

Lesson 48

9.9. Jesus Christ is a perfect man

- Just as it is important to verify and believe that Jesus Christ is God through God's Word, it is also important to verify and believe in Jesus' humanity after his incarnation. This subject causes much confusion among God's people. If Jesus was not fully human, how could he be the firstborn and we his brothers before God? What would the other children of the new race we are studying be like if Jesus were not a complete man? Jesus is the firstborn of this new race.
- How could Jesus die on the cross if he wasn't fully human? And how could He be the seed of the woman and the seed of the human race? How could He be the descendant of Abraham and David? Jesus is fully human and the Mediator.
- One day, Job became desperate when he started to reflect on himself. He began to meditate on his situation and realized that he had been reduced to dust. This is the state we all find ourselves in. Job also said: '*If I wash myself with snow water, and cleanse my hands with soap, yet You will plunge me into the pit, and my own clothes will abhor me*'
⇒ Job 9:27~31

However, at the end of the book, Job declares: '*I have heard of You by the hearing of the ear, but now my eye sees You*'.

⇒ Job 42:5

Before we can see God, we must first see ourselves; we must recognize who we are. Otherwise, we won't see God. First, the light illuminates me. Then, I see myself as I am. Finally, I recognize that I have nowhere else to turn but to God. This is the process described in the Book of Job.

⇒ Job 9:2~3 and 32~33

- Job is saying: '*But how can a man be righteous before God? If one wished to contend with Him, He could not answer Him one time out of a thousand.*'
V.33: 'Nor is there any mediator between us, who may lay his hand on us both.' Here, Job recognized that there must be a mediator to stand between him and God. However, as there was no mediator, he became desperate.
- Then Job received the full revelation and declared:
⇒ Job 19:25; 'For I know that my Redeemer lives, and He shall stand at last on the earth.'

Job received the revelation that there must be a mediator between God and man. As we have already studied, action on earth must be through a human being. Jesus is the only mediator and advocate between God and man.

⇒ I Timothy 2:5~6; 'For there is one God and one Mediator between God and men, the Man Christ Jesus,'
⇒ I John 2:1; 'If anyone sins, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous'.

- When the angels in heaven saw Jesus on earth in human form, they were certainly surprised. Jesus Christ's body was as real as ours, except for sin. While he was on earth, before the resurrection, Jesus displayed all the normal reactions of a human being:

⇒ John 4:5~7;	Jesus was <u>thirsty</u> .
⇒ Mark 11:12;	Jesus was <u>hungry</u> .
⇒ Matthew 26:37~38;	Jesus was <u>sorrow</u> .
⇒ Luke 19:41~42;	Jesus <u>cried</u> .

- Jesus came to Earth as a man and acted like any other man. But did He perform miracles as God or as a man? ⇒ **Matthew 12:22~28**

The Pharisees accused Jesus of casting out demons through the power of Satan. However, in **V.28**, Jesus declared that He had done so through the power of the Holy Spirit.

⇒ Luke 4:1;	<i>'Jesus, being filled with the Holy Spirit'</i>
⇒ Luke 4:14~22	

- Jesus Christ always acted as a man on earth. Everything He did was through the power of the Holy Spirit. Through the power of the Holy Spirit, we too can perform miracles and other wonders. Jesus is the model of the new race, and if this were not so, the Word of God could never have been declared.:
 - ⇒ **John 14:12;** *'He who believes in Me, the works that I do he will do also; and greater works than these he will do '*
 - ⇒ **Mark 16:17~18;** *'And these signs will follow those who believe...'*

- The title 'Son of Man' is the one Jesus used most often for himself (*it appears in the New Testament approximately 80 times*), to emphasize his humanity. The Bible is very clear that:

- Jesus took flesh and blood upon himself:
 - ⇒ **Hebrews 2:14**
 - ⇒ **I John 1:7 and 4:2**
- Jesus has a body:
 - ⇒ **Matthew 26:12**
- Jesus has a soul:
 - ⇒ **Matthew 26:38**
- Jesus has a spirit:
 - ⇒ **Matthew 27:50**

9.10. The incarnation of Jesus Christ was not temporary

- The incarnation of Jesus Christ — God taking on human form — was not temporary; Jesus will never cease to be human. Jesus is the only Mediator, which is why Paul declares:

⇒ **I Timothy 2:5**

Jesus will never lose His humanity because He is God incarnate. However, Jesus' body today is glorified. After His resurrection, He went to heaven because He now had a body suitable for living there.

- Jesus' appearances after the resurrection confirm the continuity of His humanity; otherwise, He could not be the initiator of a new race to which we already belong while remaining human.

⇒ **John 20:19~20;** Although the disciples were gathered together with the doors of their house closed, Jesus suddenly entered their midst, bearing the scars of his resurrection.

⇒ **John 20:24~29**

⇒ **Luke 24:29~30;** After the resurrection, Jesus ate with two disciples.

⇒ **Luke 24:36~44;** Jesus explaining His new body.

⇒ **Acts 1:1~4;** *'Being seen by them during forty days '*

⇒ **Acts 1:9~11;** *'Jesus ascending into heaven.*

⇒ **Acts 7:55~56;** *'Stephen gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God.'*

- After His resurrection, Jesus appeared on earth for forty days before ascending into heaven. Stephen had a vision of Jesus seated at the right hand of God in heaven. Jesus' resurrection and ascension were bodily events. Jesus told His disciples that a spirit has neither bones nor flesh, *'as you see that I have'*, (*note that the glorified body has no blood*). The glorified body of Jesus is the same body that we will have after the rapture.

⇒ **I John 3:2**

- When Jesus was resurrected, a new race began. At the rapture, our bodies will be transformed and glorified so that we, too, can dwell in Heaven.

⇒ **Philippians 3:20~21;** *'For our citizenship is in heaven '*

⇒ **I Corinthians 15:50~58;** *'We will be transformed; flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God.'*

⇒ **I Thessalonians 4:13~18**

9.11. The Two Natures of Jesus Christ

- We have to get to know Jesus Christ in order not to be deceived. Satan is cunning and will do everything he can to confuse God's children because he knows that the Holy Spirit is *'shaking up the churches understanding'* in their structure and that this final generation will triumph with signs, wonders, and prodigies.
- Jesus Christ is one person with two natures, not two persons. He is not God and man separately; He is one person with two natures. He has a complete divine nature and a complete human nature. He is the perfect man and the perfect God, combined into one person. This is difficult to understand because He is the only person in the universe who is both fully human and fully divine.
- How do the two natures of Jesus Christ work? For example, in order to redeem humanity, Jesus acts through his entire being, though sometimes He acts through His human nature and at other times through His divine nature. Can God die? No. As a man, Jesus died to redeem mankind; however, it is His divine nature that gives His death its eternal and infinite effect.

How can we explain how the blood of Jesus has the power to save everyone from Adam and Eve until the last person in the millennium? We can only have faith. It is the two natures of Jesus working together to achieve eternal salvation.

- For Jesus Christ to be an eternal priest, He must be both human and divine: as a mediator, He must be human; and to be eternal, He must be divine. We saw this when we discussed Job. Here, we also see the two natures of Jesus Christ working together.

⇒ **Hebrews 4:14~16;** The two natures of Jesus Christ are here.

When Jesus Christ ascended into heaven, his divine nature and glory as God were fully restored. Remember that we saw Jesus give up his glory to take on human form?

⇒ **John 17:5**

- Jesus, as God incarnate, sits at the right hand of God the Father and carries out the ministry of intercession. The infinite glory of God and the perfect humanity of Jesus Christ are completely compatible.

9.12. Christ: Prophet, Priest and King:

- Remember how God revealed himself to humanity on earth? Through three areas: Government – Word – Worship. Jesus Christ was essentially a prophet while he was here on earth. If we read the Gospels, we will see that Jesus Christ restored the Word of God, removing '*all the dust*' that had become attached to it. From his Sermon on the Mount to his death on the cross, He acted as God's prophet in His ministry. Jesus is the incarnate Word; He is the prophet of the written Word.

⇒ **Matthew 5:17~18;** *Jesus came to fulfill all of God's Word.*

- After Jesus was crucified, He offered his life in Heaven and shed his blood in place of every life on Earth, thus paying the debt of sin to God.

⇒ **John 20:14~18;** *'Do not cling to Me, for I have not yet ascended to My Father'*

Jesus entered the priestly ministry by becoming the sacrifice itself and the priest who offered it. He handed over the prophetic ministry to the Holy Spirit. It is the Holy Spirit who carries out the ministry of prophecy today, manifesting the understanding and revelation of the Word of God.

- When Jesus ascended to heaven, He began his role as high priest. As the high priest, He sits at the right hand of the Father and intercedes for us.

⇒ **Romans 8:34;** Jesus as intercessor, Priest.

⇒ **Hebrews 4:14~16;** *'We have a great High Priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God.'*

⇒ **Hebrews 5:7~10**

⇒ **Hebrews 7:23~28;** *'Jesus has an unchangeable priesthood'*

- Jesus is a different kind of priest. In the Old Testament, priests offered sacrifices, but Jesus was both the sacrifice and the sacrifice-bearer; He is our high priest.

- Jesus is the incarnate Word, bringing revelation to the written Word and being the prophet himself. As the High Priest, He was the offering for sins, making him both just and the justifier. What a wonderful thing!

⇒ **Revelation 1:6;** 'And has made us kings '

⇒ **Revelation 5:9~10;** 'And have made us kings'

⇒ **Revelation 20:6**

- Jesus Christ is our eternal High Priest and King. However, He is not yet exercising his royal authority on earth. We have been made a kingdom of priests, and when Jesus returns at the Second Coming, after the Tribulation period, He will establish the kingdom and sit on David's throne forever (*the Davidic Covenant*). Jesus is the King of kings and the Lord of lords.

⇒ **Revelation 19:16**

⇒ **Zechariah 14:9**

**All worship should be given to the Lord Jesus Christ. It is to
Him that we owe our love, glory and majesty. Amen.**