

WHO JESUS IS

Jesus is Deity – He has the same kind of nature as God the Father

He claimed deity – Jn. 10:30; Jn. 16:28; Jn. 17:5

He is not God the Father – Deity means He has the same qualities and character as God the Father - equals

His Deity is an essential belief of historic Christianity for 3 reasons

To make payment for the sin for everyone. It was His deity that made the payment sufficient for all

To give eternal life to those who accept His payment. To give eternal life, He had to be eternal – deity.

To give a new nature to us so that we can live a changed life

Jesus is Humanity – He has the same kind of nature as we do, except without sin.

He was born of the virgin Mary. This is another essential belief of historic Christianity because...

> It was the only way Jesus as deity could also become humanity, with a physical body.

In order to make payment for our disobedience **in our place**, He had to be one of us – humanity.

> It was the only way Jesus could be born as a human, but without a sin nature.

Adam represented the human race. It was thru Adam and the male gender that the sin nature is passed from generation to generation.

...by the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners, so by the one man's obedience the many will be made righteous. Romans 5:19

If Joseph had been the biological father, Jesus would have been born with a sin nature.

With a human mother and a body created by the **Holy** Spirit, He was fully human, yet without sin.

Jesus has two natures – divine and human

Jesus was fully human with a body, soul, spirit, and human nature – a real person in one body. But inside His body, He had 2 natures – a human nature and a divine nature. He was complete in His humanity and complete in His deity. His 2 natures were never fused or intermingled but always kept completely separate. They were like 2 compartments side by side, each complete and independent. Jesus could only respond from one nature at a time.

Jesus came to this earth in agreement with the Father, that He would operate out of His human nature. He would only operate from His deity nature when the Father gave Him permission. This would be...

To save His life so He would not be killed before the time of the cross.

To know a person's thoughts or about their life when presenting Himself as the promised Messiah.

To work miracles that required the power of creation.

The **CONTRAST OF THESE 2 NATURES**

2 NATURES OF JESUS

HUMANITY	DEITY
Experienced time	Lived in eternal present
Born	From eternity
1 place at 1 time	Omnipresent
Learned	Omniscient
Limited	Omnipotent
Needs, aspirations	Complete
Tired	I will give you rest
Hungry	I am Bread of Life
Thirsty	Come to Me & drink
Suffered	Healed
Tempted	Could not be tempted
Prayed	Answered prayer
Asked questions	Knew their answers
Wept at tomb	Raised the dead
Died	Life eternal

At first, these 2 lists look like contradictions. But it makes sense when you know one list is describing His human nature and the other, His divine nature.

When He was hungry, sad or tired, it was from His human nature.

When He answered prayers or knew what people were thinking, it was from His human nature.

Theologically this is called the *hypostatic union*.



The **SEPARATION OF THESE 2 NATURES** - Why they were kept separate.

Jesus agreed to live within the limitation of humanity ...

In order to face temptation and show us how to handle it.

In order to understand our feelings and limitations.

In order to show it is possible to live obedient to the Father and dependent on the power of the Spirit.

In order to be separated from the Father, physically die and be resurrected.

In order to represent us and make payment for us.

Jesus also had a complete, but separate **DIVINE** nature...

In order to represent the Father.

In order to give infinite value to His payment - so it could be sufficient for all.

WHO JESUS IS

IT IS WHO HE IS, THAT GIVES VALUE TO WHAT HE DID

WHAT JESUS DID ON THE CROSS

Definitions – “Death” means “SEPARATION”

In **physical death** life is separated from the body.

In **spiritual death** life is separated from God.

The Problem

God and heaven are perfect. So only that which is perfect can enter heaven. Since we are not perfect, we do not qualify. We must forever be separated from God.

But God is also love. He wants to enjoy us now and have us with Him for all eternity. His love **wants** to let us in.

But His perfection **cannot** let us in - we would ruin heaven with our imperfection.

The Solution

Jesus came as deity and humanity – perfect and also one of us.

While on the cross, all the imperfection and sin of all the world for all time was dumped on the humanity of Jesus.

Jesus, in His humanity, as separated from the Father – without the Father’s support, help or presence.

His separation was the **penalty** of sin – what humanity must experience because of their imperfection.

His separation was also the **payment** for sin - sufficient for everyone and on deposit with the Father.

When I tell the Father I accept the payment of Jesus for me...

All my imperfection (sin – past, present and future) is credited to the account of Jesus

All the perfection of Jesus is credited to my account

This is the Gospel message –
the message of historic Christianity

My Account Sheet	Jesus' Account Sheet
Name: My name	Name: Jesus - humanity
Final evaluation:	Final evaluation:
Not perfect Perfect	Perfect Not perfect
Payment required	He had no payment required
Separated from God Forever with God	He made my payment Separated from God

How God the Father sees me, when I accept the payment of Jesus

Questions Raised

If Jesus is deity, how could He be separated from the Father? Deity is omnipresent.

If Jesus is deity, how could He die? Deity is eternal.

This is why the 2 natures of Jesus had to be completely kept apart.

It is absolutely true, that in His **DEITY** nature, Jesus could not be separated from the Father.

In His **DEITY** nature, Jesus could not die.

But His **HUMANITY** nature was kept apart and distinct.
 It was His humanity nature that experienced the penalty and made the payment.
 It was His humanity nature that was separated and His humanity nature that died.
 It was in His humanity nature that He represented us.
 Jesus' humanity could only make payment for one other person.
 It was His Deity that gave infinite or unlimited value to His payment for all people for all time.

If Jesus died in our place, then why do we still die?

If His *physical* death made payment in our place, we would not have to die *physically*.
 Because His *spiritual* death made payment, we do not have to die *spiritually* - be separated from the Father.

He who believes in Me will live, even tho he dies (physically);

He who believes in Me will never die (spiritually) John 11:25

The wages or **PENALTY** of sin is "death" – **spiritual separation** from God.
 So the **PAYMENT** for sin has to be spiritual death – spiritual separation from God.

THE RESULTS OF JESUS' PAYMENT

FOR JESUS

His glory and power will be fully shown. All will acknowledge His deity Philippians 2:6-11
 He is greater than any leader, king or empire Ephesians 1:20
 He declared victory over Satan and his angels. Colossians 2:15

FOR SATAN

Satan and his angels have been defeated Colossians 2:15

FOR BELIEVERS IN JESUS

Full payment for our disobedience Colossians 2:14
 No condemnation Romans 8:1
 Nothing can separate us from eternity with God Romans 8:33-40

JESUS "EMPTIED HIMSELF" – WHAT HE SACRIFICED TO COME TO THIS EARTH Phil. 2:7

IN HEAVEN...

Had the worship of angels
 Commanded the angels
 Had the glory of deity
 Enjoyed heaven's purity
 No limitations
 A painless existence
 Eternal life
 Omniscient
 Omnipresent
 Omnipotent
 Complete in Himself

ON EARTH...

Rejected by people (spit upon, slapped and whipped)
 Commanded by the Father
 Took on the plainness of humanity
 Lived in earth's impurity
 Full limitation of time, strength and energy
 Went thru the ultimate of suffering
 Experienced death
 Had to learn and develop knowledge
 Could only be in one place at one time
 Limited to what the Father allowed Him to do
 Had needs and had to receive help from angels



THE MINISTRY OF JESUS NOW

The moment we accept His payment, He has a personal, continual ministry in our lives.

1. **He is our defense lawyer** 1 John 2:1

When we disobey God, Satan, our adversary and accuser goes to God the Father to accuse us. He tells God to kick us out of His (God's) family. Jesus immediately rises in our defense to say that He already paid for that disobedience. Because we have asked for forgiveness, that sin has been forgiven. Wrong choices will bring earthly consequences, but will not remove us from God's family.

2. **He continually prays for us** Rom. 8:34

He prays that our faith does not fail. He prays for our spiritual maturity, our discernment, unity with other believers, our response to the Holy Spirit and His direction.

3. **He provides the Holy Spirit to permanently live inside each member of His family** John 16:7

It is the Holy Spirit who teaches us, gives us direction, draws us to Jesus, gives us the desire to obey, corrects us and reminds us when we have disobeyed,. He gives us comfort in our time of fear and grief. He gives us confidence that we are members of God's family and makes the presence of Jesus real in our lives.

4. **He gives us spiritual gifts and abilities** so we have a ministry and can share in His work. Eph. 4:7-8

As we go thru life, our ministry will often change. Jesus will never lead us into another ministry without giving us the spiritual gifts and abilities that we will need.

5. **He provides gifted people** to teach, train, and lead us Eph. 4:11-13

6. **He answers our prayers and supports us** in time of need or weakness - as individuals or as a group.

Sometimes He answers even before we ask or before we know what to ask. Heb. 4:15-16; 1 Jn. 5:14-15

7. **He prepares a home for us**, so we can spend all eternity living in His presence. Jn. 14:1-3

Each of us, as believers in Jesus, can say, *Today, Jesus is doing this for me.*

APPLICATION

In these lessons, we have learned about Jewish life and background - Jewish thinking. But most of all, because of what we have learned, I trust Jesus has become more alive and real for you. A person you want to spend time with and get to know even more. A person you love, worship and honor because of who He is, what He has done, and what He is doing even now.

