vicar* or *substitute*. Christ as our substitute atoned for the sin of mankind by bearing the penalty of sin and meeting the demands of the law, and thus wrought an eternal redemption for man” (*Summary of Christian Doctrine*, 114).
 2. The resurrection of Christ
 - a. **1 Corinthians 15:17** “And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins.”
 - b. **Romans 6:5** “For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his.” (cf., **Romans 8:33–34** “Who shall bring any charge against God’s elect? It

is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? Christ Jesus is the one who died—*more than that, who was raised*—who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us.”)

Study Questions

1. What do we mean when we say Jesus is the God-Man?
2. What Scripture texts show us that Jesus is fully God? Fully man?
3. Why did the Father send the Son to earth?
4. What does it mean that Jesus is our “substitute”?
5. Why is the resurrection of Christ necessary?

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross (Isaac Watts, 1707)

*When I survey the wondrous cross
On which the Prince of glory died,
My richest gain I count but loss,
And pour contempt on all my pride.*

*Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast,
Save in the death of Christ my God!
All the vain things that charm me most,
I sacrifice them to His blood.
See from His head, His hands, His feet,
Sorrow and love flow mingled down!
Did e'er such love and sorrow meet,
Or thorns compose so rich a crown?*

*His dying crimson, like a robe,
Spreads o'er His body on the tree;
Then I am dead to all the globe,
And all the globe is dead to me.*

*Were the whole realm of nature mine,
That were a present far too small;
Love so amazing, so divine,
Demands my soul, my life, my all.*