

THE PERSON AND WORK OF CHRIST

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INTRODUCTION AND PERSON

Week 1

WHAT WILL WE COVER?

PERSON OF CHRIST

- Historical Considerations
- Deity of Christ
- Humanity of Christ

WORK OF CHRIST

- Mediator of the Covenant
 - Prophet, King, Priest
- States of Christ
 - Humiliation, Exaltation
- Atonement of Christ

WHAT WILL WE COVER?

1. Intro and Person
2. Deity of Christ 1
3. Deity of Christ 2
4. Humanity of Christ 1
5. Humanity of Christ 2
6. Christ the Mediator
7. Christ the Prophet
8. Christ the King
9. Christ the Priest
10. Christ's Humiliation
11. Christ's Exaltation
12. The Atonement of Christ

WHO IS JESUS CHRIST?

1. Fully God
2. Fully Man
3. Only one Person (not two) and not a mixture (e.g. brass), it is a personal union (*Hypostatic*)

FULLY GOD

*“God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made, being
of one substance with the
Father”*



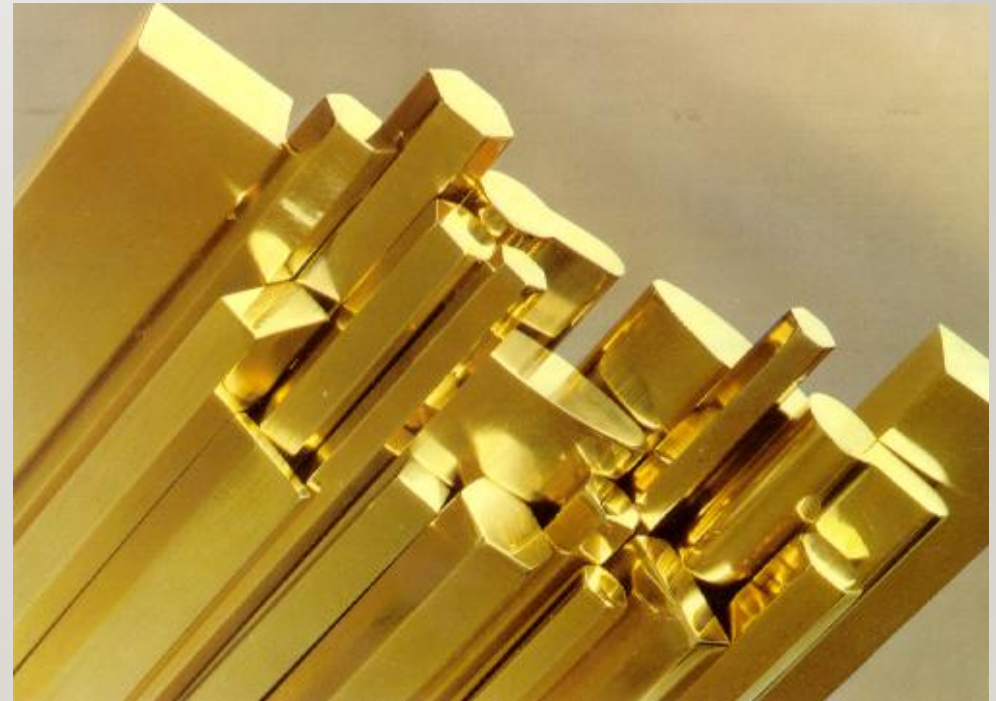
FULLY MAN

“who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven, and was incarnate by the Holy Ghost of the Virgin Mary, and was made man”



ONLY ONE PERSON

- Not two people
- Not a mixture (e.g. brass)
- Personal union of the natures (hypostatic) – similar to the union of body and soul



HOW DID THE CHURCH AGREE?



- Forged in controversy
- One correction lead to another problem
- Early Church Councils

Early Church Controversies

Council	Issue	Bad Guy	Good Guy	Outcome
Nicea 325 AD	Eternal Deity of Christ	Arius Christ is a Created Being	Athanasius Christ is God	Eternal Deity of Christ Affirmed Nicene Creed
Costantinople 381 AD	Person of Christ	Apollinarius Christ is Divine Logos but not human spirit	Gregory of Nestansius	Complete Humanity of Christ Affirmed Nicene Creed Affirmed
Ephesus 431 AD	Person of Christ	Nestorius Against the Deity of Christ	Cyril of Alexandria	Complete Deity of Christ Affirmed Nicene Creed Affirmed
Chalcedon 451 AD	Person of Christ	Eutyches Christ is a "tertium quid" A third unique nature	Flavian of Constantinople and Leo of Rome	Two Natures of Christ Affirmed (Human Nature and Divine Nature)

GOD OR MAN?

ADOPTIONISM

- Jesus was “just a man”
- Adopted by God as His “special son”
- Unique, but not God

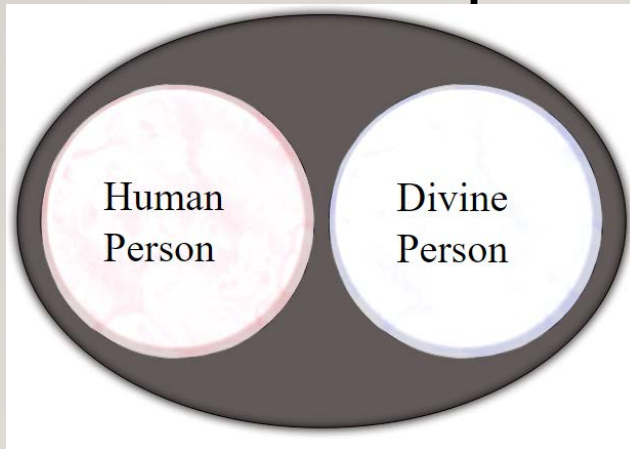
DOCETISM

- Jesus only “seemed” to be man
- Flesh, bad; spirit, good
- Irenaeus battled this in *Adversus Haereses* (late 2nd c.)

TWO PERSONS OR ONE NATURE?

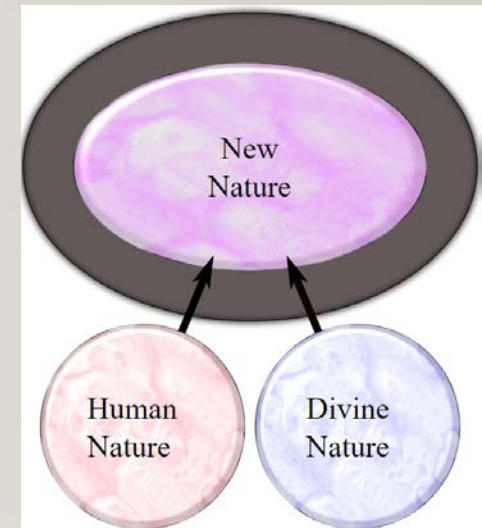
NESTORIANISM

- Emphasized the differences
- Two Persons – one per nature



EUTYCHIANISM

- Divine nature overcame human
- Fusion
- New, third substance
“tertium quid”



HOW REAL IS REAL?

APOLLINARIANISM

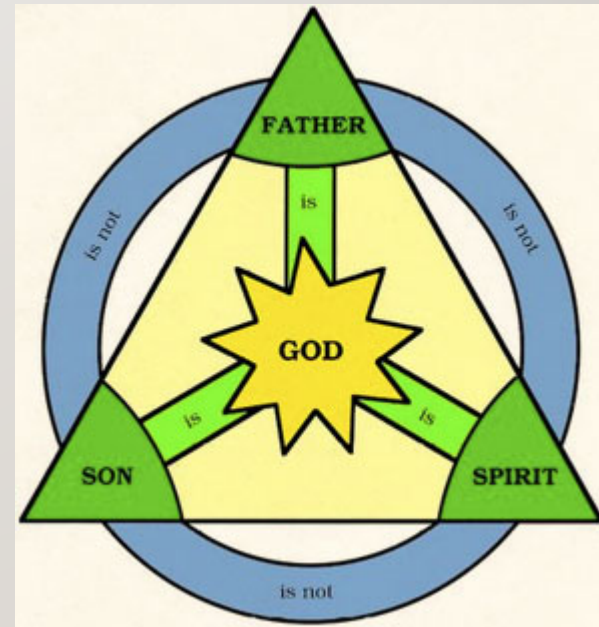
- Starts with three-parts (body, soul, spirit)
- Only one nature
- Not really human

ARIANISM

- Jesus is first created being
- “There was a time when He was not!”
- Not really God

SO WHAT SHOULD WE SAY?

- Jesus is one Person
- Jesus has two natures
- His human nature is not a Person
- The 2nd Person of the Trinity took on a human nature



WHY IS IT IMPORTANT?

- Why does Christ need to be God?
- Is this only a “theology” or academic question?

- NO!

IT AFFECTS HOW THE CHRISTIAN:

- Is able to **trust** Christ as God
- Should **worship** Christ
- Understands the **cost and nature** of his salvation
- Will **view the Bible**
 - *“without the Deity of Christ, the Bible is the drama of Hamlet without Hamlet”*

THE DEITY OF CHRIST PART I

NEXT WEEK

