

## The "5 Truths" of the Gospel

**Truth #1: Already Forgiven** – all of your sins were forgiven on the Cross of Christ, except the sin of unbelief. Mark 3:28; Romans 5:10a; John 16:8-9

**Truth #2: Made Clean** – when you trust in Jesus Christ as your Savior, God takes out your old sinful spirit (heart) and gives you a brand, new clean heart. Romans 6:6; Romans 6:17-18; John 3:3,7

**Truth #3: Made Righteous** – as a Christian, you are now righteous in your spirit because Jesus, in the form of the Holy Spirit, lives in you. 2 Peter 1:4

**Truth #4: In Union** – you are "in Christ" because Jesus joins as one with you in your spirit. John 14:20; 1 Corinthians 6:17; Colossians 1:27

**Truth #5: By Faith** – you are righteous on the inside but your body is still dead to sin. Follow by faith the inner life of Christ so that you can live a righteous life. Romans 8:10; Galatians 2:20; Philippians 3:3b

## The "5 Keys" to Understanding the New Testament

**Key #1: Teaching of the Holy Spirit** - only the Holy Spirit can make the Bible come alive since your human mind is incapable of understanding God's spiritual truths. 1 Corinthians 2:1-16

**Key #2: Proper Context** - the New Testament must be understood in its proper Jewish context. Otherwise, the message gets misinterpreted and is dramatically changed. Romans 9:4; John 4:22b

**Key #3: Spiritual Beings** - all people have an inner spirit and an outer mortal body. Christians have a "born again" spirit that is righteous, but they still live in their not-yet-redeemed mortal bodies. 2 Corinthians 4:16, 5:1-6; Ephesians 4:24

**Key #4: Jesus Emptied Himself** - Jesus lived by the power of the Holy Spirit that He received at His baptism. Jesus lived by faith and not by His own power. Therefore, He is your model for a life of faith. John 14:10b; Matthew 12:28; Matthew 12:18

**Key #5: Hebrew Law** - God gave the Law only to the Jews; the Gentiles have never been under the Law. Romans 2:14; Hebrews 7:18, 28; Hebrews 8:13

Acts 2:22a Men of Israel, listen to these words: Jesus the Nazarene, a man attested to you by God with miracles and wonders and signs which God performed through Him

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Luke 4:1 Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led around by the Spirit in the wilderness

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Acts 10:38 You know of Jesus of Nazareth, how God anointed Him with the Holy Spirit and with power,

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**Note:** 1 Timothy 3:16 is often mistranslated as "God was manifest in the flesh." The original Greek is, "He was manifested in the flesh."

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## True Tracts

# Jesus: God, Man or Both?

There is great controversy over who Jesus was. Cults say Jesus was created and is just a man. Traditional teaching says He was fully God and fully man at the same time. What does the Bible teach? You may be surprised.

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Matthew 12:18 "Behold, my servant whom I have chosen; my beloved in whom my soul is well-pleased; I will put my Spirit upon him, and he shall proclaim justice to the Gentiles.

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John 1:14 And the Word became flesh, and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, glory as of the only begotten from the Father, full of grace and truth.

## God Emptied Himself

Cults have twisted the Word of God to make Jesus someone other than the “unoriginated” {eternal} God. But, even mainstream Christianity has not understood who Jesus really is, and *was*, when He physically came to this earth.

Isaiah 9:6 For a child will be born to us, a son will be given to us; And the government will rest on His shoulders; And His name will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Eternal Father, Prince of Peace.

Hebrews 1:8a But of the Son He says, "Your throne, O God, is forever and ever," ....

Jesus loved us so much that He became poor so that we might become rich. He did this by emptying Himself and living fully as a human while on earth.

John 1:14 And the Word became flesh, and dwelt among us, and we saw His glory, glory as of the only begotten from the Father, full of grace and truth.

This is the definitive passage in Scripture ...

Philippians 2: 5-8a Have this attitude in yourselves which was also in Christ Jesus, [6] who, although He existed in the form of God, did not regard equality with God a thing to be grasped, [7] but emptied Himself, taking the form of a bond-servant, and being made in the likeness of men. [8] Being found in appearance as a man, ...

## Fully God, Fully Man?

Most people who are Christians believe that Jesus was “fully God and fully man” while here on earth. This belief says that Jesus voluntarily gave up His *prerogatives* as God to live as a man. This view is powerfully ingrained in the minds of Christians and any other view is considered heresy. But, is this what the Bible really teaches?

Have you ever considered why traditional “Christianity” is so afraid to recognize that Jesus actually did empty Himself? The living God chose to empty Himself so that He could be our perfect Savior and our compassionate King. This does not deny His deity, it *confirms* it. He would have had nothing to *empty* if He were not God Himself. Jesus had to become like us, yet without sin, so that He could go to the Cross for us and so that He could be sympathetic to our struggles and weaknesses.

Hebrews 2:17a, 4:15a Therefore, He had to be made like His brethren in all things ... [4:15a] we do not have a high priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses ...

This is an amazing phenomenon in the Christian church. There are really no verses in Scripture to support the “prerogatives” belief but dozens to support the “lived fully as a man” belief. The traditional doctrine was developed because human reasoning could not reconcile the question, “How could God stop being God?”

## Your Model of Faith

The reason this issue is so important is that Christians today do not identify with Jesus because He is presented as being so different from them. Yes, He was and *is* God but He emptied Himself to become like you. Following His resurrection, He assumed all of His former deity and glory.

John 17:5 Now, Father, glorify Me together with Yourself, with the glory which I had with You before the world was. (NASB-U)

Jesus prayed that the Father would restore the same glory He had with Him from eternity past. Why would He need His glory restored if He only needed to *unveil* it?

Jesus not only was the perfect Lamb, He is your model for a life of faith as He lived under the control and direction of the Father through the Holy Spirit that He received at His baptism.

John 14:10b ... The words that I say to you I do not speak on My own initiative, but the Father abiding in Me does His works.

Matthew 12:28 But if I cast out demons by the Spirit of God, then the kingdom of God has come upon you.

As a Christian, you received the same Holy Spirit that Jesus received, and you have the same power within you to live a righteous life pleasing to God; you have this because Jesus became like you.