

LESSON 07

Foundations Curriculum

Jesus Is Man

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Introduction

Jesus Is Man

In this seventh lesson of the Foundations Curriculum, we present texts that confirm that Jesus is man in heaven. This came about as a result of His self-emptying as God and His human incarnation. In this lesson we will study the fact that the Lord Jesus is also man — eternally.

1) The Creator Emptied Himself

Can one imagine the Eternal God and Creator of all things emptying Himself of all His glory and power and disappearing into the darkness of a woman's womb?

Let us begin with the truths that appear in John 1:1 and 1:14.

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

John 1:1 (NKJV)

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

John 1:14 (NKJV)

Consider also the text of Philippians 2:6–8:

who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God, but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, and coming in the likeness of men. And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross.

Philippians 2:6–8 (NKJV)

Yes, God became man!

Metaphorically speaking, imagine the “vacuum” that formed in the heavens — the question that arose in the minds of angels, archangels, seraphim and cherubim, and all the celestial beings when this occurred.

And what expectation they must have had that Jesus would one day return! And from that moment onward, what form would Jesus bear throughout all eternity?

Some focus on the physical experiences Jesus had on earth, such as feeling hunger, thirst, or weariness. But He did not merely appear to be a human figure — in fact and in truth, He was man.

2) Consistent Evidence That Jesus Is Man

What evidence confirms that Jesus became man and continues to be man for all eternity?

✓ First evidence: Jesus needed the anointing of the Holy Spirit!

When He had been baptized, Jesus came up immediately from the water; and behold, the heavens were opened to Him, and He saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting upon Him. And suddenly a voice came from heaven, saying, “This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.”

Matthew 3:16–17 (NKJV)

...how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power, who went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with Him.

Acts 10:38 (NKJV)

This anointing and dependence on the Holy Spirit were not symbolic but a genuine human necessity. If Jesus had not emptied Himself of His divine form and attributes, He would not have needed the anointing and power of the Holy Spirit to do the works He did!

✓ Second evidence: Jesus needed to ‘learn’ obedience!

who, in the days of His flesh, when He had offered up prayers and supplications, with vehement cries and tears to Him who was able to save Him from death, and was heard because of His godly fear, though He was a Son, yet He learned obedience by the things which He suffered.

Hebrews 5:7–8 (NKJV)

The expression “save Him from death” in this text does not refer to saving Him from dying, from being killed, but from “not leaving His body in death” (Acts 2:31–32). His body did not experience corruption.

Jesus needed to learn obedience — not because He was rebellious like us (sinful humans), but because He had always existed as God and Lord, Sovereign Creator. And for that reason, of course, He had never needed to submit or obey anyone. He suffered in the condition of a Son in order to learn obedience.

A KEY PRINCIPLE

The Eternal Word only became a Son when He was begotten in the womb of Mary. If we accept that He was somehow begotten before this historical moment, we are denying His eternity. If He

is the “Everlasting Father” (Is 9:6), how can Scripture say, “Today I have begotten You” (Heb 1:5), unless at His incarnation? Furthermore, note the expressions used: “I will be to Him a Father, and He shall be to Me a Son” (Heb 1:5) — these indicate a future time. This means that until then, the relationship between them was not one of Father and Son, but of two equals.

The One we today call God the Father was not greater than the Eternal Word. The One we today call the Son of God was not less than God the Father — He was God Himself. They were equal.

Before the Son became flesh, they were equals. But now, in the human condition, He needed to obey the Father.

In Hebrews 1:8–9, the Son is called God: “But to the Son He says: ‘Your throne, O God, is forever and ever... therefore God, Your God, has anointed You...’”

How could God have been begotten or created? One can only conceive of God the Son being begotten in His humanity and incarnation. Before that, they were equals. But now, as Son, He would need to obey the Father, to be assisted and led by the Holy Spirit, and to submit to His own creatures: Joseph and Mary (He was subject to them), the Jewish Sanhedrin, Pilate, Herod, all the authorities of the day, and so on.

GOD OBEYS NO ONE!

Here on earth, Jesus was an obedient man! And He obeyed precisely because He was man.

Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus, who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God, but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, and coming in the likeness of men. And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross.

Philippians 2:5–8 (NKJV)

This text shows complete and total obedience: even to death!

The text of Mark 14:32–36 tells us that His sweat as blood and His anguish were the expression of His having no other option. Who can measure what passed through the mind and heart of the Lord in that hour? God fears nothing. He does not know anguish or pain. Jesus felt pain because of His condition as man.

In His hands rested the eternal destiny of the heavens and the earth (John 13:1). And He obeyed!

The text of Luke 23:46 tells us that Jesus committed His spirit into the hands of the Father: He died in obedience and trust.

✓ Third and greatest evidence: Jesus was tempted!

Let no one say when he is tempted, “I am tempted by God”; for God cannot be tempted by evil, nor does He Himself tempt anyone.

James 1:13 (NKJV)

James 1:13 tells us: God cannot be tempted by evil! He does not know what it is. He does not understand why human beings are drawn toward evil. But as man, Jesus was tempted — offers toward evil were made to Him.

Matthew 4:1 → The first man, Adam, had his confrontation with the devil... and lost. Now it was the turn of the Second Man — the One who would be the Firstborn of a new race — to be tempted in the same way.

And when He had fasted forty days and forty nights, afterward He was hungry. Now when the tempter came to Him, he said, "If You are the Son of God, command that these stones become bread." But He answered and said, "It is written, 'Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God.'" Then the devil took Him up into the holy city, set Him on the pinnacle of the temple, and said to Him, "If You are the Son of God, throw Yourself down. For it is written: 'He shall give His angels charge over you,' and, 'In their hands they shall bear you up, lest you dash your foot against a stone.'" Jesus said to him, "It is written again, 'You shall not tempt the LORD your God.'" Again, the devil took Him up on an exceedingly high mountain, and showed Him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory. And he said to Him, "All these things I will give You if You will fall down and worship me." Then Jesus said to him, "Away with you, Satan! For it is written, 'You shall worship the LORD your God, and Him only you shall serve.'" Then the devil left Him, and behold, angels came and ministered to Him.

Matthew 4:2–11 (NKJV)

The text of Matthew 4:2–11 reveals several things about His human form and human needs:

- 01** Bread: a legitimate need → "I need."
- 02** Throw Yourself down: vanity / self-assertion → "I can."
- 03** Worship me and I will give you all this: the pride of life → "I deserve."

Hebrews 2:14–18 → In that He Himself has suffered, being tempted (temptation is an assault and produces suffering, demanding struggle and effort), He is able to aid those who are tempted! One of the reasons He was tempted was to help us in our temptations.

Seeing then that we have a great High Priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. For we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but was in all points tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

Hebrews 4:14–16 (NKJV)

The text of Hebrews 4:14–16 tells us that, just as we are tempted, Jesus was too — yet without committing sin. If God cannot be tempted by evil, this makes it even clearer that He was man.

Jesus was assailed by the devil and lived in the world exposed to every kind of the devil's offers and human temptations. But He resisted!

It is worth highlighting that when people hear that Jesus was "tempted in all things," they normally begin to think of every kind of sin and human degeneracy — and forget that the greatest temptation was NEVER to do His own will! In His condition as Creator and Lord of the heavens and the earth, submitting Himself in ALL things was exceedingly difficult. Let us note: even though

Adam committed no “moral sin” or some “absurd grossness,” he simply did his own will! At its root, every temptation has the same source: doing what I want!

✓ **Fourth evidence: Jesus died and rose in a body**

Luke 24:39 → He was seen and touched by the disciples! In fact, Thomas doubted His resurrection at first and was able to touch His wounds in order to “be certain.”

1 Timothy 2:5 → He remains in a human body, and it is in this condition that He intercedes for us (Rom 8:34 / Heb 7:25). It is in this human condition that He lives to intercede for us. What great love from our Savior and Lord!

Philippians 3:20–21 → Our Lord will remain in a human body for all eternity, and He will transform our body of humiliation to be conformed to the body of His glory!

A word of reflection:

Consider: how many times each day do we contradict the known will of our God and do whatever comes into our heads, without feeling any challenge in our conscience about it? Every temptation has the same root: man at the center, in the spotlight, following his own way.

Not only that, but we also who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, eagerly waiting for the adoption, the redemption of our body.

Romans 8:23 (NKJV)

See also the text of 1 Corinthians 15:53–57.

For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality. So when this corruptible has put on incorruption, and this mortal has put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written: “Death is swallowed up in victory. O Death, where is your sting? O Hades, where is your victory?” The sting of death is sin, and the strength of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

1 Corinthians 15:53–57 (NKJV)

CONCLUSION

In this seventh lesson, we presented various lines of evidence that Jesus is man on earth. Jesus left His condition as God in eternity to become a limited and dependent human being, and in doing so He needed to learn to obey God the Father in all things, never doing His own will. When He rises from the dead, Jesus assumes the human condition for all eternity. He continues to help and intercede for His children, having experienced in the flesh the temptations and inclinations of the human being toward evil.

CONSIDER CAREFULLY

01 Could you demonstrate from the Scriptures that Jesus is man?

02 Jesus was the perfect man and our model. Do you sincerely desire to imitate Him in all things?

03 Do you clearly understand that Jesus is fully man and fully God?

May the Lord bless everyone. Hallelujah!

*having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets,
Jesus Christ Himself being the chief cornerstone.*

Ephesians 2:20 (NKJV)

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