

Theme: Jesus, the Man, was truly human so that He might fulfill humanity's obligations to God by completely obeying God's Law and suffering and dying for human disobedience.

I. Intro - Silly Arguments?

- A. The early Church arguments over Jesus
- B. Arguments over His Person and His Work
- C. These were not silly but essential
- D. Four key aspects of Jesus' Person and work
- E. Based on Ezekiel's vision (and John in Revelation 4)
Their faces looked like this: Each of the four had the face of a **man**, and on the right side each had the face of a **lion**, and on the left the face of an **ox**; each also had the face of an **eagle**. Ezekiel 1:10

II. Man - The True Human

- A. The Genealogy - Jesus is truly human
A record of the genealogy of Jesus Christ the son of David, the son of Abraham: Matthew 1:1
 - 1. First Gospel begins with Jesus' human genealogy
 - 2. Traces to important humans but shows true humanity
 - 3. To understand Jesus and His work, we must understand that He is truly and fully human
- B. The consistent teaching on humanity of Jesus
 - 1. Luke's genealogy - back to Adam!
the son of Enosh, the son of Seth, the son of Adam, the son of God. Luke 3:38

- 2. Romans - the human ancestry of Jesus
Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus, called to be an apostle and set apart for the gospel of God — ² the gospel he promised beforehand through his prophets in the Holy Scriptures ³ regarding his Son, who as to his human nature was a descendant of David, ⁴ ... Jesus Christ our Lord. Romans 1:1–4
- 3. Hebrews - shared in our humanity to save us
Since the children have flesh and blood, **he too shared in their humanity** so that by his death he might destroy him who holds the power of death — that is, the devil — Hebrews 2:14

III. Why Jesus Had To Be Human

- A. Catechism Q22 - Why must the Redeemer be truly human?
The Redeemer must be truly human so that He might fulfill humanity's obligations to God by completely obeying God's Law and suffering and dying for human disobedience.
 - 1. The Redeemer had to be human
 - a. To fulfill humanity's obligations
 - b. To pay for humanity's sin
 - 2. This is why Jesus is the True Human
- B. To fulfill humanity's obligations - the Second Adam
the son of Enosh, the son of Seth, the son of Adam, the son of God. Luke 3:38

For just as through the disobedience of the one man the many were made sinners, so also through the obedience of the one man the many will be made righteous. Romans 5:19

So it is written: “The first man Adam became a living being”; the last Adam, a life-giving spirit...⁴⁷ The first man was of the dust of the earth, the second man from heaven. 1 Corinthians 15:45, 47

1. Jesus is the second Adam, succeeding where Adam failed
2. Adam’s sin brought us disaster, but Jesus’ obedience brings us salvation!
3. Adam was brought to life out of the dust; Jesus came from heaven to give life to sons of the dust!
4. As Adam was the founder of humanity, so Jesus is the founder of the new humanity, the redeemed people of God.

For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are — yet was without sin. Hebrews 4:15

1. Jesus was tempted like Adam, like Israel, like all of us - but He never sinned!
2. Jesus fulfilled humanity’s obligations to God by completely obeying God’s Law

C. To suffer and die for human disobedience

Since the children have flesh and blood, he too shared in their humanity so that by his death he might destroy him who holds the power of death — that is, the devil...¹⁷ For this reason he had to be made like his brothers in every way, in order that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in service to God, and that he might make atonement for the sins of the people. Hebrews 2:14, 17

1. Jesus became human to bring salvation by destroying our enemy the Devil
2. Jesus became human to make atonement - pay the penalty for our sins
3. This is why the Angel told Joseph to name Him Jesus- He would save His people from their sins!

D. The result: sin paid, righteousness given

God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God. 2 Corinthians 5:21

1. Jesus became sin = He became human and bore our sin, paying the debt we owed
2. We become righteous - Jesus became human, obeyed God, and gave His righteousness to us
3. This is the Great Exchange - and it is only possible if the Redeemer is truly and fully human

IV. Applying the Word

A. Do you see why Jesus had to be truly, fully human?

1. This is not a minor point - everything depends on it!
2. Humanity has debts to God
 - a. As His creatures we owe Him obedience
 - b. As rebels who unleashed chaos into creation, our sin has to be paid for by a human
3. Jesus has fully fulfilled our obligations and debt to God
 - a. In His Humanity He obeyed God’s Law and will perfectly as we were created to do.

b. In His Humanity He suffered and died for human disobedience, bearing God's full, righteous wrath against sin. The debt is fully paid.

4. Because the debt was humanity's, only a true Human could pay it - and Jesus did!
5. This is why the Gospel is Good News! Our debt is paid, our obligations met!
6. Do I see this puts me in a better place than Adam?
7. Do I see this means everything is accomplished for salvation?
8. Do I see this is why my works can have no place in my justification before God?
9. Rejoice - just as if you had never sinned, and as if you had positively obeyed God's Law perfectly.

B. Which Adam is my source and my destiny?

1. In a sense, there are only two men - Adam and the 2nd Adam, the Lord Jesus
2. Every human is finding their source in one of these Adam's
3. Every human destiny is determined by which Adam is our source
4. Which Adam is my source?
5. Do I find my life in this age and its Adam - or in the age to come and its Adam, the Lord Jesus?
6. Have I consciously given my sin to Jesus and received His righteousness?

7. I plead with you - look to Jesus, the 2nd Adam, the True Human, today!

C. The Table of Exchange

1. This Table links us with the Great Exchange
2. Our sin is given to Jesus, His righteousness to us
3. Come and receive His righteousness and give your sin to Him.

Man - The True Human

Matthew 1:1
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Communion
2 John 1:3

Teaching keywords: Advent and Christmas, Jesus; Christology; humanity of Christ; 2nd Adam; kinsman redeemer

Grace, mercy and peace from God the Father and from Jesus Christ, the Father's Son, will be with us in truth and love. 2 John 1:3

A record of the genealogy of Jesus Christ the son of David, the son of Abraham: Matthew 1:1