

Agape Chapel Ministries Discipleship Study

From the Sermon Notes of Pastor Nick Bibile.

Edited and modified, *with additional text*, and formatted for inter-active Bible-study.

THE GOD-MAN CHRIST JESUS

By Nick Bibile

"And without controversy great is the mystery *of godliness*: God was manifest in the flesh, justified in the Spirit, seen of angels, preached unto the Gentiles, believed on in the world, received up into glory." I Tim. 3:16.

Jesus



□ Where does the name, "Jesus" come from?

'Jesus' is the Greek form of the Hebrew, 'Joshua' or 'Jehoshua' derived from the Hebrew "Jehovah is salvation".



Read Matthew 1:21

He is the savior of the world. There is only one savior and that is God himself.

Read Isaiah 43:11

God became man in Jesus, as he came to save his people from their sins.

Read Luke 2:11

Christ



□ Where does the Title, "Christ" come from?

This is the New Testament form for the Old Testament 'Messiah,' which means 'the anointed one.'

According to the Old Testament: *prophets, priests, and kings*, were anointed with *oil*, which *symbolized* the Holy Spirit.



Read 1 Kings 19:16

Read Exodus 29:7

Read 1 Samuel 10:1



Why were they anointed with oil?

By this anointing they were set aside for their respective offices, and were qualified for them.

Christ was not anointed with *earthly* oil but by the Holy Spirit.



Read Matthew 1:20

Read Luke 3:22

Christ was anointed with the Holy Spirit for the threefold office of *prophet, priest, and king*.

The Two Natures of Christ. The Bible represents Christ as a **Person** having two natures, the one divine and the other human. This is the great mystery of godliness; God manifested in the flesh,

Old Testament Prophecies of the Messiah



Read Isaiah 9:

A child is going to be born, and this child is the lamb that is going to be slain. This is not an after-thought of God to send the child to the world but it was planned from eternity.



Read Revelation 13:8

Read Micah 5:2

He is the God who became a man, the Word that became flesh.



Read Luke 1:31-33

Read Malachi 3:1

Read Matthew 3:3 regarding the ministry of John the Baptist preparing for Christ's coming.

God Became Flesh.

There were heretics who crept into the church (after Christ had risen from the dead). The Alogi and the Ebionites denied the deity of Christ in the early Church. Then Arius denied the deity of Christ as he regarded Christ as a demi-God. In our modern day, the Jehovah's Witnesses, Iglesia Ni Cristo (Filipino Cult), Unitarians and the Modernists deny Christ's deity.



Read John 1:1 [In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.]



If the Word was in the beginning, then did the Word have a beginning or not?



Is the Word a thing, a word only, or a person?

The Word did not have a beginning. The Word was before the beginning. He was before all things. The word is the Son of God. The word was with God. And The Word **was** God. It shows both the distinction of the Father and the Son, and also their unity.



What did the Word of God do?



Read Colossians 1:17



Read John 1:14

The Son, who is God from eternity, took upon himself man's nature. He was fully God **and** fully man. Note, this is **not** a 50/50 mix (50% God and 50% man)! Jesus is 100% God and 100% man at the same time! We will see some scriptures of His deity.

The Deity Of Christ



How do we know from the Bible that Jesus Christ is really God and not just a man only? Read the following verses:



Read Matthew 16:16

Read John 14:8-9

Read John 8:58 Note the words “I Am” here! Jesus is saying what God said to Moses in Exodus 3! He is claiming to be God! In Exodus 3:13,14, God gave His name as “I Am”. In the original Biblical language, Jesus is saying the same thing referring to Himself! Either He is lying or He is God!

Read John 5:18 Jesus made many statements which the Jews could clearly understand. It may not be clear to us at first, but if you look at the reaction of the Jews, it becomes clear what Jesus was saying. Likewise in the next verse below as well.

Read Mark 2:5-7

Read Isaiah 43:25 See how the Scribes knew that God is the one who forgives sins! The religious leaders (Pharisees, Sadducees, Scribes) knew the Old Testament Scriptures backwards and forwards; it was their duty to know.



God alone can forgive sins! But Jesus forgave this man’s sins! Did Jesus actually commit blasphemy, as the scribes said, by doing what God alone can do?



Read John 1:3 This is about the creation.

Read Colossians 1:16 -17



Who is referred to here, by the word “Him”? Is it Jesus, or God the Father? Look at the other verses before and after each of these verses to get the context, or meaning.

We see that it is actually referring to Jesus, even though we know that God is the creator. Therefore, The Bible is teaching that Jesus is also God!



Read John 10:33



What did Jesus say or do here to make the Jews reply to Him like this?

Other evidence of the Bible showing Jesus to be God

Christ received worship.

The Bible directly commands us to worship *only God*.



Read Ex 34:14 ["For thou shalt worship no other god: for the LORD, whose name is Jealous, is a jealous God."]

- Also the Bible says, not to put any trust in man. Read Jeremiah 17:5 .



Read Hebrews 1:6 Angels Worshipped Him! Worship was commanded to be given to Christ.

- Christ did not rebuke the disciples when they worshipped him.



Read Matthew 28:17

Read John 9:38

- If Jesus was not God, and since it was blasphemy to worship anyone other than God, then Jesus should have rebuked all those who gave Him worship!
- While dying, Stephen prayed: "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." (Acts 7:59)
- The administering or receiving of baptism in his name, is an act of religious worship, in which He is honored equally with the Father, and the Holy Spirit. (Matthew 28:19)

Attributes of Christ the same as the attributes of God.

(portions of the following are quotations, unknown to the editor. Bracketed "[]" text added by editor)

Immutability [unchangeable]--"Jesus Christ, the same yesterday, to-day, and for ever." (Heb 13:8)

God does not change – Malachi 3:6

Omnipresence [everywhere at once].—"Christ promised to be with his disciples always, even to the end of the world, (Matthew 28:20) and, not only at all times, but at all places: "Where two or three are met together in my name, there am I in the midst of them. "(Matthew 18:20) To fulfill this promise, he must be omnipresent."
{block quotation unknown to editor }

God is Omnipresent – Psalm 179:7-8

Omniscience [All-knowing].—"Jesus knew the thoughts of men, even while shut up in their own breasts. Other prophets had this knowledge communicated to them, by special revelation, on particular occasions; but Jesus had his knowledge at all times. "He knew all men, and needed not that any one should testify of man; for he knew what was in man." (John 2:25) "To know the secrets of the heart, belongs peculiarly to Jehovah. "Who can know it? I, the Lord, search the heart." (Jer 17:10) Yet the power of searching the heart, is expressly ascribed to Jesus. "I am he which searcheth the reins and hearts." (Rev 2:23) Peter appealed to Christ, as knowing the

secrets of his heart, and expressly ascribes omniscience to him. "Lord, thou knowest all things; thou knowest that I love thee."(John 21:17)" - {block quotation unknown to editor}

Omnipotence [All-Powerful].—"Paul, feeling his own weakness, desired the power of Christ to rest upon him; (2 Cor 12:9) and he conceived of that power as infinite, when he said: "I can do all things, through Christ which strengtheneth me." (Philip 2:13) The omnipotence of Christ is manifested in the works which he performs, of which we shall presently speak more particularly. He claimed like omnipotence with the Father: "My Father worketh hitherto, and I work."(John 5:17) "What things soever the Father doeth, these also the Son doeth likewise." (John 5:19) "Neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand. No man is able to pluck them out of my Father's hand." (John 10:27-28) In the prophecy already quoted from Isaiah, he is called "the Mighty God;" and in Rev. i. 8--11, he is called "the Almighty."” - {block quotation unknown to editor}

The Humanity of Jesus.

Apollinaris did not recognize His full humanity, but held that the divine Logos took the place of the human spirit in Christ. The Nestorians denied the unity of the two natures in one Person, and the Eutychians failed to distinguish properly between the two natures. {block quotation unknown to editor}

“Jesus Christ had a human body. His was not a mere shadowy form of humanity; for, even after his resurrection, he said to his disciples, "Handle me and see me, for a spirit hath not flesh and bones, as ye see me have. (Luke 24:39) It was a real body that bore the weight of the cross, and was afterwards nailed to it. It was a real body that was pierced by the spear; and real blood and water issued from the wound. It was a real body that was embalmed with spices and laid in the tomb; and that afterwards rose from the dead. This body was human. It had the appearance and organs common to human bodies; was sustained by food, was subject to hunger and weariness, and needed the rest of sleep, like the bodies of other men.” {block quotation unknown to editor}

“He took not on him the nature of angels, but the seed of Abraham. He must be made like those whose law-place he assumed, and for whom he made himself a sacrifice.” {block quotation unknown to editor}

. "He was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin." (Hebrews 4:15)

Some Verses on the Humanity of Christ:



Read Acts 2:22 ; 1Timothy 2:5; John 8:40; Romans 5:15; 1Corinthians 15:21

He Had a Body and Soul.

Matthew 26:26; Matthew 26:38

He grew physically and spiritually.

Luke 2:40; Luke 2:52

He went through sufferings.

Matthew 4:2; John 12:27

He became tired

Matthew 8:24; John 4:6

He agonized in prayer

Luke 22:44; Hebrews 5:7-8

He had emotions

John 11:35 Jesus wept.

He was a man, yet *without* sin.

John 8:46; 2Corinthians 5:21; Hebrews 4:15; Hebrews 9:14; 1Peter 2:22;
1John 3:5

Why He should be both God and Man?

It was necessary that Christ should be both God *and* man. As man, he represented the elect of man. He was the last Adam. The first Adam was made upright and perfect. So was the last Adam. The first Adam was the federal head of all humanity. He sinned, and in him death came to all and all died.



Read Romans 5:12

Jesus was the last Adam, and he was our substitute. We violated the laws of God, and were disobedient to God. He, as our substitute, did not come to break the law but to fulfill the law



Read Matthew 5:17

He was subject to the Father in full obedience as he came to do the Father's will. As a substitute, He was our mediator. Why do we need a mediator? Because we were God's enemies (at enmity with God), and we were carnal (desiring to please our flesh, do our own will, and fulfill our fleshly desires).



Read Romans 8:7

We were the children of wrath.

Read Ephesians 2:3

Christ came as a mediator to reconcile us back to God.

He was also God, and because He was God, Christ's sacrifice had *infinite* value. It is impossible that the blood of bulls and of goats should take away sins (Old Testament – The shedding of blood was required by God to *cover* man's sins, so bulls and goats were sacrificed according to God's will, but it did not *remove* man's sins). There now remains no more sacrifice for sins. Christ's sacrifice on the Cross was perfect, and nothing more needs to be added to it. The sins of believers are washed away. As God, Christ is able to forgive our sins, and remove our sins as far as the east is from the west. Adam's righteousness was an earthly righteousness, but Christ's righteousness is the heavenly righteousness; the righteousness of God. It is the holiness of God. Not only are our sins forgiven, but Christ's righteousness is imputed (given) to us! This means the perfect righteousness of Christ was placed in our bankrupt accounts! Outside of this, we have no righteousness where we could stand before God!



Read Hebrews 7:22 By so much was Jesus made a surety of a better testament.

Read Psalm 40:7

Read 1Corinthians 2:8

The Mystery.

"And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: God was manifest in the flesh, justified in the Spirit, seen of angels, preached unto the Gentiles, believed on in the world, received up into glory." I Tim. 3:16.

This is a mystery! It was a mystery for Paul, and for us. God and man united in *One* person. He is the God-man, possessing all the essential qualities of both the human and the divine nature. He has both a divine and a human consciousness, as well as a human and a divine will. This is a mystery which we cannot fathom. Christ had a human nature, but he is totally divine. He simply took upon himself a human nature. He came as the mediator as the unchangeable Son of God.



Read Philippians 2:6-8

The God-man



Read John 10:30

Read John 17:5 Jesus existed before the world was created!

Read John 3:13.

The Mediator.

As the mediator, he is representing two parties, God and man. The mediator is in the middle. The work of the mediator is reconciliation of the two parties, whose relationship is broken. God was injured and angered by man's sin, and He needs satisfaction.



Isa 53:11 A prophecy concerning Christ.

God was pleased to send his Son as the mediator and he was satisfied of his work on the cross, when Jesus cried out, "It is finished!" and we are thoroughly satisfied what he did on the cross for us, as now we are adopted to God and cry out to him by saying "Abba."



What if someone says all this isn't true?

[There are many who deny the deity of Christ, even though it is taught in the Bible! We must beware of anyone who teaches that Jesus was a man only and not God! Or, some may teach that Jesus is an Arch-angel, a smaller god, and not the almighty God, such as the Jehovah's Witnesses. Mormons believe that Jesus is one of many gods, Adam was God, and you can become a god also! This is wrong!]



So, how many gods are there if God the Father is God, and Jesus is also God?

[This is a good question, which can be discussed in another lesson on the Trinity. There is only one God, as taught in the Bible, not two or more gods. This is a deeper subject which can be discussed later.]



Discussion

- Read the following verses on your own to discover more of what the Bible says about Christ being God. Remember to not just read those verses by themselves but the verses before and after them to get the context, or meaning, of what is being said. This will give you a greater understanding of God's Word.

John 20:28; Titus 2:13; Hebrews 1:8; Romans 9:5; Colossians 2:9; Revelation 1:8; Revelation 1:17-18; Revelation 19:16

- Why was it necessary for our salvation that Jesus be both God and man?
- Look at the section on the attributes of Christ. How does the fact that He has the same attributes that God has prove that He is also God?
- Why is it difficult for people to believe that Jesus could be God and Man at the same time? Discuss and read the Scriptures in this study in their context to see that even though we may not understand this, yet it is still taught in the Bible.