

# The Second Article: I Believe in Jesus Christ

## Lesson 2: The Person of Jesus

God's grace – the undeserved love he has for humankind – is seen most clearly when we look at the way he sent his Son to pay for sins. In this lesson we will look more closely at God's Son, Jesus, and at how Jesus paid for our sins.

### WHO IS JESUS CHRIST?

Please read the following passages and then answer the corresponding questions.

**Colossians 2:9** For in Christ all the fullness of the *Deity* lives in bodily form.

**Romans 9:5** Theirs are the patriarchs, and from them is traced the human ancestry of Christ, *who is God* over all, forever praised!

**1 John 4:9** This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only *Son* into the world that we might live through him.

- 1) According to the italicized portions of those passages, what does the Bible call Jesus Christ?

**God**

Now read these verses:

**John 2:7-9** Jesus said to the servants, "Fill the jars with water"; so they filled them to the brim. Then he told them, "Now draw some out and take it to the master of the banquet." They did so, and the master of the banquet tasted the water that had been turned into wine.

**John 11:43,44** When he had said this, Jesus called in a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!" The dead man came out, his hands and feet wrapped with strips of linen, and a cloth around his face.

**Mark 6:41-44** He also divided the two fish among them all. They all ate and were satisfied, and the disciples picked up twelve basketfuls of broken pieces of bread and fish. The number of the men who had eaten was five thousand.

**Mark 4:39** He got up, rebuked the wind and said to the waves, "Quiet! Be still!" Then the wind died down and it was completely calm.

**Mark 1:34** Jesus healed many who had various

diseases. He also drove out many demons.

- 2) Do these passages support your answer to question #1. If so, how?

***Supports that He is God since only God can do such things (miracles)***

Take a close look at these verses:

**1 Timothy 2:5** For there is one God and one mediator between God and men, the *man* Christ Jesus.

**Romans 9:5** Theirs are the patriarchs, and from them is traced the *human* ancestry of Christ, who is God over all, forever praised!

**Romans 5:15** If the many died by the trespass of the one man, how much more did God's grace and the gift that came by the grace of the one *man*, Jesus Christ, overflow to the many!

- 3) According to the italicized portions of those verses, what else does the Bible call Jesus Christ?

***A Man (human)***

**Mark 11:12** The next day as they were leaving Bethany, Jesus was hungry.

**John 19:28** Later, knowing that all was now completed, and so that the Scripture would be fulfilled, Jesus said, "I am thirsty."

**John 4:6** Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired as he was from the journey, sat down by the well.

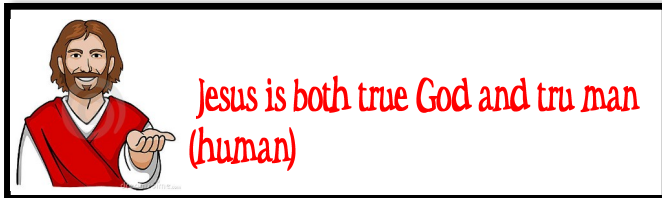
**Galatians 4:4** God sent his son, born of a woman.

**Matthew 26:38** My soul is overwhelmed with sorrow to the point of death.

- 4) Do these passages support your answer to question #3. If so, how?

***They support that he is human since these are human characteristics***

On the basis of what we've looked at so far, how would you answer that question "WHO IS JESUS CHRIST?"



The way that Jesus was conceived and born is evidence of this, as well. Please read the following passages and then answer the corresponding questions.

**Isaiah 7:14** Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign: The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel. (Immanuel means "God with us.")

**Luke 1:30,31,34,45** The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, you have found favor with God. You will be with child and give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus. "How will this be," Mary asked the angel, "since I am a virgin?" The angel answered, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God.

**Galatians 4:4** But when the time had fully come, God sent his Son, *born of a woman*...

- 5) According to the italicized portions of those passages, what about Jesus' conception and birth shows that he is true man?

*He became a son of, or a child of Mary who gave birth to him*

- 6) According to the underlined portions of those passages, what about Jesus' conception and birth shows that he is true God?

*He was conceived without a human father by the power of the Holy Spirit*

We generally refer to this miracle as the "incarnation."

This was crucial to the plan of salvation. In this following section we'll explore why the Son of God had to become human in order to pay for sins. Please read the following passages and then answer the corresponding questions.

**Galatians 4:4,5** God sent his Son, born of a woman, *born under law*, to redeem those under law.

**Romans 7:1** Do you not know, brothers -- for I am speaking to men who know the law -- *that the law has authority over a man* only as long as he lives?

**John 8:46** [Jesus said], "Can any of you prove me guilty of sin?"

**Hebrews 4:15** We have one who has been *tempted in every way, just as we are* -- yet was without sin.

- 7) According to the italicized portions of those passages, what is one reason that Jesus had to be a man in order to pay for our sins?

*Only a human being can be subjected to God's law (under the law)*

- 8) According to the underlined portions of those passages, what is one reason that Jesus had to be God in order to pay for our sins.

*Only God can be perfect without any sin*

**Hebrews 2:14,15** Since the children have flesh and blood, he too shared in their humanity so that *by his death* he might destroy him who holds the power of death -- that is, the devil -- and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by their fear of death.

**1 Thessalonians 4:14** We believe that Jesus *died* and rose again and so we believe that God will bring with Jesus those who have fallen asleep in him.

**Psalms 49:7,8** No man can redeem the life of another or give to God a ransom for him -- the ransom for a life is costly.

**2 Corinthians 5:14** For Christ's love compels us, because we are convinced that *one died* for all.

**Mark 10:45** The Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to *give his life* as a ransom for many.

- 9) According to the italicized portions of those passages, what is another reason Jesus had to be



— The taking on of a human nature by the Son of God. It refers to the conception and birth of Jesus.

a man in order to pay for our sins?

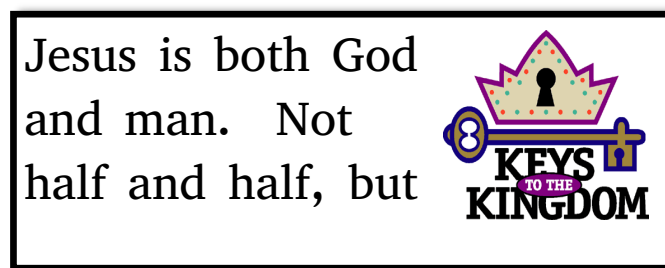
*He had to be a human in order to die*

11) Therefore, what is another reason that Jesus had to be God in order to pay for our sins? (Look at the underlined portions of those passages for help.)

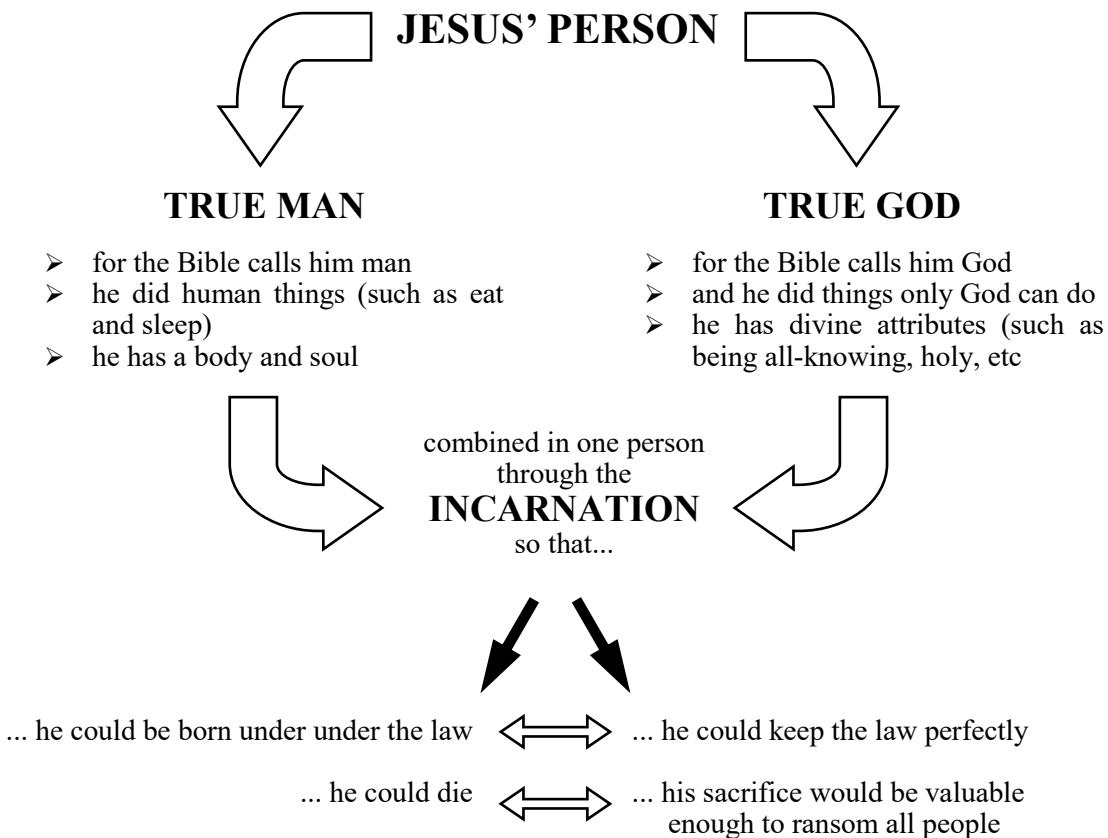
10) According to Psalm 49 can one man simply make a bargain to trade his life for another? (For example, could one pray, “God, punish me for the sins of my friend”?)

*He had to be God so that His death could be substituted for every other person in the world.*

*No, as sinners we can't even pay for our own sins let alone someone else's*



We can combine all of these concepts together in the following diagram.



Look up this terms either in the back of your catechism or in a Bible dictionary. Circle the one word which best defines the name in capital letters.

JESUS	God	Lord	<b>Savior</b>	Redemption	Shepherd
LORD	God	<b>Master</b>	Jesus	Messiah	Christ
CHRIST	Shepherd	Father	Redeemer	<b>Anointed One</b>	God
MESSIAH	<i>Coming One</i>	God	Comforter	Savior	Sanctifier
REDEEMER	Holy Ghost	Lord	<b>Purchaser</b>	God	Master
SHEPHERD	Master	Father	Almighty	<b>Caregiver</b>	God
ALPHA	<b>Beginning</b>	Christ	Counselor	Advisor	Friend
EMMANUEL	End	Lord	Jesus	<b>God with us</b>	Savior
OMEGA	Shepherd	Savior	Redeemer	Comforter	<b>End</b>

**True/False**

- T The Son of God created the world.
- F Jesus is not as powerful as the Father.
- T Jesus many miracles prove that he is true God.
- T John 8:58 shows that Jesus is eternal.
- T The ascension of Jesus is one of his divine works.
- T The resurrection of Jesus proves that he is true God.
- T Eternal means without beginning and without end.

Put "**M**" if the item shows Jesus to be true man and put "**G**" if the item shows Jesus to be true God.

He drank	M	Babe of Bethlehem	M	Omniscient	G
The child grew	M	Son of Man	M	Jesus wept	M
Jesus did miracles	G	Jesus ascended	G	Conceived by the Spirit	G
Jesus suffered	M	Jesus died	M	Omnipresent	M
Jesus rose on the third day	G	Jesus was born	M	Everlasting Father	G
Son of God	G	Jesus created the world	G	Jesus slept	M

**Correct** the following false statements so that they are true.

After Jesus' birth, ~~he was God sometimes and man sometimes.~~ — *...he was always God and man at the same time*

To be our Savior, Jesus had to be a man so ~~he could experience breaking the law.~~ *...so He could take our place under God's law and die in our place*

Jesus had to be true God to be our Savior so ~~that he could die.~~ *So his death would pay for our sins.*

Now that Jesus has ascended he is ~~only true God.~~ *still God and man*

The best way to describe Jesus is that he is ~~half man and half God.~~ *is fully God and fully human at the same time*

**Your Assignment This Week:**

Complete This Worksheet

Review 2<sup>nd</sup> Article of the Apostles' Creed.

Learn the 1<sup>st</sup> part of the Explanation: "I believe that Jesus Christ...is my Lord."

