

## **Lesson #4: Jesus Christ**

*We believe that Jesus Christ is God incarnate, fully God and fully man, one Person in two natures. Jesus—Israel's promised Messiah—was conceived through the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He lived a sinless life, was crucified under Pontius Pilate, arose bodily from the dead, ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father as our High Priest and Advocate.*

### **I. His Identity: Jesus Christ is the God-Man, the union of perfect deity and perfect humanity, and the long-awaited, promised Savior.**

- A. God Incarnate. As the eternally-existing Son of God, Jesus' deity was attested through His divine names, His divine works, and His divine attributes (cf. Mic. 5:2; Matt. 1:23; Heb. 1:8; Mark 2:1-12; John 5:21-22, 27, 11:43; Matt. 18:20, 28:18; Mark 2:8).
- B. Hypostatic Union. The result of the incarnation of the Son of God is the union of His perfect deity and perfect humanity in one person forever (cf. Matthew 24:36).
  - *His deity.* Jesus Christ is 100% God, which He claimed and demonstrated by His works (cf. John 10:30-33; Mark 2:1-12; Heb. 1:8).
  - *His humanity.* Jesus Christ is 100% human, having been born with a human body and characteristics, and having died (cf. Gal. 4:4; Luke 2:52; Heb. 2:9).
- C. Messiah. Jesus Christ is the fulfillment of God's promise to His children, seen throughout the Law, the Prophets, and the Psalms, that an eternal King would sit on David's throne (cf. Luke 1:32-33, 24:44; John 5:46, 8:56).
- D. Conception. Jesus, as God the Son, was conceived by the Holy Spirit within the womb of Mary, a virgin (cf. Matt. 1:18; Luke 1:26-38; John 1:14; Col. 2:9; Heb. 4:15).

### **II. His Life: Jesus Christ lived a sinless life and died as a substitute for sinners, before conquering death through His resurrection and then ascending to Heaven where He is currently ministering on behalf of His children.**

- A. Sinless. Jesus Christ was not only sinless but was unable to sin because of His nature (cf. Matt. 4:1-11).
  - Temptation is an appeal to meet legitimate needs through illegitimate means apart from the Father's provision.

- Within his humanity, Jesus could have chosen to sin but because of His deity he was incapable of sinning (known as impeccability).
  
- B. Crucifixion. Jesus Christ died on the cross as our penal substitute by paying for all our sins and removing the object of our offense (cf. 2 Cor. 5:20-21; 1 Pet. 3:18; Rom. 5:10).
  
- C. Resurrection. Jesus Christ rose from His grave in the same body in which He had previously died, but now in imperishable form (cf. 1 Corinthians 15:20).
  
- D. Ascension. Forty days after His resurrection, Jesus Christ physically ascended into heaven where He sat down at the Father's right hand (cf. Acts 1:9; Eph. 1:20).
  
- E. Present Ministry. Jesus Christ is the Head of His Church and is presently functioning as our High Priest and Advocate before the Father, defending believers from Satan's attacks (cf. Col. 1:18; Heb. 4:14; 1 John 2:1).

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