

The God-Man, Jesus the Christ

John 10:22—33 (v. 30)

Introduction

The Jews had it backwards. They said to Jesus, “*you, being a man, make yourself God*” (**John 10:33**). In reality, He is the God who became a man. This passage cuts to the heart of the matter, “Who is Jesus?” Everything in life hinges on the answer. In **Matthew 16**, we read that the people of Jesus’ day thought He was *John the Baptist, Elijah, Jeremiah or one of the other prophets*. (**Matthew 16:14**). Today, we explore the Person of Christ.

He Is God

First and foremost, Jesus is God. We confess in the **Nicene Creed**: He is *God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made*. What does it mean to confess this?

Equal to the Father

Jesus is the Second Person of the Trinity, co-equal with the Father and Holy Spirit. He says in **verse 30** of our Gospel lesson in **John 10**, “*I and the Father are one*.” In every respect, according to His divinity, He is equal with the Father. He is of the same substance, the same nature. We read in **Colossians 1**, *the fullness of the deity dwells in Him* (**Colossians 1:19**).

Co-eternal with the Father

One quality He shares with the Father is being eternal, as we read in **John 1**. (Read **John 1:1—3**).

Creator

In **Colossians 1**, we read, (read **Colossians 1:16—18**). He is the Creator and continues to rule over creation, especially the church.

He Is Man

In the **Apostles’ Creed**, we confess that He *was incarnate by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary*. Jesus is human. We know this because the Bible tells us of His human ancestry and that *He was born of a woman* (**Galatians 4:4**). Even after His resurrection, He invited Thomas to touch Him, showing that He has a human body. As a human, He

experienced hunger (**Matthew 4:2**), thirst (**John 19:28**), and sorrow (**John 11:35**). And He was tempted to sin (read **Hebrews 4:14—15**).

He Is God and Man

(Read **Luke 1:34—35**). We call this the incarnation. The Son of God became fully human in the womb of Mary by the work of the Holy Spirit. The result is Jesus of Nazareth, true God and true Man. These two natures are fully united in the one Person. Don't try to understand how this can be. It is a mystery. Accept it on faith, because that's what the Bible teaches. And here's why He must be fully God and fully Man.

Redeemer

The only price that would pay for the sins of the world is the death of God. But there's one catch, God can't die. So, the Son of God took on human form, became a man so He could die for us. As a man, He lived a perfect life, keeping the Law for us and died an innocent death for us, paying the price for our sin. Because He is God, the sacrifice was sufficient, and the Father showed He accepted the sacrifice by raising Him from the dead. He is our Redeemer because He is the God-Man.

Shepherd

He is also our Shepherd. Because He is God, He can keep us safe in His hand so we will not die eternally, as He said in our Gospel lesson. Because He is human, we can relate to Him and draw comfort in knowing He is always with us, caring for us as a shepherd cares for His sheep. Jesus *is* the God-Man, and since His resurrection proves that, we say:

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

He is risen, indeed! Alleluia!

*And the peace of God,
Which surpasses all understanding,
Will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.*
