

Christ's Divinity; Eternity; Humanity

From Seven Threatened Truths

His eternal, total divine nature is able to link us to God and empower us to obey the divine law.

THE DIVINITY OF CHRIST

THE BIBLE

"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God." John 1:1.

"Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God." Philippians 2:6.

"Christ. . . who is over all, God blessed forever, Amen." Romans 9:5.

"Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ." Titus 2: 13.

"And we know that the Son of God is come, and hath given us an understanding, that we may know Him that is true, and we are in Him that is true, even in His son Jesus Christ. This is the true God, and eternal life." 1 John 5:20.

"For unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given, and the government shall be upon His shoulder. And His name shall be called Wonderful, Counselor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace." Isaiah 9:6.

"And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: God was manifest in the flesh, justified in the Spirit." 1 Timothy 3:16.

THE SPIRIT OF PROPHECY

"Jesus declared, 'I am the resurrection and the life.' In Christ is life, original, unborrowed, underived. 'He that hath the Son hath life' (1 John 5: 12). The divinity of Christ is the believer's assurance of eternal life." Desire of Ages, 530.

" 'In Him (Jesus) was life; and the life was the light of men.' It is not physical life that is here specified, but [immortality], the life which is exclusively the property of God. The Word, who was with God, and who was God, had this life. Physical life is something which each individual receives. It is not eternal or immortal; for God, the life-giver takes it again. . . But the life of Christ was unborrowed. No one can take this life from Him. 'I lay it down of Myself.' He said. In Him was life, original, unborrowed, underived. This life is not inherent in man. He can possess it only through Christ." 5 Bible Commentary, 1130

THE ETERNITY OF CHRIST

THE BIBLE

"But thou, Bethlehem Ephratah, though thou be little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of thee shall He come forth unto Me that is to be ruler in Israel; whose goings forth have been from of old, from everlasting." Micah 5:2.

"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God." John 1: 1-2.

"And His name shall be called Wonderful, Counselor, The mighty God, The Everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace." Isaiah 9:6.

"Who is made, not after the law of a carnal commandment, but after the power of an endless (Greek: indissoluble) life." Hebrews 7:16.

THE SPIRIT OF PROPHECY

"Christ is the pre-existent, self-existent Son of God . . . In speaking of His pre-existence. . . Christ carries the mind back through dateless ages. He assures us that there never was a time when He was not in close fellowship with the eternal God. He to whose voice the Jews were then listening had been with God as one brought up with Him." Evangelism, 615 (Signs, August 29, 1900).

"The Word existed as a divine being, even as the eternal Son of God, in union and oneness with His Father. From everlasting He was the Mediator of the covenant. . . Before men or angels were created, the Word was with God, and was God. . . Christ was God essentially, and in the highest sense. He was with God from all eternity, God over all, blessed forevermore. The Lord Jesus Christ, the divine Son of God, existed from eternity, a distinct Person, yet one with the Father." 5 Review and Herald. 227 (1 Selected Messages, 247).

"The world was made by Him 'and without Him was not any thing made that was made' (John 1:3). If Christ made all things, He existed before all things. The words spoken in regard to this are so decisive that no one need be left in doubt. Christ was God essentially, and in the highest sense. He was with God from all eternity. God over all, blessed forevermore." 1 Selected Messages, 247.

The Full Humanity of Christ

His total, sinless humanity was able to obey God's law and, reaching down to us, give us an example of obedience.

THE BIBLE

"For verily He took not on Him the nature of angels; but He took on Him the seed of Abraham." Hebrews 2:16.

"Wherefore in all things it behoved Him to be made like unto His brethren, that He might be a merciful and faithful high priest in things pertaining to God, to make reconciliation for the sins of the people." Hebrews 2:17.

"And if ye be Christ's, then are ye Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise." Galatians 3:29.

"Concerning His Son Jesus Christ our Lord, which was made of the seed of David according to the flesh; and declared to be the Son of God with power, according to the spirit of holiness, by the resurrection from the dead." Romans 1:3-4.

"I Jesus have sent mine angel to testify unto you these things in the churches. I am the root and the offspring of David, and the bright and morning star." Revelation 22:16.

"And there shall come forth a rod out of the stem of Jesse, and a Branch shall grow out of his roots." Isaiah 11:1.

"But when the fullness of the time was come, God sent forth His Son, made of a woman, made under the law." Galatians 4:4.

"For what the law could not do, in that it was weak through the flesh, God sending His own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and for sin, condemned sin in the flesh." Romans 8:3.

"Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, He also Himself likewise took part of the same; that through death He might destroy Him that had the power of death, that is, the devil." Hebrews 2:14.

"For we have not an high Priest which cannot be touched with the feelings of our infirmities, but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin." Hebrews 4: 15.

"And every spirit that confesseth not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is not of God: and this is that spirit of antichrist, whereof ye have heard that it should come: and even now already is it in the world." 1 John 4:3.

THE SPIRIT OF PROPHECY

When asked to prove the correct view of the nature of Christ from the Spirit of Prophecy, all you need do is open a Desire of Ages to 49 and 117. It is all there.

"The great work of redemption could be carried out only by the Redeemer taking the place of fallen Adam . . . He would take man's fallen nature." Review, February 24, 1874.

"Those who claim that it was not possible for Christ to 'sin, cannot believe that He really took upon Himself human nature." Manuscript 16. 1890.

"Though He had all the strength of passion of humanity, never did He yield to temptation to do one single act which was not pure and elevating and ennobling." -In Heavenly Places, 155.

"The soul must purpose the sinful act before passion can dominate over reason or iniquity triumph over conscience. Temptation, however strong, is never an excuse for sin." 5 Testimonies, 177.

"We need not retain one sinful propensity." 7 Bible Commentary. 943.

"Christ did not make-believe take human nature; He did verily take it. He did in reality possess human nature. 'As the children are partakers of flesh and blood, He also himself likewise took part of the same.' He was the Son of Mary; He was of the seed of David according to human descent." 5 Bible Commentary, 1130.

"Think of Christ's humiliation. He took upon Himself fallen, suffering human nature, degraded and defiled by sin. He took our sorrows, bearing our grief and shame. He endured all the temptations wherewith man is beset. He united humanity with divinity: a divine spirit dwelt in a temple of flesh." 4 Bible Commentary, 1147.

"Christ rendered obedience to God, and overcame as humanity must overcome. We are led to make wrong conclusions because of erroneous views of the nature of our Lord. To attribute to His nature a power that it is not possible for man to have in his conflicts with Satan, is to destroy the obedience that is required of man.

"Man cannot overcome Satan's temptations except as divine power works through humanity. The Lord Jesus came to our world, not to reveal what God in His own divine person could do, but what He could do through humanity. Through faith man is to be a partaker of the divine nature, and to overcome every temptation where with he is beset. .

"We are not to serve God as if we were not human, but we are to serve Him as those who have been redeemed by the Son of God. Through the righteousness of Christ we shall stand before God pardoned, as if we had never sinned." Signs. April 10, 1893.

"The Lord Jesus came to our world, not to reveal what a God could do, but what a man could do, through faith in God's power to help in every emergency." 3 Selected Messages, 140.