

## Jesus Christ: 100% Man

### B. The humanity of Christ

Jesus was not only fully God, but also fully man. Yet He was without sin, a claim that no other human being has. (Romans 3:23; Hebrews 4:15)

#### 1. The Incarnation

The Incarnation was the way that Christ took on humanity. The word means "in flesh," and the method of incarnation was the virgin birth. The Scriptures say that the Holy Spirit came upon Mary to generate the child within her (Luke 1:35).

##### a. Purposes for the Incarnation

- (1) To reveal God to men (John 1:18).
- (2) To provide an example for living (1 Peter 2:21).
- (3) To provide a sacrifice for sin (Hebrews 10:1-10).
- (4) To destroy the works of the devil (1 John 3:8).
- (5) To enable Him to be a merciful and faithful High Priest (Hebrews 5:1-2).
- (6) To fulfill the promise of a Son to sit on the throne of David forever (Luke 1:31-33).

b. Christ's humanity was always perfect without ANY sin. (Hebrews 4:15; 2 Corinthians 5:21).

#### 2. The proofs of Jesus' humanity

##### a. He had a human body.

Although His conception was supernatural, Jesus had a human body and developed as human beings do (Matthew 1:18; Galatians 4:4; Luke 2:52).

##### b. He had a human soul and spirit.

Jesus' humanity also included a soul and spirit. It was not that He humanity provided only the body while the deity provided the soul and spirit in the person of Christ. His humanity was complete and therefore included both material (body) and immaterial (soul and spirit) aspects (Matthew 26:38; Luke 23:46).

##### c. He had the characteristics of a human being.

Jesus was hungry (Matthew 4:2), He was thirsty (John 19:28), He grew tired (John 4:6), He experienced love and compassion (Matthew 9:36), He wept (John 11:35) and He was tested (Hebrews 4:15).

##### d. He possessed human names.

He called Himself the son of man (Luke 19:10). He was called the Son of David (Mark 10:47), Jesus (Matthew 1:21) and a man (1 Timothy 2:5).

#### 3. The union of deity and humanity in Jesus Christ

a. Orthodoxy: Jesus Christ was one person with two natures, divine and human!

b. Other views: Ebionites, Arians, Docetists, Apollinarians, Unitarians, Jehovah Witnesses, Barthians. Also Eutychius, Nestorius.

#### 4. The Kenosis of Christ (Philippians 2:7)

a. What does "kenosis" mean? Jesus Christ voluntarily did not use all of His divine attributes during the incarnation, but He had all the divine attributes during the incarnation.

b. Why does it matter?

#### 5. The Impeccability (sinlessness) of Jesus Christ

a. Was Jesus able not to sin or was Jesus not able to sin? Hebrews 4:15

b. How was Jesus tempted?

Who do you say Jesus is? Matthew 16:14-18