



Getting to Know Jesus Christ

His Nature

Many years ago, while Jesus was still on the earth, He asked His disciples who the people of His day thought He was. After several answers were given He asked them who they thought He was. One of His closest disciples, Simon Peter, stepped forward, took a deep breath, and said, "*You are the Christ, the Son of the Living God.*" (Matthew 16:13-19) Jesus blessed Peter for his good answer and told him that he was able to identify Him because God had revealed to him the correct answer. He also said that He would build His church upon this acknowledgment. It is important for every Christian to know and understand who Jesus is. Use the questions in this lesson, along with your own Bible, to get to know Jesus better.

His Humanity

1. Who was Jesus' mother? (Matthew 1:18-25)

2. Who was Jesus' father? (Luke 3:23; Mark 1:1; Luke 1:35)

3. Did Jesus have any brothers and sisters? (Luke 8:20)

4. What were the names of some of the members of His earthly family? (Mark 6:3)

5. After fasting in the wilderness, what was Jesus' physical condition? (Matthew 4:2)

6. After a long, hard day of teaching, what did Jesus do? (Mark 4:38)

7. How did Jesus respond to His grieving friends? (John 11:35)

8. According to Isaiah 53:2, which is a prophetic passage about Messiah written hundreds of years before His birth, what is known about Jesus' physical appearance?

9. Has Jesus always had human form or did He take this form for a limited time and purpose? (Philippians 2:5-8)

10. Though Jesus was human in all the same aspects as we are, what one thing did He not do that all of us have done? (Hebrews 4:15)

11. Jesus openly challenged his detractors to convict Him of sin. Were they able to do so? (John 8:46ff) As much as they hated Him, surely had there been a valid charge they could have leveled at Him, they would have done so. Yet all they could say was that He was demon possessed.

Summary

As we've seen in the verses above, when Jesus walked the earth, He had the common traits of humanity. He was not a disembodied spirit. He was not an angel. He was not a figment of His disciples' imagination or a hallucination. He was a man who could be touched and talked to. He was subject to the limitations of flesh. Yet, as we will see next, He was also deity.

His Deity

1. Whose Son was Jesus? (Matthew 3:16-17)

2. How long has Jesus existed? (John 1:1 & 14)

3. What did Jesus Himself say about His relationship to God? (Matthew 26:63-64)

4. Is Jesus a lesser deity than God the Father? (Philippians 2:6)

5. Isaiah 9:6-7 is a prophetic passage about Messiah written about 750 years before His birth. What does it say He would be called? What does this verse say about the length of His existence?

6. When God the Father speaks of His Son, what does He call Him? (Hebrews 1:8)

7. What did Jesus' closest disciples say about Him after the remarkable miracle of the calming of the sea? (Matthew 14:22-33)

8. How did Thomas address Jesus? (John 20:28) Did Jesus forbid him from saying this? Did He correct his understanding?

9. Is Jesus any less honorable than God the Father? (John 5:23)

10. How should we honor Jesus Christ? (Give your own thoughts.)

Summary

As we learn about Jesus from the Bible, we see that He was subject to the frailties of humanity. Yet He was full deity, equal to God. That Jesus could be both human and deity is a mystery from human perspective. Theologians have tried for two millennia to explain it. Yet it is what the Bible teaches. Many things about God are difficult for us to grasp from our limited human perspective. For instance, how can something be created out of nothing? Yet that is what God did at the creation. He spoke and things were created. Perhaps someday we will understand the mystery of Jesus' incarnation. For now it is enough that we know it and believe it.