

JESUS, THE INCARNATION OF GOD

John 1:19-30

Introduction: The definition of the word "incarnation" means to have human form or deity in earthly form. Jesus became at the same time God and man. In becoming flesh, He laid aside His glory but not His deity. He retained every essential attribute of deity. Full deity and full humanity were essential to His work on the cross. If not man, He could not die. If not God, His death would not have eternal value.

John 1:1 states that Jesus who was one with God and was God from all eternity, became flesh and lived among us. **Philippians 2:6-7** states that Jesus, who was in the form of God, took upon Himself the likeness of men. **Hebrews 1:3** says He who was the full revelation of God's glory was the exact image of His person.

I. JESUS CHRIST WAS/IS GOD AND MAN

1. **John 4:6** - Jesus was weary, yet He called the weary to Himself for rest (**Matthew 11:28**)
2. **Matthew 4:2** - Jesus was hungry, yet He was "the bread of life." (**John 6:35**)
3. **John 19:28** - Jesus was thirsty, yet He was the "water of life." (**John 7:37**)
4. **Luke 22:44** - Jesus was in agony, yet He healed all manner of disease and soothed every pain.
5. **Luke 2:40** - Jesus grew and waxed strong in spirit, yet He has existed from all eternity.
6. **Matthew 4:1** - Jesus was tempted, yet He, as God, could not be made to sin.
7. **Luke 2:52** - Jesus became self-limited in knowledge, yet He was the wisdom of God.
8. **John 14:28** - Jesus said, "**My Father is greater than I.**" yet He also said, "**I and my Father are one...**"
9. **Luke 6:12** - Jesus prayed, yet He answered prayer.
10. **John 11:35** - Jesus wept at the tomb of His friend, yet He called for him to arise.
11. **Matthew 16:13** - Jesus asked, "**...whom do men say that I, the Son of Man am?**" yet He knew the hearts of men.
12. **Matthew 15:34** - Jesus cried, "**My God, My God, why hast thou forsaken Me?**" yet it was the very God to whom He cried to who was at that moment reconciling the world unto Himself through Jesus.
13. Jesus died, yet He is eternal life. He was God's ideal man and man's ideal God.
14. Jesus acted sometimes in the sphere of a human and sometimes in the sphere of the divine.;
15. Jesus' divineness was never limited in any way by his humanity.
16. Jesus could turn stones into bread to feed His human hunger, but He never did.

II. FACTS OF JESUS CHRIST'S HUMANITY

1. **Ephesians 1:4-7; 3:11; Revelation 13:8** - The humanity of Jesus was purposed before the foundation of the world in that shedding of blood requires a physical body.
2. All Old Testament prophecy concerning Jesus Christ was in anticipation of the fleshly body.
3. **Luke 1:31-35** - Jesus' humanity is shown in the annunciation of His physical birth.
4. Jesus' life here on earth revealed His humanity:
 - His names: Jesus, Son of Man, Son of David
 - His human parents - Firstborn of Mary, Seed of David, made of a Woman.
 - His human body with soul and spirit.

- His (self-imposed) human limitations.
- His humanity is seen in His death and resurrection. A human body suffered on the cross and that same body came out from the tomb, alive again.
- It is in THIS body, now glorified that Jesus Christ is interceding and ministering for and to His own.
- When Jesus Christ returns, it will be in this SAME glorified body that He first took up.

III. WHY DID JESUS CHRIST COME IN THE FIRST PLACE?

1. *Matthew 11:27* - He came to reveal God to man in a form that man could understand.
2. *1 Peter 2:21* - He came to reveal man, not to reform, but to SAVE.
3. *Hebrews 10:1-10* - He came to provide a sacrifice for man's sins.
4. *John 12:31* - He came in the flesh that he might destroy the works of the Devil.
5. *Hebrews 2:16-17* - He came into the world that He might be a merciful and faithful High Priest in things pertaining to God.
6. *Acts 2:30-36* - He came in the flesh that He might fulfill the Davidic covenant: (in this glorified body He will appear and reign as "King of Kings" and "Lord of Lords" and will sit on the throne of His father, David.)
7. *Ephesians 1:22* - As incarnate, Jesus becomes HEAD over all things to the Church (a new creation and a new humanity).

CONCLUSION:

1. Jesus, Son of God, became entire man and can thus be called "the Last Adam."
2. Jesus, Son of God, was also the son of Mary, the boy of Nazareth, the teacher and healer of Judea, the guest of Bethany, the Lamb of Calvary.
3. Jesus will yet be the King of Glory but is NOW the Savior of Men, the High Priest, the coming Bridegroom and Lord.