

WHAT WE BELIEVE

God the Son

ARTICLE 2

II B. God the Son

Christ is the eternal Son of God. In His incarnation as Jesus Christ He was conceived of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. Jesus perfectly revealed and did the will of God, taking upon Himself human nature with its demands and necessities and identifying Himself completely with mankind yet without sin. He honored the divine law by His personal obedience, and in His substitutionary death on the cross He made provision for the redemption of men from sin. He was raised from the dead with a glorified body and appeared to His disciples as the person who was with them before His crucifixion. He ascended into heaven and is now exalted at the right hand of God where He is the One Mediator, fully God, fully man, in whose Person is effected the reconciliation between God and man. He will return in power and glory to judge the world and to consummate His redemptive mission. He now dwells in all believers as the living and ever present Lord.

Genesis 18:1ff.; Psalms 2:7ff.; 110:1ff.; Isaiah 7:14; Isaiah 53:1-12; Matthew 1:18-23; 3:17; 8:29; 11:27; 14:33; 16:16,27; 17:5; 27; 28:1-6,19; Mark 1:1; 3:11; Luke 1:35; 4:41; 22:70; 24:46; John 1:1-18,29; 10:30,38; 11:25-27; 12:44-50; 14:7-11; 16:15-16,28; 17:1-5, 21-22; 20:1-20,28; Acts 1:9; 2:22-24; 7:55-56; 9:4-5,20; Romans 1:3-4; 3:23-26; 5:6-21; 8:1-3,34; 10:4; 1 Corinthians 1:30; 2:2; 8:6; 15:1-8,24-28; 2 Corinthians 5:19-21; 8:9; Galatians 4:4-5; Ephesians 1:20; 3:11; 4:7-10; Philippians 2:5-11; Colossians 1:13-22; 2:9; 1 Thessalonians 4:14-18; 1 Timothy 2:5-6; 3:16; Titus 2:13-14; Hebrews 1:1-3; 4:14-15; 7:14-28; 9:12-15,24-28; 12:2; 13:8; 1 Peter 2:21-25; 3:22; 1 John 1:7-9; 3:2; 4:14-15; 5:9; 2 John 7-9; Revelation 1:13-16; 5:9-14; 12:10-11; 13:8; 19:16.

OUR BELIEFS

God the Son

We believe that Jesus is the Son of God and in his incarnation was conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of a virgin. He is wholly God and wholly man. He lived a sinless life, shed His blood, and died in our place on the cross as a sacrifice for the sins of humanity. He was buried, arose bodily from the grave, and ascended into Heaven where he now sits at the right hand of the Father. He is the one and only Savior of humanity who will physically return to earth to consummate his work of redemption.

THE PERSON OF CHRIST

- Jesus Christ was fully God and fully man in one person and will be so forever.

THE HUMANITY OF CHRIST

- *Virgin Birth - Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit.*

Matthew 1:18

- Human weaknesses and limitations
 - Had a human body
 - Had a human soul and emotions

THE HUMANITY OF CHRIST

- Why was Jesus's full humanity necessary?
- Representative Obedience - *Therefore, as one trespass led to condemnation for all men, so one act of righteousness leads to justification and life for all men. For as 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 5:18-19*
- A Substitute Sacrifice - *For surely it is not angels that he helps, but he helps the offspring of Abraham. Therefore, he had to be made like his brothers in every respect, so that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make propitiation for the sins of the people. Hebrews 2:16-17*
- To be the Mediator Between God and Men - *For there is one God, and there is one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, 1 Timothy 2:5*

THE HUMANITY OF CHRIST

- To be our Example and Pattern in Life - *...whoever says he abides in him ought to walk in the same way in which he walked. 1 John 2:6*
- To be a Pattern for our Redeemed Bodies - *So is it with the resurrection of the dead. What is sown is perishable; what is raised is imperishable. It is sown in dishonor; it is raised in glory. It is sown in weakness; it is raised in power. It is sown a natural body; it is raised a spiritual body. If there is a natural body, there is also a spiritual body. 1 Cor 15:42-44*

THE HUMANITY OF CHRIST

- To Sympathize as our High Priest - *For because he himself has suffered when tempted, he is able to help those who are being tempted.*
Hebrews 2:18

For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need. Hebrews 4:15-16

THE DEITY OF CHRIST

- “God” (*Theos*) used of Christ
- *He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light. No one has ever seen God; the only God, who is at the Father's side, he has made him known. John 1:1, 18*
- “Lord” (*kyros*) used of Christ
- *And why is this granted to me that the mother of my Lord should come to me? Luke 1:43*

THE DEITY OF CHRIST

- “I AM” statements
- Jesus said to them, *“Truly, truly, I say to you, before Abraham was, I am.”* John 8:58

THE INCARNATION OF CHRIST

- How does Jesus Christ maintain both 100% humanity and 100% deity in one person?

THE INCARNATION OF CHRIST

- ...we unite in teaching all men to confess the one and only Son, our Lord Jesus Christ...we unite in teaching all men to confess the one and only Son, our Lord Jesus Christ...is also actually God and actually man, with a rational soul and a body. He is of the same reality as God as far as his deity is concerned and of the same reality as we ourselves as far as his humanness is concerned; thus like us in all respects, sin only excepted.... We also teach that we apprehend this one and only Christ-Son, Lord, only-begotten in two natures; and we do this without confusing the two natures,...without dividing them into two separate categories, without contrasting them according to area or function.... They are...together the one and only and only-begotten Word of God, the Lord Jesus Christ....

THE INCARNATION OF CHRIST

- Anything either nature of Christ does, the person of Christ does.

THE ATONEMENT OF CHRIST

- The atonement is the work Christ did in his life and death to earn our salvation.
- Cause
 - Love - *“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. John 3:16*
 - Justice - *whom God put forward as a propitiation by his blood, to be received by faith. This was to show God's righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over former sins. Romans 3:35*

THE ATONEMENT OF CHRIST

- Necessity - was there any other way for God to save us?
- The nature of atonement – How did Christ save us?
 - Obedience
 - Suffering

RESURRECTION AND ASCENSION

- Jesus rose from the grave on the 3rd day
- As first fruits of a new kind of human life - *But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep. But each in his own order: Christ the first fruits, then at his coming those who belong to Christ. 1 Corinthians 15:20, 23*

RESURRECTION AND ASCENSION

- The ascension
- Shows that the work of Christ in the atonement is completed

OFFICES OF CHRIST

- **PROPHET** Jesus was the source of all revelation from God - *Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed the heir of all things, through whom also he created the world.*

Hebrews 1:1-2

- **PRIEST** Jesus was the sacrifice to atone for sins - *Since then we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. Hebrews 4:14*

OFFICES OF CHRIST

- **KING** Born King of the Jews - saying, *“Where is he who has been born king of the Jews? For we saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him.”* Matthew 2:2

OFFICES OF CHRIST

- How does impact us?
- As prophets, we all are to proclaim the gospel.
- As priests, we are a royal priesthood - *But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. 1 Peter 2:9* - we have direct access to God through Christ
- As king, we share in Christ's authority - *and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus. Ephesians 2:6*