

THE GOSPEL OF LUKE

A Message of Hope and Fulfillment For Those Longing For God

Who is Jesus?

Philippians 2: 1-11

In our review of the first eight chapters of Luke's Gospel we have identified several recurring themes that are of crucial importance in the development of our faith and daily living as followers of Jesus Christ. Among them is the question, "Just who is Jesus?" It is one of the most important questions of our faith and one which must be answered clearly if we are to be well grounded in Truth as His disciples.

- I. Jesus is the Eternal Son of God, Without Beginning, Without Ending
 - A. This is an important distinction: Jesus of Nazareth came into existence in human form as a man when His body was created and placed in the womb of Mary by the Holy Spirit, but His Person is the pre-existent eternal God the Son incarnated into this world and living among us as *God with us*.
 - B. The human Jesus is fully God: as much God as if He were not human at all.
 - 1. He was virgin born—Luke leaves no doubt what that means
 - 2. He was identified by angels as *A Savior which is Christ the Lord*
 - 3. He was recognized by Simeon and Anna as the long awaited One
 - C. His deity is attested by all of Scripture and every Gospel writer
 - 1. Matthew 1:18-25
 - 2. Mark 8:27-38
 - 3. John 1:1-18; Revelation 1:10-20
 - D. The Lord Jesus Christ is King of King and Lord of Lords, the Eternal Son of God, fully Divine with all the attributes of Deity ascribed to the Father. He is without beginning and without ending, the Creator and Sustainer of all things seen and unseen, the Judge of all people, our Savior, Redeemer, Elder Brother & Friend, Lord God Almighty!
- II. Jesus is the Son of Man, God come in Human Flesh to Live with Us.
 - A. When Jesus took on human flesh and consented to be placed in the womb of Mary by the Holy Spirit He made His divine attributes temporarily inaccessible to Himself. He became fully man with all human needs and limitations, relying moment by moment on the live giving power of the Holy Spirit.
 - B. Jesus was fully human, as much a man as if He were not God at all.
 - 1. He grew tired, hungry, and thirsty
 - 2. He needed food and drink, companionship, and friends
 - 3. He could be tempted and felt the pressure of the enemy to sin
 - 4. He experienced anxiety and bled and died on a Roman cross
 - C. His humanity is fully attested throughout the Gospels and affirmed in other New Testament writings
 - D. The Lord Jesus Christ is our constant Companion. He is the First Born from the dead in the resurrection and our assurance of eternal life. He is our Example, our Authority, our Advocate, and our Friend. He will never leave us nor forsake us; He understands us and sympathizes with our weaknesses; He is always ready to help in our times of need.

Therefore if there is any encouragement in Christ, if there is any consolation of love, if there is any fellowship of the Spirit, if any affection and compassion, make my joy complete by being of the same mind, maintaining the same love, united in spirit, intent on one purpose. Do nothing from selfishness or empty conceit, but with humility of mind regard one another as more important than yourselves; do not merely look out for your own personal interests, but also for the interests of others. Have this attitude in yourselves which was also in Christ Jesus, who, although He existed in the form of God, did not regard equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied Himself, taking the form of a bond-servant, and being made in the likeness of men. Being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. For this reason also, God highly exalted Him, and bestowed on Him the name which is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus EVERY KNEE WILL BOW, of those

Conclusion: Video message summary by Dr. S. M. Lockridge, *That's My King*

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Why is so important that we understand and fully accept the deity of Jesus Christ? What important role does His deity play in redemption?
2. Why is it so important that we understand that, while on earth in human flesh, He did not avail Himself of His attributes of deity?
3. The dual nature of Jesus, divine & human, is called the hypostatic union. Can you fully explain this relationship? Why or why not? What is the important *take-away* in this doctrine?
4. How does understanding Jesus' humanity help you live by faith each day?
5. How does understanding Jesus deity give you confidence and boldness in times of trials and adversity?
6. Does having a better understanding of Jesus divine and human nature give you a greater sense of love and devotion toward Him? A greater sense of awe and worship?

who are in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and that every tongue will confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Philippians 2: 1-11

Great are the works of the Lord; They are studied by all who delight in them. Splendid and majestic is His work, And His righteousness endures forever. He has made His wonders to be remembered; The Lord is gracious and compassionate. He has given food to those who fear Him; He will remember His covenant forever. He has made known to His people the power of His works, In giving them the heritage of the nations. The works of His hands are truth and justice; All His precepts are sure. They are upheld forever and ever; They are performed in truth and uprightness. He has sent redemption to His people; He has ordained His covenant forever; Holy and awesome is His name. The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom; A good understanding have all those who do His commandments; His praise endures forever.

Psalms 111: 2-10

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