No One Like Him

Part 1: No One Like Jesus Has Ever Existed

Philippians 2:6-7

One man: two natures!

Jesus has every attribute that makes humans human AND every attribute that makes God God

In Jesus we see100% HUMANNESS in Jesus AND 100% DIVINITY

Both natures maintain their separate <u>IDENTITY</u> – hypostatic union No <u>LOSS</u> or <u>MIXTURE</u> of natures Nor a creation of a <u>THIRD</u> nature or person

Both natures maintain their comprehensive <u>ATTRIBUTES</u> Jesus is no less God because He is <u>MAN</u> and is no less man because He is <u>GOD</u>

Since Jesus is both 100% human and 100% divine we can watch Him live out **BOTH** natures

Who proclaimed Jesus' deity?

GOD THE FATHER called Jesus God	Heb. 1:8-9
JESUS HIMSELF claimed to be 100% Divine	John 8:57-59
Jesus' CLOSEST FRIENDS proclaimed Him to be God	Matt. 16:16
The first CHRISTIANS worshipped Him as God	Phil. 2:6-7

Why is this important?

If Jesus simply was the most <u>SINCERE</u> of religious people, He should be followed but not worshipped

If Jesus was simply a **<u>PROPHET</u>** infused with God's Power and Wisdom, He should be followed but not worshipped

If Jesus is not <u>100% GOD</u> then what we do in church each week is called <u>IDOLATRY</u>

If Jesus is not 100% God He cannot get us to $\underline{\text{HEAVEN}}$ and we are wasting our time

If Jesus is not 100% God He cannot $\underline{\text{INDWELL}}$ us, save, sustain, or seal us for Heaven

Auburn Grace Community Church – December 4th, 2022

Philippians 2:5-6 "Have this attitude in yourselves which was also in Christ Jesus, who, although He existed in the form of God, did not regard equality with God a thing to be grasped..."

DISCOVER

1. Define the term "bond-servant." How does it make you feel that the Creator of the universe willingly took on a position of servitude?

2. As a group, make a list of the human attributes that Jesus exhibited.

- 3. Who did Jesus say He was? What scriptures can you reference?
- 4. How did Jesus satisfy the definition of both God and man?

EXPLORE

1. What divine attributes did Jesus temporarily give-up? Did He lose any of His deity when He did this? If Jesus is eternal, why does Colossians 1:15 call Him the "firstborn over all creation"? (see Colossians 2:9 and Hebrews 1:2-3) Why was it important for Him to take back up these same attributes at the culmination of His ministry on earth? (see John 17:5)

 Re-read v. 6. What does it mean that Jesus did not regard equality with God a thing to be grasped? What does this say about Jesus' character?
 In order for Jesus to come to the earth and become a sacrifice for our sins, He had to become like us. Why is that? Could Jesus have come into the world in any other role or title, like rabbi or prophet, and still accomplished His earthly mission? Explain.

4. What was the one human attribute that Jesus did not possess? Does this disqualify Jesus from His humanness? What is the significance of this?
5. No other religious personality (i.e. Muhamad, Buddha, Joseph Smith, etc.) were announced to the world prior to their arrival as was Jesus of Nazareth. If you were asked to introduce Jesus by just using the Old Testament, what stories or scriptures might you reference? (see Luke 24:44)

EXPERIENCE

1. According to your understanding, how would you explain the mystery of the incarnation (i.e. "Jesus emptied Himself.") to someone? How does the humanness of Jesus affect the way we engage people of diverse cultures and religions?

2. Is there any relationship right now where you sense God is telling you to "lay your life down" for that person? What would that look like?

PRAY

Pray... Jesus in heaven, You came into our world being in every way equal to the Father, yet You did not use this position to Your advantage. Instead, You humbled Yourself to be a servant to all. Grow in us hearts that rush to love one another, putting others' needs above ours. Help us to make ourselves nothing by taking on the nature of a servant as You have demonstrated to us. Humble us that we would be quick to die to ourselves, for Your glory, Lord Jesus. Amen.

Action... What is one way you enjoy people serving you? What is one way you can serve others this coming week?