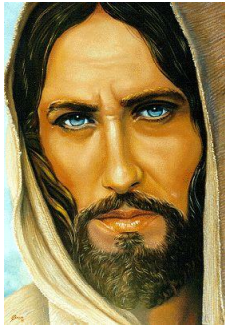


**SPIRIT OF LIFE MINISTRIES INTERNATIONAL  
BIBLE SCHOOL SESSION 4  
UNDERSTANDING THE BEING OF GOD PART 2**

**THE DEITY AND HUMANITY OF JESUS CHRIST**

**THE DEITY OF JESUS CHRIST**



Christianity differs from all religions, because it is more than a religion – it is the life of the Son of God made living in man. Christ is Christianity, and Christianity is Christ. He is the supreme subject of each book of the New Testament and fulfills all the promises of God in the Old Testament, from His incarnation to His second Coming as “Lord of Lords and King of Kings” (*Revelation 17:14*). He is the God-Man, Christ Jesus, in glory, exalted above all creatures, having “all power in heaven and in earth” (*Matthew 28:18*)

During His earthly ministry, He claimed to be God incarnate (God in human flesh). He is all that He claimed to be, or He is less than the least (*Rev. 1:8*). Before His claim can be denied, there are some things that must be accounted for:

1. His virgin birth (*Isaiah 7:14; Luke 1:26-38*)
2. His holy, sinless life (*2 Corinthians 5:21; 1 Peter 2:22; Hebrews 4:15; 1 John 3:5; Isaiah 53:9; 1 Peter 1:18-19*)
3. His many miracles; Water into Wine – *John 2:1-11*; Healing the Nobleman’s child - *John 4:46-54; Mark 1:21-28* – healed the demoniac - *Luke 8:26-39*; Healed Peter’s Mother-in-law – *Luke 4:38-39*; He also healed a leper; healed a centurion’s servant; healed a man with a withered hand and many more miracles, so many that the world itself could not hold them all! (*John 21:25*)
4. His vicarious death (substitutionary) (*2 Corinthians 5:21*)
5. His bodily resurrection (*Matthew 28:6; Mark 16:6; Luke 24:6; John 20:11-18*).

The deity of Jesus Christ or His God nature is well established in the New Testament. Some of the facts are:

1. He is called God by the Apostle John (*John 1:1*)

2. He is called God by the Apostle Thomas **(John 20:28)**
3. He is called God by God the Father **(Heb. 1:8)**
4. He claimed to be God in that He was with the Father before creation **(John 17:5)**
5. He claimed to be God in that He was before Abraham. **“Abraham rejoiced to see my day”** **(John 8:51-59)**
6. He received worship, and only God is to be worshiped **(Matthew 14:33)**. Angels refused worship **(Rev. 22:8,9)**. Man refused worship **(Acts 10:25-26)**.
7. He forgives sin **(Mark 2:5-11)**. Only God can forgive sin.
8. He is creator, and maker of all things **(Col. 1:16)** Only God is creator.
9. He is sustainer of all things **(Hebrews 1:3)**. Only God can control the universe.
10. He claimed to have **“all power in heaven and in earth”** **(Matt 28:18)**. Only God has all power.
11. He walked upon the blue waters of Galilee. The winds and the waves obeyed His command. He healed the sick and raised the dead. He gave sight to the blind and hearing to the deaf. He cast out demons and made the lame to walk. He turned water into wine and fed five thousand with the lunch of a lad.

### ***Jesus is God incarnate!***

## **THE HUMANITY OF JESUS CHRIST**

The humanity of Jesus Christ is seen in His human parentage. In **Romans 1:3**, it states **“concerning his Son Jesus Christ our Lord, which was made of the seed of David according to the flesh.”** Jesus had parents just like any other human being. **(Matthew 2:11)**. He developed as a normal human being **(Luke 2:52)**.

In **Hebrews 4:15** the scripture states that Jesus was tempted in all points like we are, yet he did not sin. Some of the things that he was subject to like all mankind were:

1. He hungered **(Matthew 4:2)**
2. He was thirsty **(John 19:28)**

3. He was weary (**John 4:6**)
4. He wept (**John 11:35**)
5. He was tempted (**Hebrews 4:15**)

Jesus is man, yet He is more than man. He is not God and man, but the God-Man. **He is God in human flesh**. His two natures are bound together in such a way that the two become one, having a single consciousness and will.

Why was Jesus born of the flesh? The answer is: in order to pay for sin, and in order to redeem mankind back from Satan sinless blood had to be shed by a man. No man born with Adam's blood could be that person because we all inherited Adam's sin nature through his blood line. One would have to never had Adam's sin nature but would have to be a human to qualify.

A kinsman-redeemer is a male relative, according to the various laws of the Pentateuch (first five books of the Bible) that could act on behalf of a relative who was in trouble, danger, or need. The Hebrew term is **go-el** means kinsman-redeemer. This person is one who delivers or rescues (**Genesis 48:16; Exodus 6:6**) or redeems property or a person (**Leviticus 27:9-25, 25:47-55**).

The kinsman who redeems or vindicates a relative is best illustrated in the book of Ruth. In this story the kinsman-redeemer is Boaz.

The story of Ruth and Boaz begins when Ruth and her mother-in-law, Naomi, return to Bethlehem from Moab where they had been living. Naomi's husband and both sons, one the husband of Ruth, had died, leaving the women penniless and without a male protector. Naomi decides to go back to Bethlehem, and upon arriving in Bethlehem, Naomi sends Ruth to glean in the fields of Boaz, a wealthy relative of Naomi. Through a series of divinely appointed circumstances, there is an appeal to Boaz as their **go-el**. Boaz is pleased with this, and willingly takes Ruth as his wife. He is her kinsman-redeemer. Ruth bears Boaz a son named Obed, who became the grandfather of David, the forefather of Jesus.

Jehovah is Israel's redeemer, the one who promises to defend and vindicate them. He is both Father and Deliverer (**Exodus 20:2**). There are numerous Old Testament appeals to God as rescuer of the weak and needy (**Psalm 82:4; Daniel 6:27; Jeremiah 20:13**), and the preserver of the sheep of Israel in **Ezekiel 34:10-12 and 22**.

In the New Testament, Jesus is often regarded as an example of a kinsman-redeemer because, as our brother (**Hebrews 2:11**), He also redeems us because of our great need--one that only He

can satisfy. In **Ruth 3:9** we see a beautiful and poignant picture of the needy supplicant, unable to rescue herself, requesting that the kinsman-redeemer would cover her with his protection, redeem her and make her his wife. In the same way, when we call on Jesus to rescue us from the snares of Satan, he becomes our rescuer, or ***Go-el***.

The Lord Jesus Christ bought us for Himself, out of the curse, out of our destitution; made us His own beloved bride; and blessed us for all generations. He is the true kinsman-redeemer of all who call on Him in faith. Jesus had to be born as a man, our brother to become our kinsman redeemer, rescuing us from the auction block of sin, and paying for it with his sinless blood.

## **THE VIRGIN BIRTH AND THE DEATH OF JESUS CHRIST**

The virgin birth of Jesus Christ is without parallel in human history. It was by the virgin birth that God became man, one perfect person but two natures: one nature being that of Almighty God, the other being that of man – without sin (**Hebrews 4:15**). The union of the two natures became the God-man, Jesus Christ.

1. The first hint of the virgin birth is found in **Genesis 3:15**. The ONE to defeat Satan was to be born of ***“the seed of the woman.”*** This is a biological miracle: there is no “seed of the woman.” From this, we are to understand that ONE was to be born of a woman ***without a human father*** (**Luke 1: 31-35; Galatians 4:4**)
2. Isaiah prophesied that ***“a virgin would conceive and bear a son and shall call His name Immanuel (God with us)”*** (**Isaiah 7:14**); It was fulfilled in **Matt. 1:23; Luke 1:31-35**.
3. Again, in **Isaiah 9:6-7** Isaiah prophesied that a ***“Unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given”***. This means that God gave his only begotten Son, who was with Him from eternity, and the Child Jesus was born of a virgin, God gave His Son “unto us”. (**John 3:16**).
4. According to prophecy, He was to be born in Bethlehem (**Micah 5:2**). Joseph, with Mary, went up to Bethlehem to be taxed, and to fulfill prophecy. (**Luke 2:1-7**)

Earlier we discussed the importance of a near kinsman. In the case for us to be bought back from the auction block of sin, Jesus had to be born without Adam’s nature. Only sinless blood can pay for the price of guilty blood. This could only happen without man’s seed. All born of Adam’s seed have Adam’s sin nature. The seed in Mary came from God, thus it was sinless and born of a virgin.

## THE DEATH OF JESUS CHRIST

The death of Jesus Christ is mentioned more than one hundred twenty times in the New Testament and is spoken of many times by the Prophets in the Old Testament.

1. The death of Jesus Christ was vicarious (substitutionary) (Matthew 20:28). He was God's substitute for sinners (2 Corinthians 5:21). On the cross, Christ was made sin for the sinner. By faith in Him, the sinner is made righteous with the righteousness of God. This could be called the great exchange or transfer. Jesus takes our sin, and we take on his righteousness.
2. The death of Jesus Christ was natural (John 19:30-37). By a natural death, we mean that His spirit and soul were separated from his body.
3. The death of Jesus Christ was unnatural (Romans 6:23). By an unnatural death, we mean that since He was sinless, in that He *"did no sin,"* (1 Peter 2:22) *"Had no sin,"* (1 John 3:5) *"Knew no sin,"* (2 Corinthians 5:21) – before He could die, He had to be *"made sin for us"*. Therefore, His death was unnatural.
4. The death of Jesus Christ was preternatural (beyond what is normal or natural) (Revelation 13:8). By this we mean that the death of Jesus Christ was not an afterthought with God: it was the forethought of God. Jesus was the lamb slain before the foundation of the world.
5. The death of Jesus Christ was supernatural (John 10:17-18). Jesus said, *"No man taketh life from me."* Then He said, *"I lay it down to myself"* (supernaturally). Then *"I have power to take it up again"* (supernaturally). This He did on the cross, and three days and three nights later, He took life up again when He arose from the dead. Only God in the form of man could die a vicarious, natural, unnatural, preternatural, and supernatural death.

## THE RESURRECTION OF JESUS CHRIST

In John 11:25 Jesus said, *"I am the resurrection and the life"*. The resurrection of Jesus Christ was the doctrine (teaching) of every disciple, the faith of every true believer, the courage of every martyr, and the theme of every sermon and the power of every evangelist.

In Acts 1:3 Luke tells us that we have *many infallible proofs* of Jesus' resurrection. Let us look at some of these infallible proofs, according to eyewitnesses.

1. After His resurrection He appeared to Mary Magdalene first (John 20:11-18).
- 2 He appeared to the women returning from the sepulcher (Matthew 28:5-10).
3. He appeared to Peter (Luke 24:34).
4. He appeared on the road to Emmaus to two of His disciples (Luke 24:13-31).
5. He appeared to the apostles, but Thomas was not present (John 20:19-23).
6. He appeared again to the apostles with Thomas present (John 20:24-29).
7. He appeared to the seven by the sea of Tiberias (John 21:1-23).
8. He appeared to over five hundred brethren (1 Corinthians 15:6).
9. He was seen of James (1 Corinthians 15:7)
10. He was seen again by the eleven apostles (Matthew 28:16-20; Acts 1:3-12).
11. He was seen of Stephen, the first martyr (Acts 7:55).
12. He was seen of Paul on his way to Damascus (Acts 9:3-6 and 1 Cor. 15:8).

Many of these eyewitnesses died martyr's deaths because they preached the resurrection of Jesus Christ. They were glad to die for a living Christ. They had the *"infallible proofs."*

When Jesus was arrested in the garden of Gethsemane all His *"disciples forsook him and fled"* (Matt. 26:56). From this time until after His resurrection, the disciples lived in fear. They did not believe that He would rise from the dead (John 20:9). Had Jesus not risen from the dead, the cross would have been the end of Christianity.

After the death of Jesus, we see his disciples dejected, discouraged, and defeated. The death of Jesus meant but one thing to them: the end! How do we account for the great change that came into their lives three days and three nights later? The only logical explanation is that they had the *"infallible proofs"* that He had risen from the dead and was alive forevermore. They saw Him, talked with Him, touched Him, and ate with Him.

Now look at some “infallible proofs” according to circumstantial evidence:

1. The change that came into the lives of the disciples after the resurrection – from fear to unlimited courage. They rejoiced in persecution. They chose death, with faith in the resurrected Christ, rather than to deny that faith and be delivered (Hebrews 11:35)
2. The early church began to worship on the first day of the week, the day of the resurrection. It was not a law – it was spontaneous (Acts 20:7). For almost two thousand years, the church has worshipped on the first day of the week. For the Christian, every Sunday is resurrection day!
3. The early Christians went everywhere with the word of the resurrection (Acts 8:1-4).
4. The empty tomb – for if Jesus is not alive, what happened to His body? The Roman guards were paid to say, *“His disciples came by night, and stole Him away while we slept”* (Matthew 28:12-13)
  - A. The disciples lacked the courage to do that. Had the disciples stolen His body, then how do you account for the fact that they all suffered, and most of them died a martyr’s death? In the face of death, one of them would have revealed the hiding place of the “stolen body” to save his own life.
  - B. No one was ever arrested or tried for stealing the body of Jesus. It is evident that the governing officials did not believe the story of the guards.
  - C. The guard could have been put to death for sleeping while on watch.
  - D. Fourth if they were asleep, how could they have known that it was the disciples that stole the body?
  - E. Had the enemies of Jesus moved the body, they could have produced it and brought a quick end to Christianity, and that is a certainty!
5. The grave clothes found in the empty tomb are proof of the resurrection (John 20:1-10). Had a friend or foe stolen the body, they would not have removed the grave clothes, since he had been dead three days and nights. When John saw the grave clothes and recognized that they were folded the same as when they were wrapped about the body, he knew that a miracle had taken place. Jesus came out of the grave clothes and they collapsed without disturbing the folds. They were left in the empty tomb as *“infallible proof”*, and when John saw and understood, he believed that Jesus had risen from the dead!

## THE ASCENSION AND SECOND COMING OF JESUS CHRIST

**Acts 1:9-11** *“<sup>9</sup>And when he had spoken these things while they beheld, he was taken up; and a cloud received him out of their sight <sup>10</sup> And while they looked steadfastly toward heaven as he went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel; <sup>11</sup> Which also said, Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? This same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven.”*

After forty days of instructing His disciples, the risen Christ ascended on high, and is seated at the right hand of the Father (**Hebrews 10:12**). Two men (angels) brought the message of His second coming to the Apostles (**Acts 1:9-11**). The message of the second Coming of Jesus is so important, that it is mentioned over three hundred times in the New Testament.

1. He is coming to take His Church to be with him. (**1 Thess. 4:16-17 and John 14:1-6**)
2. He is coming to judge the nations. (**Matt. 25:31-46; Psalm 110:6; Acts 10:42; Acts 17:30-31; Revelation 19:11**)
3. He is coming to save Israel. (**Romans 11:25,26; Psalm 14:7**)
4. He is coming to sit upon the throne of David. (**Luke 1:31-33; Isaiah 9:6,7**)
5. He is coming at an hour we do not expect. (**Matthew 24:42-44**)
6. No one knows the day or hour he will come (**Matthew 24:36**)
7. We are to pray that God will sanctify us and keep our whole spirit and soul and body blameless until he comes (**1 Thessalonians 5:23**)
8. The day that he comes will be like a thief in the night. (**1 Thessalonians 5:2**)
9. We are to wait patiently until his coming. (**James 5:7**)
10. We are to abide in him, so we have confidence when he comes and not be shameful. (**1 John 2:28**)
11. We are not to be ashamed of Jesus and his word, or he will be ashamed of us when he comes. (**Luke 9:26**)
12. All the tribes of the earth will mourn when he comes (**Matthew 24:30-31**)



13. He is coming soon. We are to hold fast so no one seizes our crown. (Revelation 3:11)

14. When he appears, we shall be like him. (1 John 3:2-3)

15. He is coming to bring righteous judgment to this earth. (Hebrews 1:8)

Jesus is coming again in all of his glory. He will be bringing his saints with him. It will be a glorious time for those that know him as Savior, but it will be a devastating time for those that have chosen not to believe and receive.

It is our job to proclaim his coming to a lost and dying world so they too can be free from the wages of sin which is death – eternal separation from God.