



“College Life Class”


***Christology:
The Person & Work of Christ***

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First Baptist Church, Golden

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Historical Progression: 1a) in OT God juxtaposes Himself to the pagan gods and idols of the nations surrounding the Israelites revealing His attributes and superiority to those aspects of creation man has elevated to worship (Rom. 1:18-25)

Historical Progression: 1b) While God loves His creation and especially that which He created in His “own image and likeness”, man’s sinfulness keeps the Creator and His creation apart. Therefore, a plan of salvation and restoration is revealed even as early as Gen. 3:15

Historical Progression: 1c) As time progressed, God continued to reveal information about His plan of man’s restoration of fellowship to Him through God’s Messiah. This information was progressively revealed via God’s prophets throughout the OT.

Historical Progression: 2) Along came a man from Nazareth who claimed to be that Messiah, yet he was a simple man. But then, there was something different about him. He actually possessed the attributes of God. And He said He would send “another Comforter” of like kind.



Historical Progression: 3) This Comforter was personal and possessed the same attributes as the God of the OT.

Historical Progression: 4) The Messiah's apostles wrote of their experiences with the Messiah and of His teachings. As time went on, the early followers of the Messiah grew and had to make sense of the words of God delivered through His prophets and apostles. Through much prayer, pouring over the written Word of God, and trusting in the Comforter, the early followers made application and conclusions of the teachings they had received concerning the nature of God, their Creator.



Logical Progression:

- God reveals His character and attributes as man is caught up within himself and his sin.
- God comes to live amongst His people and to rescue them and restore their relationship to Him.
- God sends a Comforting Teacher/Guide to continue with His followers as they are sanctified.
- God's followers make every effort to follow the Teachings and seek a deeper understanding of God Himself.

Aseity = Self-existent

Necessity = Impossible to not exist

Immutability = Unchangeable

Eternality = Beyond time; no past, present, or future; eternal present

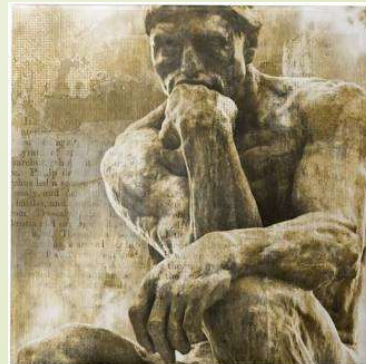
Infinity = Not-finite; limitless in His Being; without boundaries

Immateriality/Spiritual = Pure spirit; not composed of matter

Immensity = Not-measurable; transcends all space and time

Omnipotence = Unlimited power; all-powerful

Omnipresent = Everywhere present; ubiquitous





Humanity

His development: Jesus went through all the normal process of human development.

Matt. 1:18, 20; Luke 1:34-35 - Conceived in His mother's womb by the Holy Spirit

Luke 2:6-7 - He was born of a woman who had carried Him to full term

Lk. 2:40-52 – He grew up to be a normal boy, developing physically, mentally, & emotionally

Jn. 8:57 – He aged so that while in His 30s the crowd in Jerusalem said, “You are not yet 50”

Humanity

His affections: Jesus displayed all traits of humanity in His needs.

Physically:

Mt. 4:2 - He was hungry

Jn. 19:28 - He was thirsty

Mk 4:38 – He became tired

Lk. 23:46 – He breathed as a human

Emotionally:

Mt. 26:38 – He expressed sorrow

Mk. 6:6 - He expressed wonder

Mk. 3:5 - He expressed anger and grief

Mk. 1:41 - He expressed compassion

Jn. 11:35 – He wept

Mt. 4:1-11; Mk. 1:12-13; Lk. 4:1-13; Heb. 2:18; Heb. 4:15 – He was tempted to sin, though He did not yield to the temptation



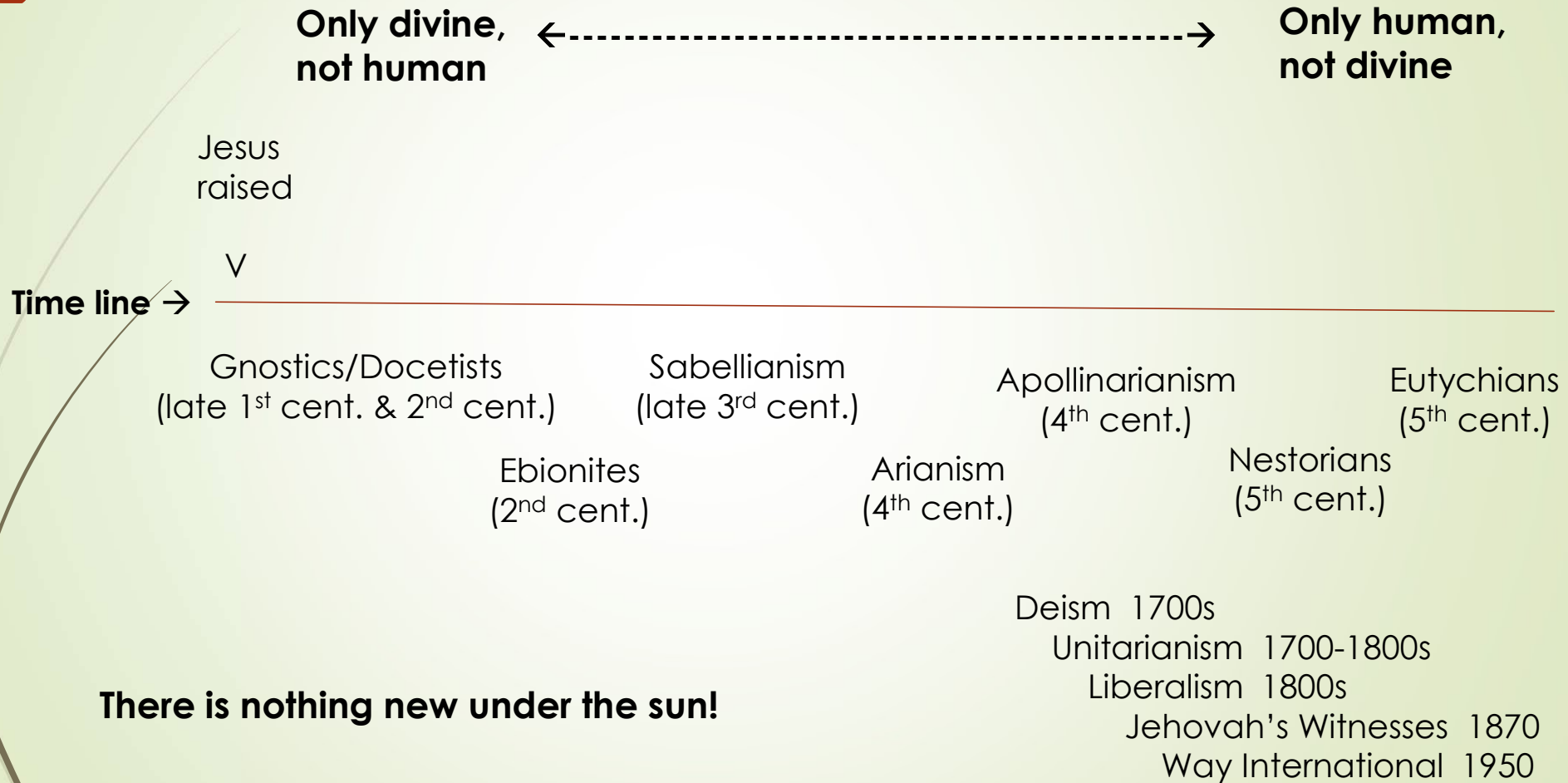
His death: There is nothing more opposed to the divine nature than death, yet Jesus died a human death.

Lk. 23:48-49; Jn. 19:25-27 – a death witnessed by many people and a mocking crowd

Jn. 19:32-34 – His death was confirmed by professional executioners of Rome

Jn. 19:38-41 – He was buried in accordance with the customs of the time and placed in a grave

Why study Church history and apologetics?



Who did Jesus claim to be? Deity

Jn. 8:58-59 [Ex. 3:14] - "I AM WHO I AM" (the meaning of the name has to do with God's self-existence; aseity)

Yahweh is only to refer to the one true God. Nothing else was to be worshipped or served (Ex. 20:5), His name and glory were not to be given to another. (Isa. 44:6; 42:8)

Jn. 10:11 [Ps. 23:1] – "I am the Good Shepherd" v "Yahweh' is my shepherd"

Mt. 25:31ff; Jn. 5:27-29 [Joel 3:12] – Jesus claimed to be the judge of all men

Jn. 17:5 [Isa. 42:8] – "glorify Thou Me with Thine own Self with the glory I had with Thee before

Mt. 25:1 [Isa. 62:5] – the Bridegroom"

Rev. 1:17 [Isa. 42:8] – "I am the first and the last"

Who did Jesus claim to be? Deity (cont.)

Jn. 8:12 [Ps. 27:1] – “Yahweh is the light”

Jn. 8:58 [Ex. 3:14; Deut. 32:39; Isa. 43:10] εγω ειμι in Greek (NT & Sept.)

Mark 14:60-65 [Dan. 7:13-14; Lev. 24:16] “Are you the Christ, the Son of the Blessed One?”

Claim to be equal with God (assuming the powers that God has)

Mark 2:5ff Scribes said: “Who can forgive sins but God alone?” [He forgave & then healed]

Jn. 5:21, 25-29 [Deut. 32:39; Ps. 49:15; Deut. 32:35] OT: God was giver of life (Dt. 32:39);
the One to raise the dead (Ps. 49:15);
the only Judge (Dt. 32:35)

Jn. 5:23 [Jn. 5:18 & 19:7] “in order that all may honor the Son, even as they honor the
Father”



Claim to be Messiah-God

How is this Messiah described?

Isa. 9:6 “Mighty God, the everlasting Father”

Ps. 45:6; cf. Heb. 1:8 “Thy throne, O God, is forever and ever”

Ps. 110:1; cf. Matt. 22:43-44 “[Yahweh] says to my Lord, “Sit at My right hand”

Dan. 7:22 and 7:9,13 Who is Who? 7:22 Son of Man is called Ancient of Days

7:9, 13 God the Father is called Ancient of Days

>80 times in NT Jesus refers to Himself as ‘Son of Man’

Mark 14:61-64

answering directly to the chief priest



What is Messiah?

The word Messiah comes from the Hebrew word meaning “Anointed One.” In a general sense, the word is used of Cyrus the Persian (Isa. 45:1) and the king of Israel (1 Sam. 26:11). After the death of David, Israel began looking for a king like him because of the promise of 2 Sam. 7:12-16.

But prophecies of a coming Savior/Prophet/King go back as far as Gen. 3:15 and Deut. 18. Many passages describe the coming King. He is said to be of David’s seed (Jer. 33) and born in Bethlehem (Micah 5:2). His acts are to include making the blind see, releasing captives, and proclaiming the Gospel (Isa. 61:1).

His kingdom is described in Zechariah 9 and 12. In the period between the Testaments, two ideas of Messiah arose: one political, one spiritual. Both were expected to be found in the same Person.

When Skeptics Ask, Norman Geisler & Ron Brooks, 1990, p.108



Claim by accepting worship

Ex. 20:1-5; Deut. 5:6-9 (Acts 14:15; Rev. 22:8-9) OT background & NT practice

However: Mt. 8:2; 9:18; 14:33; 15:25 20:20; Mark 5:6; John 9:38; 20:28

Claim to equal authority with God

Matt. 5:21-22 “You have heard that the ancients were told...But I say to you”

Matt. 28:18-19 “All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth...”

John 13:34 “A new commandment I give to you...”

Matt. 5:18 compared to Matt. 24:35 “...the Law...” v “...My words...”

John 12:48 “The word I spoke is what will judge him at the last day...”

Claim by requesting prayer in His name

John 14:13-14 “αιτησητε με εν τω ονοματι μου”

you ask me in the name of me

John 15:7 abide in Jesus, ask, and it will be done

Acts 7:59 Stephen prayed to Christ



Claims the Disciples Made About Jesus

They attributed to Jesus titles of Deity

Rev. 1:17; 2:8; 22:13 “the first and the last”

John 1:9 “the true light”

1 Cor. 10:4; 1 Pet. 2:6-8; cf. Ps. 18:2; 95:1 their “rock” or “stone”

Eph. 5:28-33; Rev. 21:2 the “Bridegroom”

1 Pet. 5:4 “the chief Shepherd”

Heb. 13:20 “the Great Shepherd”

Acts 5:31; Col. 3:13; cf. Jer. 31:34; Ps. 130:4 the forgiver of sins

John 4:42; cf. Isa. 43:3 “Savior of the world”

2 Tim. 4:1 “is to judge the living and the dead”



They Considered Him to be Messiah-God

Matt. 1:23 [Isa. 7:14] Immanuel (God with us)

John 19:37; Rev. 1:7 [Zechariah 12:10] the One whom they pierced

Phil. 2:10-11 [Isa. 45:22-23] Paul applies a reference about God to Jesus

They attributed the power of God to Jesus

Some things only God can do are attributed to Jesus:

John 11 raise the dead

Acts 5:31; 13:38 forgive sins

John 1:3; Col. 1:16 creating the universe

Col. 1:17; Heb. 1:3 sustaining the universe

They associated Jesus' name with God's name

Gal. 1:3; Eph. 1:2 'grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ'

Matt. 28:19; 2 Cor. 13:14 trinitarian passages



They called Him God directly

John 20:28 “the Lord of me and the God of me”

Col. 2:9 “all the fullness of Deity dwells in bodily form”

Titus 2:13 Jesus is called “our great God and Savior”

Heb. 1:8 “Thy throne, O God, is forever”

Phil. 2:5-8 He continued to exist in the form/nature of God...

John 1:1 “...and the Word was God.”

They said He was superior to angels

Eph. 1:21 Jesus is “far above all rule and authority and power and dominion...”

Matt. 8:32 demons submit to His command

Heb. 1:5-6 God the Father says, “And let the angels of God worship Him”