

Theme: Question 22: 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.

I. Intro - Why Christmas and Not Just Easter?

- A. Two biggest Christian holidays - Christmas and Easter
- B. Why do we need Christmas?
- C. Why did Jesus need to become Human?
- D. Even if He was Human, why not just be "born" on the Cross? Why was His whole life important?

II. A Truly Human Redeemer

- A. The Redeemer must be truly Human, not just appear so
Question 22: 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 MUST be truly and fully human
 - 2. He can not just "appear" to be human - He must BE human in the fullest sense of the word.
 - a. This was why the Church rejected Gnosticism in its form of Docetism which said Jesus "appeared" to be human but was not really.
 - b. The early Church rejected this, correctly stating that if Jesus only "appeared" to be human then He could only "appear" to save us!

- B. Jesus shared in our Humanity truly to redeem us
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

For since death came **through a man**, the resurrection of the dead comes also **through a man**. 1 Cor. 15:21

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**... Hebrews 2:14, 17

- 1. Jesus is human in the same way Adam is human
- 2. As creation was plunged into death through the act of a human, so resurrection from death comes through the act of a Human.
- 3. This is why Jesus "shared in our humanity" because "He had to be made like us in EVERY way"
- 4. This is the doctrine of Jesus as the 2nd Adam
For since death came through a man, the resurrection of the dead comes also through a man. 1 Corinthians 15:21

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

- a. Jesus is the 2nd/last Adam, succeeding where Adam failed, giving life rather than death
- b. The key for every human is to which Adam they belong
- c. This is also the message in Hebrews 2:5-9

III. Fulfilling Humanity's Obligations to God

A. The Redeemer must fulfill humanity's obligations to God

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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 so that He could do what Adam had failed to do!
2. Humans owe God for being created in His image, and also for breaking His Law.
3. The Redeemer therefore must fulfill two key obligations humanity has before God:
 - a. To completely obey God's Law perfectly
 - b. To suffer and die for human disobedience to God

B. The Redeemer: completely obeying God's Law

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1. Human beings are the image of God and therefore are created to fulfill God's Law completely and perfectly.
2. This was the call given to Adam and it is passed on to all of his descendants - all of us.
3. The Redeemer must be the 2nd Adam, doing what Adam failed to do - completely and perfectly obeying God.

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

- a. Adam's disobedience leads to us being "appointed" (καθίστημι) sinners, and Christ's obedience leads to us being "appointed" (καθίστημι) righteous.
 - b. This certainly includes Christ's obedience in going to the cross, but it also includes His whole life of obedience to God.
4. This is why Jesus had to be tempted but sinless
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 2:17
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
 - a. Made like us in every way - truly human
 - b. Tempted just like us - but without sin!
 5. The lifelong obedience of Jesus means He has fulfilled God's Law in our place and has perfect righteousness to give to His people.

C. The Redeemer: suffering and dying for our sin

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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. Humans - every one of us - have sinned and broken God's Law
2. Every human has EARNED punishment for breaking God's Law
3. This debt to God MUST be paid or there can be no salvation - and the debt is death

For since **death came through a man**, the resurrection of the dead comes also through a man.
1 Corinthians 15:21

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 — ¹⁵ and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by their fear of death.**
Hebrews 2:14–15

- a. Note that the problem in view is DEATH - and this death came through a man (Adam) and the solution must come through a man (the 2nd Adam, Jesus)
- b. This is why Jesus suffered and died - not to pay for His sin but for ours.

IV. Applying the Word

A. Do I see what Jesus as the 2nd Adam teaches me about humanity?

1. Jesus the Redeemer is truly human - the 2nd Adam
2. This has several huge implications for us:
 - a. Adam's rebellion is overcome through the 2nd Adam
 - b. God's plan for humanity is still on track!
 - c. Sin is not essential to humanity!

- d. Humanity is not my problem - sin is my problem!
- e. Redemption is not an escape from humanity but the beginning of the restoration of true humanity

3. All of these are worthy of deep meditation and will help me grow in my experience of salvation

B. Do I understand my standing as a result of the work of Christ my Redeemer?

1. Jesus has fully paid for all of my sin - I am free!
2. Jesus has given perfect righteousness to me - I am covered in the very righteousness of Christ!
3. This is not something to be achieved - it is our justification!
Q38 - Justification is the gracious act of God in which He declares that we are totally righteous, as if we had never sinned and as if we had positively obeyed all of God's law perfectly.
4. This should give us great freedom and boldness - we are utterly accepted by our God!
5. This should enable me to willingly face and confess my sins and shortcomings, knowing I am loved and accepted now.
6. This should give me boldness to continue growing in my sanctification - God loves me and will work in, with, and through me!
7. Meditate deeply on your status in Christ!

C. The Table of Full Acceptance

1. This Table reminds us of Jesus' full work for us!
2. This Table reminds us we are fully accepted!

3. Come boldly to receive grace and strength!

Redemption Through Christ the True Human

Romans 5:18-19; 1 Corinthians 15:21; Hebrews 2:14-17

January 9, 2022

Communion

Revelation 1:4-6

Teaching keywords: Redemption; Christology; 2nd Adam; humanity;
Humanity of Christ; justification

Grace and peace to you from him who is, and who was, and who is to come, and from the seven spirits before his throne, ⁵and from Jesus Christ, who is the faithful witness, the firstborn from the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth, Who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood, ⁶ and has made us to be a kingdom and priests to serve his God and Father — to him be glory and power for ever and ever! Amen.
Revelation 1:4–6

Consequently, just as the result of one trespass was condemnation for all men, so also the result of one act of righteousness was justification that brings life for all men. ¹⁹ 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 5:18–19

For since death came through a man, the resurrection of the dead comes also through a man. 1 Corinthians 15:21

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 — ¹⁵ and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by their fear of death. ¹⁶ For surely it is not angels he helps, but Abraham’s descendants. 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