



## Kingdom Center - JUSTIN HERNANDEZ

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### *The Person Of Christ Pt.2 ( 100% God and 100% Man )*

#### I. The necessity of Christ Humanity

- A. To begin to understand the necessity of Christ's humanity, we can start by seeing the importance that the Apostle John puts on the humanity of Jesus.
  - 1. When John wrote his first Epistle, there was a heretical/ or false teaching that was going around in the church, stating that Jesus was not a man.
    - This was so serious of a denial of truth about Christ, that John could say that it was a doctrine of the antichrist.
      - 1 John 4:2-3 "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, of which you have heard that it is coming, and now it is already in the world."
    - The Job of the spirit is to reveal Jesus and the truth of his character and nature
    - The Apostle John understood that to deny Jesus's true humanity was to deny something at the very heart of christianity, so much so that no one who denied that Jesus had come in the flesh was sent from God.
      - This does not mean to have confessed that Christ came to earth, but that the confess the came in the flesh. That his human body was physically real. Both full humanity and full deity should be maintained.
    - As we look through the New Testament, we see several reasons why Jesus had to be fully man if he was going to be the Messiah and earn our salvation.

#### II. Reason #1- For representative obedience

- A. As we learned in the Atonement series, Jesus was our representative and obeyed for us where Adam had failed and disobeyed.
  - 1. It is clearly reflected in Paul's discussion of the parallels between Adam and Christ in Adams disobedience and and Christ obedience.
    - Romans 5:18-19 "So then as through one man's transgression there resulted condemnation to all men, even so through one man's act of righteousness there resulted justification of life to all men. For as through the one mans disobedience the many were made sinners, even so through the obedience of the One the many will be made righteous."



- This is why Paul can call Christ “the last Adam”
  - 1 Corinthians 15:45 “so also it is written, “The first MAN, Adam, BECAME A LIVING SOUL.” The last Adam become a life giving spirit.”
- This also is why Paul refers to Jesus as the “second man”
  - 1 Corinthians 15:47 “The first man is from earth, earthy; the second man is from Heaven.”

### III. Reason #2 - To be a substitute sacrifice:

- A. If Jesus had not been a man, he could not have died in our place and paid the penalty that was due to us.
  - Hebrews 2:16-17 “For assuredly He does not give help to angels, but He gives help to the descendent of Abraham. Therefore, He had to be made like His brethren in all things, so that He might become a merciful and faithful High priest in things pertaining to God, to make propitiation for the sins of the people.”
  - If we remember we defined propitiation as the act in which reconciliation is made.
- 1. Jesus had to become a man not an angel, because God was concerned with saving men, not with saving angels.
  - To do this “He had to be made” like us in every way, so that he might become “the propitiation” for us, the sacrifice that is an acceptable substitute for us.
    - It is important that we realize, that unless Christ was fully man, he could not have died to pay the penalty for man’s sins. He could have not been a substitute sacrifice.

### IV. Reason #3 - To be the One mediator between God and men.

- A. Because we were alienated from God by sin, we needed someone to come between God and ourselves and bring us back to him.
  - 1. We needed a mediator who could represent us to God and who could represent God to us. There is only one person who has ever fulfilled that requirement
    - 1 Timothy 2:5 “For there is one God, and one mediator also between God and men, the man Christ Jesus.”
  - What is the role of a mediator ? It is someone who intervenes between two parties to resolve a conflict or ratify a covenant
  - Jesus is the only Mediator who can restore peace between God and sinners
  - In order to fulfill this role of mediator, Jesus had to be fully man as well as fully God.



V. Reason #4- To be our example and pattern in life:

A. John tell us in 1 John 2:6 “The one who says he abides in Him ought himself to walk in the same manner as He walked.”

1. He reminds us that when he appears we shall be like him, and that this hope of future conformity to Christ’s character even now gives increasing moral purity to our lives

- 1 John 3:2-3 “Beloved, now we are children of God, and it has not appeared as yet what will be. We know that when He appears, we will be like Him, because we will see Him just as He is. And everyone who has this hope fixed on Him purifies himself, just as He is pure.

B. Paul tell us that we are continually being “changed into his likeness”

- 2 Corinthians 3:18 “But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory too glory, just as from the Lord, the spirit.”

1. Therefore moving towards the goal for which God saved us, that we might be conformed to the image of His son.

- Romans 8:29 “For those He foreknew, He also predestined to become conformed to the image of His son, so that He would be the firstborn among many brethren.”

C. Peter tells us that especially in suffering we have to consider Christ’s example.

- 1 Peter 2:21 “For you have been called for this purpose, since Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example for you to follow in His steps.”
1. Throughout our Christina life, we are to run the race set before us “looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith”
    - Hebrews 12:2 “fixing our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of faith, who for the joy set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.”

- If we become discouraged by the hostility and opposition of sinners, the next verse gives us instruction

- Hebrews 12:3 “For consider Him who has endured such hostility by sinners against Himself, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart.”

D. Jesus is also our example in death

1. Paul’s goal is to become like him in his death

- Philippians 3:10 “that I may know Him and the power of His resurrection and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death.”



- 1 Peter 4:1 “Therefore, since Christ has suffered in the flesh, arm yourselves also with the same purpose, because he who has suffered in the flesh has ceased from sin.”
- Our goal should be like Christ in all our days, up to the point of death, and to die with unfailing obedience to God, with strong trust in Him, and with love and forgiveness to others.
- Jesus had become a man like us in order to live as our example and pattern in life.

#### VI. Reason #5- To Sympathize as a High Priest

A. The author of Hebrews reminds us of the reason Jesus as our high Priest can sympathize with us

- Hebrews 2:18 “For since He himself was tempted in that which He has suffered, He is able to come to the aid of those who are tempted.”
  - Hebrews 4:15-16 “For we do not have a high priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but One who has been tempted in all things as we are, yet without sin. Therefore let us draw near with confidence to the throne of Grace, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in the time of need.”
1. If Jesus had not been a man, he would not be able to know by experience what we go through in our temptations and struggles in this life.
    - But because he has lived as a man, he is able to sympathize more fully with us in our experiences.

#### VII. The Deity of Christ

A. To complete the biblical teaching about Jesus Christ, we must affirm not only that he was fully human, but also that he was fully divine.

1. The church has used the word incarnation to refer to the fact that Jesus was God in human flesh.
  - The incarnation was the act of God the son whereby he took to himself a human nature.
  - The scriptural proof of the deity of Christ is extensive throughout the New Testament

B. We will start with direct biblical claims that show us Jesus is God or that he is divine.

1. The Word God (Theos) used of Christ:



- Although the word theos, “God” is usually reserved in the New Testament for God the Father, nonetheless, there are several passages where it also is used to refer to Jesus Christ.
  - In all passages the word “God” is used to refer to the one who is the Creator of heaven and earth, the ruler over all.
    - John 1:1 “In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the word was God.”
      - The verb was highlights the eternal preexistence of the word/Jesus Christ
      - Before the universe began the second person of the trinity existed
        - The Book of John shows us the eternity of Jesus, note that there is no genealogy of Jesus as mentioned in Matthew and Luke. In terms of humanity Jesus has a genealogy, but in terms of deity he has none for he is the preexistent eternal God.
      - The word was with God, shows us the intimacy and fellowship with God the Father throughout eternity.
      - The word was God shows us that the word which is Jesus had all the essence and attributes of deity.
    - John 1:18 “No one has seen God at any time; the only begotten God who is in the bosom of the Father, he has made him known.”
      - What John meant in that verse was simply that all that Jesus is and does interprets, reveals, and explains the Father.
    - John 20:28 “Thomas answered him, “My Lord my God.””
    - Romans 9:5 “To them belong the patriarchs, and from their race, according to the flesh, is the Christ, who is God over all, blessed forever .Amen”
    - Titus 2:13 “waiting for our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ.
  - These passages above clearly refer to Jesus as God
  - One old testament example of the name God applied to Christ is seen in a familiar messianic passage
    - 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.”
2. The word Lord (Kyrios) (care- ri -os used of Christ:
- Kyrios is a greek word which is usually translated as “Lord” or “master”



- But it is used in the septuagint translation of the Hebrew scripture translating the name Yahweh or God
- Why am I telling you this ? Because the same word Kyrios which was used in the greek translation of the Hebrew old testament is found and applied in the New Testament about 740 times
- The name “Lord” was the name of the one who was the creator and sustainer of Heaven and Earth, the omnipotent God.
- Now there are many instances in the New Testament where “Lord” is used of Christ in what can only be understood as this strong old testament sense.
  - [Luke 2:11](#) “For unto you is born this day in the city of David a savior, who is Christ the Lord.”
    - Though these words may be familiar to us from reading the Christmas stories, but we have to understand how surprising to any first century Jew to hear that someone born as a baby was the Christ (or Messiah) and that this one who was the Messiah was also “The Lord” that is the Lord God himself.
    - Basically the angel told the Shepherd “Today a baby in Bethlehem has been born, who is your Savior and your Messiah, and who is also God himself.
  - [Luke 1:43](#) “And why is this granted to me that the mother of my Lord should come to me.?”
    - Because Jesus was not even born, Elizabeth could not be using the word Lord to mean human master.
    - She is actually making an amazing statement “Why is this granted to me that the mother of the Lord God Himself should come to me?”
    - Though it is a very strong statement there is no other sense of the word Lord in her statement
  - [Matthew 3:3](#) “Prepare the way of the Lord; make his paths straight.”
    - In doing this John is quoting Isaiah 40:3, which speaks about the Lord God himself coming among his people.
    - The context applies this passage to Johns role of prepping the way for Jesus to come.
      - The implication is that when Jesus comes, the Lord himself will come.
- Jesus also identifies himself as the sovereign Lord of the Old Testament
  - When he asks the Pharisees about Psalms 110:1 Read Matthew 22:41-46
  - [Matthew 22:44](#) “The Lord said to my Lord, ‘Sit at my right hand, until I put your enemies under your feet.’”



- The force of this statement is that “God the Father said to God the Son[David’s Lord], Sit at my right hand.”
- The Pharisees know he is talking about himself and identifying himself as one worthy of the Old Testament title *kyrios*, “Lord”
  - David would not have addressed a merely human descendent as Lord, Jesus was not disputing whether or not the title of Son of David was appropriate, but rather showing them that “son of David” did not begin to sum up all that is true about the Messiah who is also Son of God.”

3. This language is also found in the epistles

- The use of “The Lord” is a common name to refer to Christ.
  - 1 Corinthians 8:6 “yet for us there is one God, the Father, from whom are all things and from whom we exist, and one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom are all things and from whom we exist.”
- One particular clear passage is found in Hebrews 1, where the author quotes Psalm 102, which speaks of the work of the Lord in creation and applies it to Christ:
  - Hebrews 1:10-12 “You, Lord, laid the foundation of the earth in the beginning, and the heavens are the work of your hands; they will perish, but you remain; they will all wear out like a garment, like a robe you will roll them up, like a garment they will be changed. But you are the same, and your years will have no end.”
  - Take notice of what verse tell us, that of the Son, this is what God says...
    - Here Christ is explicitly spoken as of the eternal Lord of Heaven and Earth who created all things and will remain the same forever.
    - We also see the affirmation of God speaking to Jesus the son as we saw in Matthew 22:44 here in this chapter of Hebrews in verse 13.
- The culmination of the usage of the word Lord to refer to Christ is found in Revelation
  - Revelation 19:16 “On His robe and on His thigh he has name written, King of Kings and Lord of Lords.”

VIII. Other strong claims to deity

- A. In addition to the uses of the word God and Lord to refer to Christ, we have other passages that strongly claim his deity
1. When Jesus told his Jewish opponents that Abraham had seen his (Christ) day, they challenged him.



- John 8:57 “Then the Jews said to Him, ‘You are not yet fifty years old. And have you seen Abraham?’”
  - Here is a sufficient response to prove Jesus eternity would have been “before Abraham I was” but that isn’t what Jesus said, instead he made a even greater claim
    - John 8:58 “Jesus said to them, ‘Most assuredly I say to you, before Abraham was, I AM.’”
      - Jesus combined two statements whose sequence did not appear to make any sense.
      - In other words he said “Before something in the past happened [Abraham was], something in the present happened [I AM]
      - The Jewish leaders recognized at once that he was not speaking in riddles or uttering nonsense.
        - When he said “I AM” he was repeating the very words God used when he identified himself to Moses as “I AM”
    - Exodus 3:14 “And god said to Moses, ‘I AM WHO I AM’”
      - Jesus was claiming for himself the title “I AM” by which God designates himself as the eternal existing one, the God who is the source of his own existence and who always has been and always will be.
      - When the Jews heard this unusual, empathetic, dignified statement, they knew that He was claiming to be God.
        - John 8:59 “Then they took up stones to throw at Him.”
2. Another strong claim to deity is Jesus’s statement at the end of revelation
- Revelation 22:13 “I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End, the First and the Last.”
    - These are the first and last letters of the greek alphabet. Christ is the supreme, sovereign God, there is nothing outside of His Knowledge.
3. Last claim to deity we will look at is in the book of John
- In John 1:1, John not only calls Jesus “God” but also refers to him as “the Word”(Gk. Logos)
  - John’s readers would have recognized in this term logos a dual reference, both to the powerful, creative Word of God in the Old Testament by which the heavens and the earth were created.
    - Psalm 33:6 “By the word of the LORD the heavens were made, And all the hosts of them by the breath of His mouth.”



- And also to the organizing or unifying force of the universe, the thing that held it together, that allowed it to make sense in Greek thinking.
- So what does this show us? John is identifying Jesus with both of these ideas, and saying that he is not only the powerful creative Word of God and the organizing or unifying force in the universe but also that he became a man
  - John 1:14 “And the Word became flesh, and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the Glory as the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.”
  - The Word who is God came in the flesh and dwelt among us.

IX. Jesus Christ is Himself God. As a believer and a disciple, I rejoice that the risen ascended Christ is now my High Priest and intercessor at the Heavenly throne.