

FUNDAMENTALS OF THE FAITH

The Person of Jesus Christ

LESSON 4

FUNDAMENTALS OF THE FAITH

Memory Verse

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.

JOHN 1:1, 14



THE PERSON OF JESUS CHRIST

The Names & Titles of Christ

- ✓ **Lord** – Title of honor; we are subject to Him (1 Corinthians 7:23)
- ✓ **Jesus** – Greek for *Joshua*, meaning “Yahweh is salvation” or “Yahweh saves” (Matthew 1:21)
- ✓ **Christ** – “Annointed one”; Messiah; official title of our Lord (John 1:41)



The woman said to him, “I know that Messiah is coming (he who is called Christ). When he comes, he will tell us all things.” Jesus said to her, “I who speak to you am he.”

JOHN 4:25–26

THE PERSON OF JESUS CHRIST

1. The I AM's of Christ



GOD: HIS CHARACTER AND ATTRIBUTES

The I AM's of Christ

- ✓ I am gentle and humble in heart — Matthew 11:29
- ✓ I am the Son of God — Matthew 27:43
- ✓ I am with you always — Matthew 28:20
- ✓ I am the bread of life — John 6:35
- ✓ I am the light of the world — John 8:12
- ✓ I am not of this world — John 8:23
- ✓ I am the door — John 10:9
- ✓ I am the good shepherd — John 10:11
- ✓ I am the resurrection and the life — John 11:25
- ✓ I am the way, the truth, and the life — John 14:6
- ✓ I am the vine — John 15:5
- ✓ I am a king — John 18:37
- ✓ I am the Alpha and the Omega/Almighty — Revelation 1:8; 21:6
- ✓ I am the First and the Last, the living one, alive forever — Revelation 1:17–18
- ✓ I am He who searches the minds and hearts — Revelation 2:23
- ✓ I am coming quickly — Revelation 3:11
- ✓ I am the root and offspring of David, the bright morning star — Revelation 22:16
- ✓ I AM — John 8:58



THE PERSON OF JESUS CHRIST

2. The God Who Became Man



2. THE GOD WHO BECAME MAN

The Incarnation

- ✓ Jesus was eternally preexistant

6 who, though he was in the form of God, did not count
equality with God a thing to be grasped, 7 but emptied
himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the
likeness of men.

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PHILIPPIANS 2:6–7

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himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the
likeness of men.

Therefore, following the holy fathers, we all with one accord teach men to acknowledge one and the same Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, at once complete in Godhead and complete in manhood, truly God and truly man, consisting also of a reasonable soul and body; of one substance with the Father as regards his Godhead, and at the same time of one substance with us as regards his manhood; like us in all respects, apart from sin; as regards his Godhead, begotten of the Father before the ages, but yet as regards his manhood begotten, for us men and for our salvation, of Mary the Virgin, the God-bearer; one and the same Christ, Son, Lord, Only-begotten, recognized in two natures, without confusion, without change, without division, without separation; the distinction of natures being in no way annulled by the union, but rather the characteristics of each nature being preserved and coming together to form one person and subsistence, not as parted or separated into two persons, but one and the same Son and Only-begotten God the Word, Lord Jesus Christ; even as the prophets from earliest times spoke of him, and our Lord Jesus Christ himself taught us, and the creed of the fathers has handed down to us.

CHALCEDONIAN CREED, 451 A.D.

2. THE GOD WHO BECAME MAN

The Incarnation

- ✓ Christ was eternally preexistant.
- ✓ Christ never ceased being deity (Colossians 2:9)

For in him the whole fullness of deity dwells bodily,

COLOSSIANS 2:9

2. THE GOD WHO BECAME MAN

The Incarnation

- ✓ Christ was eternally preexistant.
- ✓ Christ never ceased being deity (Colossians 2:9)
- ✓ Christ *added* humanity to His deity (Matthew 17:1–8)

1 And after six days Jesus took with him Peter and James, and John his brother,
and led them up a high mountain by themselves. 2 And he was transfigured
before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became white as
light. 3 And behold, there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him.
4 And Peter said to Jesus, “Lord, it is good that we are here. If you wish, I will
make three tents here, one for you and one for Moses and one for Elijah.” 5 He
was still speaking when, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them, and a voice
from the cloud said, “This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased;
listen to him.” 6 When the disciples heard this, they fell on their faces and were
terrified. 7 But Jesus came and touched them, saying, “Rise, and have no fear.”
8 And when they lifted up their eyes, they saw no one but Jesus only.

MATTHEW 17:1–8



2. THE GOD WHO BECAME MAN

The Incarnation

- ✓ Christ was eternally preexistant.
- ✓ Christ never ceased being deity (Colossians 2:9)
- ✓ Christ *added* humanity to His deity (Matthew 17:1–8)
- ✓ Christ *voluntarily* emptied Himself of the independent exercise of some of His divine attributes

“I can do nothing on my own. As I hear, I judge, and my judgment is just, because I seek not my own will but the will of him who sent me.

JOHN 5:30

You heard me say to you, ‘I am going away, and I will come to you.’ If you loved me, you would have rejoiced, because I am going to the Father, for the Father is greater than I.

JOHN 14:28

2. THE GOD WHO BECAME MAN

The Incarnation

- ✓ Christ was eternally preexistant.
- ✓ Christ never ceased being deity (Colossians 2:9)
- ✓ Christ *added* humanity to His deity (Matthew 17:1–8)
- ✓ Christ *voluntarily* emptied Himself of the independent exercise of some of His divine attributes
- ✓ Christ's dual nature was necessary for His mission.



THE PERSON OF JESUS CHRIST

2. The Man Who Is God



2. THE MAN WHO IS GOD

Jesus Claimed to Be God

- ✓ *“Jesus said to them, ‘Truly, truly, I say to you, before Abraham was, I am.’”* (John 8:58)
- ✓ *“I and the Father are one.”* (John 10:30)
- ✓ He claimed equality with the Father (John 14:8–9)

8 Philip said to him, “Lord, show us the Father, and it is enough
for us.” 9 Jesus said to him, “Have I been with you so long, and
you still do not know me, Philip? Whoever has seen me has seen
the Father. How can you say, ‘Show us the Father’?

2. THE MAN WHO IS GOD

Jesus Let Others Call Him God

- ✓ *"Simon Peter replied, 'You are the Christ, the Son of the living God."* (Matthew 16:16)

- ✓ *"Thomas answered him, 'My Lord and my God!'"* (John 20:28)

25 When Peter entered, Cornelius met him and fell down at
his feet and worshiped him. 26 But Peter lifted him up,
saying, “Stand up; I too am a man.”

ACTS 10:25–26 (ESV)

2. THE MAN WHO IS GOD

Jesus' Titles Affirm His Divinity

“Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall call his name **Immanuel**” (which means, God with us).

MATTHEW 1:23 (ESV)

10 so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in
heaven and on earth and under the earth, 11 and every
tongue confess that Jesus Christ is **Lord**, to the glory of
God the Father.

PHILIPPIANS 2:10–11 (ESV)

2. THE MAN WHO IS GOD

Jesus' Attributes Affirm His Divinity

- ✓ Sovereign (Matthew 28:18)
- ✓ Eternal (1 John 5:11)
- ✓ Unchanging / Immutable (Hebrews 13:8)
- ✓ All-knowing / Omniscient (Colossians 2:3)
- ✓ Perfect or Sinless (2 Corinthians 5:21)
- ✓ Holy (Acts 3:14)
- ✓ Truth (John 14:6)
- ✓ Omnipotence (Matthew 19:26)



2. THE MAN WHO IS GOD

Jesus' Actions Affirm His Divinity

- ✓ Christ displayed the authority of deity (Mark's gospel)
  - ✓ Authority over demons (1:21–28)
  - ✓ Authority to forgive sin (2:3–12)
  - ✓ Authority over sickness (1:30, 40–45; 2:1–12; 3:1–6)
  - ✓ Authority over nature (4:35–41)
  - ✓ Authority over death (5:34–43)

Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me, or else believe on account of the works themselves.

JOHN 14:11 (ESV)

I am trying here to prevent anyone from saying the really foolish thing that people often say about Him: 'I'm ready to accept Jesus as a great moral teacher, but I don't accept his claim to be God.' That is the one thing we must not say. A man who was merely a man and said the sort of things Jesus said would not be a great moral teacher. He would either be a lunatic—on a level with the man who says he is a poached egg—or else he would be the Devil of Hell. You must make your choice. Either this man was, and is, the Son of God: or else a madman or something worse. You can shut him up for a fool, you can spit at Him and kill Him as a demon; or you can fall at His feet and call Him Lord and God. But let us not come up with any patronizing nonsense about His being a great human teacher. He has not left that open to us. He did not intend to."

C.S. LEWIS, *MERE CHRISTIANITY*



“If Jesus is not God, then there is no Christianity, and we who worship Him are nothing more than idolaters. Conversely, if He is God, those who say He was merely a good man, or even the best of men, are blasphemers. More serious still, if He is not God, then He is a blasphemer in the fullest sense of the word. If He is not God, He is not even good.”

J. OSWALD SANDERS, *THE INCOMPARABLE CHRIST: THE PERSON AND WORK OF JESUS CHRIST*



THE PERSON OF JESUS CHRIST

3. The Christ Who Is Savior



THE PERSON OF JESUS CHRIST

4. The King Who Comes to Rule



9 Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on
him the name that is above every name, 10 so that at the
name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on
earth and under the earth,

PHILIPPIANS 2:9–10 (ESV)

He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature, and he upholds the universe by the word of his power. After making purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high,

HEBREWS 1:3 (ESV)

4. THE KING WHO COMES TO RULE

The Second Coming of Christ

7and to grant relief to you who are afflicted as well as to us, when
the Lord Jesus is revealed from heaven with his mighty angels 8in
flaming fire, inflicting vengeance on those who do not know God
and on those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus. 9They
will suffer the punishment of eternal destruction, away from the
presence of the Lord and from the glory of his might, 10when he
comes on that day to be glorified in his saints, and to be
marveled at among all who have believed, because our
testimony to you was believed.

2 THESSALONIANS 1:7–10 (ESV)

Then will appear in heaven the sign of the Son of Man, and then all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and they will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven with power and great glory.

MATTHEW 24:30 (ESV)

[11] Then I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse! The one sitting on it is called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he judges and makes war. [12] His eyes are like a flame of fire, and on his head are many diadems, and he has a name written that no one knows but himself. [13] He is clothed in a robe dipped in blood, and the name by which he is called is The Word of God. [14] And the armies of heaven, arrayed in fine linen, white and pure, were following him on white horses. [15] From his mouth comes a sharp sword with which to strike down the nations, and he will rule them with a rod of iron. He will tread the winepress of the fury of the wrath of God the Almighty. [16] On his robe and on his thigh he has a name written, King of kings and Lord of lords.

REVELATION 19:11–16 (ESV)



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The Person of Jesus Christ

LESSON 4