

**Xenos Christian Fellowship  
Christian Principles Unit 1  
Foundations of Spiritual Growth**

**Week 10: Christology**

**Introduction**

**Incarnation & Hypostatic Union**

**Incarnation:**

**Hypostatic Union:**

(**Col. 2:9\***) For in Him all the fullness of Deity dwells in bodily form . . .

(**John 1:1,14**) In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God . . .  
(14) and the Word became flesh . . .

**Support:**

**Full Humanity:**

(**1 Tim. 2:5**) For there is one God, and one mediator also between God and men, the man Christ Jesus . . .

(**Heb. 2:14, 17**) Since then the children share in flesh and blood, He Himself likewise also partook of the same, that through death He might render powerless him who had the power of death, that is, the devil . . . (17) Therefore, He had to be made like His brethren in all things, that He might become a merciful and faithful high priest in things pertaining to God, to make propitiation for the sins of the people.

(**1 John 4:2**) By this you know the Spirit of God: every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God . . .

**Importance:**

**(Heb. 10:4-7)** . . .(4) because it is impossible for the blood of bulls and goats to take away sins. (5) Therefore, when Christ came into the world, he said: "Sacrifice and offering you did not desire, but a body you prepared for me; (6) with burnt offerings and sin offerings you were not pleased. (7) Then I said, 'Here I am--it is written about me in the scroll-- I have come to do your will, O God.'"

### **Sinless Humanity: 2 Cor. 5:21; Heb. 4:15; 1 Jn. 3:5**

**(2 Cor. 5:21)** He made Him who knew no sin to be sin on our behalf, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.

**(Heb. 4:15)** For we do not have a high priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but One who has been tempted in all things as we are, yet without sin.

**(1 John 3:5)** And you know that He appeared in order to take away sins; and in Him there is no sin.

### **Importance:**

### **Could Jesus fall to temptation?**

### **Did Jesus have a sin nature?**

## **Full Deity**

### **Biblical case for Jesus' deity**

- **Jesus' claims and the response to Jesus' claims**

**Claim: (John 5:17)** But He answered them, "My Father is working until now, and I Myself am working."

**Response: (John 5:18)** For this cause therefore the Jews were seeking all the more to kill Him, because He not only was breaking the Sabbath, but also was calling God His own Father, making Himself equal with God.

**Claim: (John 8:58)** Jesus said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, before Abraham was born, I am."

**Response: (John 8:59)** Therefore they picked up stones to throw at Him; but Jesus hid Himself, and went out of the temple.

**Claim: (John 10:30)** "I and the Father are one."

**Response: (John 10:31)** The Jews took up stones again to stone Him.

- **The apostolic witness**

**Col. 2:9\*; Jn. 1:1,18; 14:9; Heb. 1:1-3; Phil. 2:6**

**(Heb. 1:8,10\*\*)** But about the Son he says, . . . (10) "In the beginning, O Lord, you laid the foundations of the earth, and the heavens are the work of your hands.

### **Importance:**

**(Hebrews 10:10-12)** And by that will, we have been made holy through the sacrifice of the body of Jesus Christ once for all. (11) Day after day every priest stands and performs his religious duties; again and again he offers the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins. (12) But when this priest had offered for all time one sacrifice for sins, he sat down at the right hand of God.

## **Kenosis**

### **Definition:**

### **Support:**

**(John 1:1,14)** In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God . . .  
 (14) And the Word became flesh . . .

**(Phil. 2:6,7\*)** . . . 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.

## **Jesus demonstrated non-use of:**

### **Omniscience**

**(Matt. 24:36)** "But of that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but the Father alone."

**(Luke 2:52)** And Jesus kept increasing in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and men.

### **Omnipotence**

**(Mark 6:5)** And He could do no miracle there except that He laid His hands upon a few sick people and healed them.

**(John 5:19)** Jesus therefore answered and was saying to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, the Son can do nothing of Himself, unless it is something He sees the Father doing; for whatever the Father does, these things the Son also does in like manner."

### **Omnipresence**

**(John 4:4)** And He had to pass through Samaria.

### **Righteousness**

**(Heb 9:14)** . . . how much more will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without blemish to God, cleanse your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?

### **Justice**

**(John 5:30)** "I can do nothing on My own initiative. As I hear, I judge; and My judgment is just, because I do not seek My own will, but the will of Him who sent Me."

### **Self existence**

## **“How then did Jesus perform miracles?”**

**(Luke 4:18)** "THE SPIRIT OF THE LORD IS UPON ME, BECAUSE HE ANOINTED ME TO PREACH THE GOSPEL TO THE POOR. HE HAS SENT ME TO PROCLAIM RELEASE TO THE CAPTIVES, AND RECOVERY OF SIGHT TO THE BLIND, TO SET FREE THOSE WHO ARE DOWNTRODDEN . . .

**(John 14:10, 12, 16-17)** "Do you not believe that I am in the Father, and the Father is in Me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on My own initiative, but the Father abiding in Me does His works . . . (12) Truly, truly, I say to you, he who believes in Me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he do; because I go to the Father . . . (16) And I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may be with you forever; (17) that is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it does not behold Him or know Him, but you know Him because He abides with you, and will be in you."

**(Luke 5:17)** And it came about one day that He was teaching; and there were some Pharisees and teachers of the law sitting there, who had come from every village of Galilee and Judea and from Jerusalem; and the power of the Lord was present for Him to perform healing.

**(Acts 2:22)** "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 in your midst, just as you yourselves know . . ."

**(Acts 10:38)** "You know of Jesus of Nazareth, how God anointed Him with the Holy Spirit and with power, and how He went about doing good, and healing all who were oppressed by the devil; for God was with Him . . ."

### **Importance:**

## **Between Death & Resurrection**

### **Explanation:**

### **Support:**

**(Heb. 9:11,12)** But when Christ appeared as a high priest of the good things to come, He entered through the greater and more perfect tabernacle, not made with hands, that is to say, not of this creation; (12) and not through the blood of goats and calves, but through His own blood, He entered the holy place once for all, having obtained eternal redemption.

**(1 Pet. 3:19,20)** . . . in which also He went and made proclamation to the spirits now in prison, (20) who once were disobedient, when the patience of God kept waiting in the days of Noah, during the construction of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were brought safely through the water.

**(1 Pet. 4:6)** For the gospel has for this purpose been preached even to those who are dead, that though they are judged in the flesh as men, they may live in the spirit according to the will of God.

**Note:**

**Resurrection**

**Definition:**

**Importance:**

- 

**(Matt. 12:38-40)** Then some of the Pharisees and teachers of the law said to him, "Teacher, we want to see a miraculous sign from you." (39) He answered, "A wicked and adulterous generation asks for a miraculous sign! But none will be given it except the sign of the prophet Jonah. (40) For as Jonah was three days and three nights in the belly of a huge fish, so the Son of Man will be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth.

**(John 2:18-22)** Then the Jews demanded of him, "What miraculous sign can you show us to prove your authority to do all this?" (19) Jesus answered them, "Destroy this temple, and I will raise it again in three days." (20) The Jews replied, "It has taken forty-six years to build this temple, and you are going to raise it in three days?" (21) But the temple he had spoken of was his body. (22) After he was raised from the dead, his disciples recalled what he had said. Then they believed the Scripture and the words that Jesus had spoken.

**(Rom. 1:4)** . . . who was declared the Son of God with power by the resurrection from the dead, according to the Spirit of holiness, Jesus Christ our Lord . . .

**(1 Cor. 15:14)** . . . and if Christ has not been raised, then our preaching is vain, your faith also is vain.

- 

**(Rom. 4:25)** He who was delivered up because of our transgressions, and was raised because of our justification.

**(1 Cor. 15:17)** . . . and if Christ has not been raised, your faith is worthless; you are still in your sins.

- 

**(1 Cor. 15:18-23)** Then those also who have fallen asleep in Christ have perished. (19) If we have hoped in Christ in this life only, we are of all men most to be pitied. (20) But now Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who are asleep. (21) For since by a man came death, by a man also came the resurrection of the dead. (22) For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ all shall be made alive. (23) But each in his own order: Christ the first fruits, after that those who are Christ's at His coming . . .

- 

**(Rom 6:4,5)** Therefore we have been buried with Him through baptism into death, in order that as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life. (5) For if we have become united with Him in the likeness of His death, certainly we shall be also in the likeness of His resurrection . . .

**(Eph 1:20,21; 2:6)** . . . which He brought about in Christ, when He raised Him from the dead, and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places, (21) far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this age, but also in the one to come . . .(6) and raised us up with Him, and seated us with Him in the heavenly places, in Christ Jesus . . .

### **Support for Jesus' bodily resurrection:**

#### **The apostles received direct proof of Christ's resurrection.**

**(Acts 1:3)** To these He also presented Himself alive, after His suffering, by many convincing proofs, appearing to them over a period of forty days, and speaking of the things concerning the kingdom of God.

**(1 John 1:1)** What was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we beheld and our hands handled, concerning the Word of Life--

**(John 20: 25, 27, 29)** So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord!" But he said to them, "Unless I see the nail marks in his hands and put my finger where the nails were, and put my hand into his side, I will not believe it." . . .27 Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here; see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it into my side. Stop doubting and believe." . . . 29 Then Jesus told him, "Because you have seen me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed."

**cf. Acts 17:31**

### **Positive evidence for Christ's resurrection:**

- 

- 

- 

### **Inadequate explanations:**

- **Stolen Body Theory**

**Refutation:**

- **Swoon Theory**

**Refutation:**

- **Hallucination Theory**

**Refutation:**

- **Legend Theory**

**Refutation:**

## **Ascension**

**Definition:**

(Acts 1:9-11) And after He had said these things, He was lifted up while they were looking on, and a cloud received Him out of their sight. (10) And as they were gazing intently into the sky while He was departing, behold, two men in white clothing stood beside them; (11) and they also said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into the sky? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in just the same way as you have watched Him go into heaven."

**Purpose:**

- 

(John 14:2,3) "In My Father's house are many dwelling places; if it were not so, I would have told you; for I go to prepare a place for you. (3) And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you to Myself; that where I am, there you may be also."

-

**(John 7:38,39)** "He who believes in Me, as the Scripture said, 'From his innermost being shall flow rivers of living water.'" (39) But this He spoke of the Spirit, whom those who believed in Him were to receive; for the Spirit was not yet given, because Jesus was not yet glorified.

## Session

### Definition:

### Purpose:

- 

**1 John 2:1,2** My little children, I am writing these things to you that you may not sin. And if anyone sins, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; (2) and He Himself is the propitiation for our sins; and not for ours only, but also for those of the whole world.

**(Heb. 7:25)** Hence, also, He is able to save forever those who draw near to God through Him, since He always lives to make intercession for them.

**(Rom. 8:34)** who is the one who condemns? Christ Jesus is He who died, yes, rather who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who also intercedes for us.

- 

**(Eph. 1:20-23)** . . . which He brought about in Christ, when He raised Him from the dead, and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places, (21) far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this age, but also in the one to come. (22) And He put all things in subjection under His feet, and gave Him as head over all things to the church, (23) which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills all in all.

**(Rev. 3:7,8)** "And to the angel of the church in Philadelphia write: He who is holy, who is true, who has the key of David, who opens and no one will shut, and who shuts and no one opens, says this: (8) 'I know your deeds. Behold, I have put before you an open door which no one can shut, because you have a little power, and have kept My word, and have not denied My name.'"

## Second Advent

### Definition:

### Purpose:

- 

-

## **Essential vs. Non-essential**

**Essential:**

**Non-essential:**

## **Memory Verses**

**Col. 2:9\*** - Clearest biblical affirmation of the hypostatic union

**Phil. 2:6,7\*** - Jesus emptied himself of certain divine privileges at the Incarnation

**Heb. 1:8-10\*\*** - Old Testament passages about God are ascribed to Jesus

## **Assignment:**

**STUDY FOR THE EXAM!!**

**Personal Reading: Lee Stroebel, *The Case for Christ* (Grand Rapids: Zondervan Publishing House, 1998)**