***Systematic Theology 021 Christology I, The Humanity and Deity of Christ***

1. Our Lord Jesus Christ was certainly human:
   1. He was born:
      1. As predicted, Psalm 2:7, "7 “I will declare the decree: The Lord has said to Me, ‘You are My Son, Today I have begotten You.
      2. As fulfilled, Matthew 2:1, “After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi from the east came to Jerusalem”
      3. The conception was divine: Matthew 1:20, "20 But while he thought about these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, “Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take to you Mary your wife, for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit.
   2. He died a physical death - John 19:31-34, “Now it was the day of Preparation, and the next day was to be a special Sabbath. Because the Jews did not want the bodies left on the crosses during the Sabbath, they asked Pilate to have the legs broken and the bodies taken down. The soldiers therefore came and broke the legs of the first man who had been crucified with Jesus, and then those of the other. But when they came to Jesus and found that he was already dead, they did not break his legs. Instead, one of the soldiers pierced Jesus' side with a spear, bringing a sudden flow of blood and water.”
   3. He had emotions - John 11:35, “Jesus wept.”
   4. He had real bodily functions and needs:
      1. Perspiration, Luke 22:44, “And being in anguish, he prayed more earnestly, and his sweat was like drops of blood falling to the ground.”
      2. Physical weariness, John 4:6, "Now Jacob’s well was there. Jesus therefore, being wearied from His journey, sat thus by the well. It was about the sixth hour. "
      3. Thirst, John 19:28, “Later, knowing that all was now completed, and so that the Scripture would be fulfilled, Jesus said, “I am thirsty.”
      4. Sleep, Matthew 8:24–25, "24 And suddenly a great tempest arose on the sea, so that the boat was covered with the waves. But He was asleep. 25 Then His disciples came to Him and awoke Him, saying, “Lord, save us! We are perishing!”
   5. He was seen, heard, and touched by thousands.
      1. 1 John 1:1, "1 That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked upon, and our hands have handled, concerning the Word of life—
      2. Matthew 8:3, "3 Then Jesus put out His hand and touched him, saying, “I am willing; be cleansed.” Immediately his leprosy was cleansed. "
      3. Matthew 17:6–8, "6 And when the disciples heard it, they fell on their faces and were greatly afraid. 7 But Jesus came and touched them and said, “Arise, and do not be afraid.” 8 When they had lifted up their eyes, they saw no one but Jesus only. "
   6. He grew spiritually as any human being does:
      1. Luke 2:40, "40 And the Child grew and became strong in spirit, filled with wisdom; and the grace of God was upon Him.
      2. Hebrews 5:7–9, "7 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, 8 though He was a Son, yet He learned obedience by the things which He suffered. 9 And having been perfected, He became the author of eternal salvation to all who obey Him,
   7. As such, His humanity is a central doctrine:
      1. It defines a key line between orthodoxy and heresy, 1 John 4:2–3, "2 By this you know the Spirit of God: Every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is of God, 3 and every spirit that does not confess that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is not of God. And this is the spirit of the Antichrist, which you have heard was coming, and is now already in the world. “
      2. It establishes a key principle for Christian practice, Hebrews 4:15: "15 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."
2. How do we know that Christ was God? First, because Scripture tells us in many ways; second, because God the Father told us and showed us through many miracles, signs, and wonders; and third, because Christ showed us through the relational attributes.
   1. Christ was called God in the Scriptures.
      1. Isaiah 9:6, "6 For unto us a Child is born, Unto us a Son is given; And the government will be upon His shoulder. And His name will be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.
      2. John 1:1, "1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.
      3. John 1:14, "14 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.
   2. Christ possesses the attributes of God.
      1. Christ is eternal.
         1. Micah 5:2, "2 “But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, Though you are little among the thousands of Judah, Yet out of you shall come forth to Me The One to be Ruler in Israel, Whose goings forth are from of old, From everlasting.”
         2. John 8:58, "58 Jesus said to them, “Most assuredly, I say to you, before Abraham was, I AM.”
      2. Christ never changes; He is immutable.
         1. Hebrews 1:10–12, "10 And: “You, LORD, in the beginning laid the foundation of the earth, And the heavens are the work of Your hands. 11 They will perish, but You remain; And they will all grow old like a garment; 12 Like a cloak You will fold them up, And they will be changed. But You are the same, And Your years will not fail.”
         2. Hebrews 13:8, "8 Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever.
      3. Christ is righteous.
         1. Luke 1:35, "35 And the angel answered and said to her, “The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Highest will overshadow you; therefore, also, that Holy One who is to be born will be called the Son of God.
         2. John 6:69, "69 Also we have come to believe and know that You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.”
         3. Hebrews 7:26, "26 For such a High Priest was fitting for us, who is holy, harmless, undefiled, separate from sinners, and has become higher than the heavens;
      4. Christ is truth.
         1. John 14:6, "6 Jesus said to him, “I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.
         2. Revelation 13:7, "7 It was granted to him to make war with the saints and to overcome them. And authority was given him over every tribe, tongue, and nation.
      5. Christ is love.
         1. John 13:1, "1 Now before the Feast of the Passover, when Jesus knew that His hour had come that He should depart from this world to the Father, having loved His own who were in the world, He loved them to the end.
         2. 1 John 3:16, "16 By this we know love, because He laid down His life for us. And we also ought to lay down our lives for the brethren.
   3. Christ performed the works of God.
      1. Christ participated in the creation of all that exists. He is Creator. Colossians 1:16, "16 For by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. All things were created through Him and for Him.
      2. Christ sustains creation. He preserves all He created. Colossians 1:17, "17 And He is before all things, and in Him all things consist.
      3. Christ forgives sin. Luke 5:20–24, "20 When He saw their faith, He said to him, “Man, your sins are forgiven you.” 21 And the scribes and the Pharisees began to reason, saying, “Who is this who speaks blasphemies? Who can forgive sins but God alone?” 22 But when Jesus perceived their thoughts, He answered and said to them, “Why are you reasoning in your hearts? 23 Which is easier, to say, ‘Your sins are forgiven you,’ or to say, ‘Rise up and walk’? 24 But that you may know that the Son of Man has power on earth to forgive sins”—He said to the man who was paralyzed, “I say to you, arise, take up your bed, and go to your house.”
      4. Christ judges. John 5:22, "22 For the Father judges no one, but has committed all judgment to the Son,
      5. Christ accepted the honor and worship due only to God.
         1. Matthew 14:33, "33 Then those who were in the boat came and worshiped Him, saying, “Truly You are the Son of God.”
         2. John 5:23, "23 that all should honor the Son just as they honor the Father. He who does not honor the Son does not honor the Father who sent Him.
   4. Christ affirmed that He is equal with God.
      1. John 8:24, "24 Therefore I said to you that you will die in your sins; for if you do not believe that I am He, you will die in your sins.”
      2. John 10:30, "30 I and My Father are one.”
   5. Passages that state God’s direct testimony of Christ as God, the Son of God:
      1. Matthew 3:17, "17 And suddenly a voice came from heaven, saying, “This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.”
      2. Matthew 17:5, "5 While he was still speaking, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them; and suddenly a voice came out of the cloud, saying, “This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased. Hear Him!”
      3. 2 Peter 1:17–18, "17 For He received from God the Father honor and glory when such a voice came to Him from the Excellent Glory: “This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.” 18 And we heard this voice which came from heaven when we were with Him on the holy mountain.
   6. The Relational Attributes of God were fully in Christ and Made His Deity Clear:
      1. The manifestation principle:
         1. To observe was to know, John 14:9, "9 Jesus said to him, “Have I been with you so long, and yet you have not known Me, Philip? He who has seen Me has seen the Father; so how can you say, ‘Show us the Father’? "
         2. He was fully manifest as God in the flesh, 1 Timothy 3:16, “16 And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: God was manifested in the flesh, Justified in the Spirit, Seen by angels, Preached among the Gentiles, Believed on in the world, Received up in glory.
         3. The Life of God was in Him, 1 John 1:1–2, “1 That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked upon, and our hands have handled, concerning the Word of life— 2 the life was manifested, and we have seen, and bear witness, and declare to you that eternal life which was with the Father and was manifested to us—
         4. Made plain to all, 1 Peter 1:19–21, “19 but with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot. 20 He indeed was foreordained before the foundation of the world, but was manifest in these last times for you 21 who through Him believe in God, who raised Him from the dead and gave Him glory, so that your faith and hope are in God.
      2. The manifestations of the relational attributes in the Gospel records:
         1. The very name of God, John 17:6, "6 “I have manifested Your name to the men whom You have given Me out of the world. They were Yours, You gave them to Me, and they have kept Your word.
         2. How He died was a summary of His deity, Mark 15:39, "39 So when the centurion, who stood opposite Him, saw that He cried out like this and breathed His last, he said, “Truly this Man was the Son of God!”
         3. Life, John 1:4, "4 In Him was life, and the life was the light of men.
         4. Glory, grace, and truth, John 1:14, "14 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.
         5. Light, John 8:12, "12 Then Jesus spoke to them again, saying, “I am the light of the world. He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness, but have the light of life.”
         6. Love, John 13:1, "1 Now before the Feast of the Passover, when Jesus knew that His hour had come that He should depart from this world to the Father, having loved His own who were in the world, He loved them to the end.
         7. Righteousness, John 16:10, "10 of righteousness, because I go to My Father and you see Me no more;