

## **Doctrine for Dummies**

### **Lesson 3**

#### **God the Son**

The nature of Jesus Christ is the true distinctive of Christianity. In no other religion has the leader been bodily resurrected and appeared to His followers. Historically, the nature of Christ has separated all the various cults and heresies from biblical Christianity. Whether or not Christ was the God-man or just a good religious leader determines the efficacy of His substitutionary sacrifice for us.

1. We know that Jesus the man was born in Bethlehem about 5-6 BC, but where was God the Son before this event (Philippians 2:5-7)? How does Paul explain the purpose of the incarnation of Christ in 2 Corinthians 8:9?
2. What great act did Jesus accomplish in the beginning (John 1:1-3, Hebrews 1:2, Colossians 1:16)?
3. What is Christ's relationship to angels (Hebrews 1:3-6, Rev 5:11-12)? What is unique about Jesus according to John 1:14-18?
4. Did Jesus clearly claim to be God (John 5:18; 10:30, 33, 36)? Did Jesus claim to pre-exist as God (John 8:58; 17:5)? Even after "taking on the flesh" (the incarnation), was Jesus the exact essence of God (John 14:9, Hebrews 1:2-3, Colossians 2:9)?
5. What are some of the divine names ascribed to Jesus (Jn 1:1, Mark 1:1, Luke 5:8, Matt 1:23; 12:8)?

6. Jesus was also fully human. Did He live and grow as a normal child (Luke 2:40, 52)? Did Jesus have normal physical limitations like hunger and thirst (Matt 4:2)? Did He bleed and die as a man (John 19:34)? Did He have flesh and bones as a man (Luke 24:39)?
  
7. Did all the New Testament authors write that Jesus was both God and man (1 Timothy 2:5; 3:16, Galatians 4:4, Jn 1:14, 1 Peter 1:3; 3:15; 4:1)?
  
8. Did Jesus teach that His first coming in the flesh as the suffering servant was predicted in the Old Testament (Luke 24:27, 45-47)? Did this influence Peter, and later Paul, to quote from the O.T. that Jesus fulfilled the prophecies of the coming Messiah (Acts 2:14, 22-32; 13:16, 22-39)?
  
9. What are some of the offices that Jesus holds (Colossians 1:18, Jn 6:14, Heb 2:17, Rev 19:16)? How does Jesus function in relation to the church (1 Jn 2:1-2; 1 Peter 1:3-9; Romans 8:34)?
  
10. The nature of Christ as both God and man makes Him alone both able and willing to save us. What do the Scriptures say about the importance and uniqueness of His atoning work on the cross (Acts 4:12; 10:43; 1 Timothy 2:5; Jn 14:6)?