

Consider Him...

- 1. "The Word became flesh..."
- 2. "...and we beheld His glory"
- 3. "This is My beloved Son. Listen to Him!"

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From the prophets:

For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon His shoulder, and His name shall be called

- Wonderful Counselor,
- Mighty God,
- Everlasting Father,
- Prince of Peace.

Of the increase of His government and of peace there will be no end, on the throne of David and over His kingdom... ...from this time forth and forevermore.

(Isaiah 9:6-7)

From the gospels:

"And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bring forth a son, and shall call His name JESUS.

He will be great, and will be called **the Son of the Highest**; and the Lord God will give Him the throne of His father David.

And He will reign over the house of Jacob **forever**, and **of His kingdom there will be no end**."

The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be called holy—the Son of God.

(Luke 1:31-33,35)

From the letters:

Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, who, though He was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied Himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men.

And being found in human form, He humbled Himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.

(Philippians 2:5-8)

The Definition of Chalcedon (451 AD)

...our Lord Jesus Christ, the same perfect in Godhead and also perfect in manhood; truly God and truly man, of a reasonable soul and body; consubstantial with the Father according to the Godhead, and consubstantial with us according to the manhood; in all things like unto us, without sin;

begotten before all ages of the Father according to the Godhead... born of the virgin Mary, the mother of God, according to the manhood;

...to be acknowledged in two natures, inconfusedly, unchangeably, indivisibly, inseparably; the distinction of natures being by no means taken away by the union, but rather the property of each nature being preserved, and concurring in **one Person** and one Subsistence...

The Definition of Chalcedon (451 AD)

- Christ is perfectly and truly God and perfectly and truly man, with a rational soul and a real body. The Logos does not take the place of the soul.
- He is of the same substance as God. He is not less than God.
- He is the Son of God eternally begotten by his Father but also made flesh in the womb of Mary. **He is one person, not two**.
- **He is now one Person with two natures**, divine and human. These two natures are never confused with each other, changed into each other, or separated from each other.

The Definition of Chalcedon (451 AD)

- If Christ is less than God, He cannot reconcile us to God.
 (The error: Arianism)
- If Christ is not truly human, He is not really one with us and therefore cannot be our Mediator. (The error: Apollinarianism)
- If there are two persons in Christ, then only the human person was the sacrifice to God on the cross and a single death could never atone for the sins of many. (The error: Nestorianism)
- If the two natures of Christ are combined into one, then our Lord is no longer truly one of us and cannot be our substitute. (The error: Eutychianism)

(Extracted from: https://www.desiringgod.org/articles/chalcedon by Sinclair Ferguson)

The Lord Jesus lived in and through His human nature in constant dependence on the power of the Spirit to fulfill His calling and ministry.

Incarnation

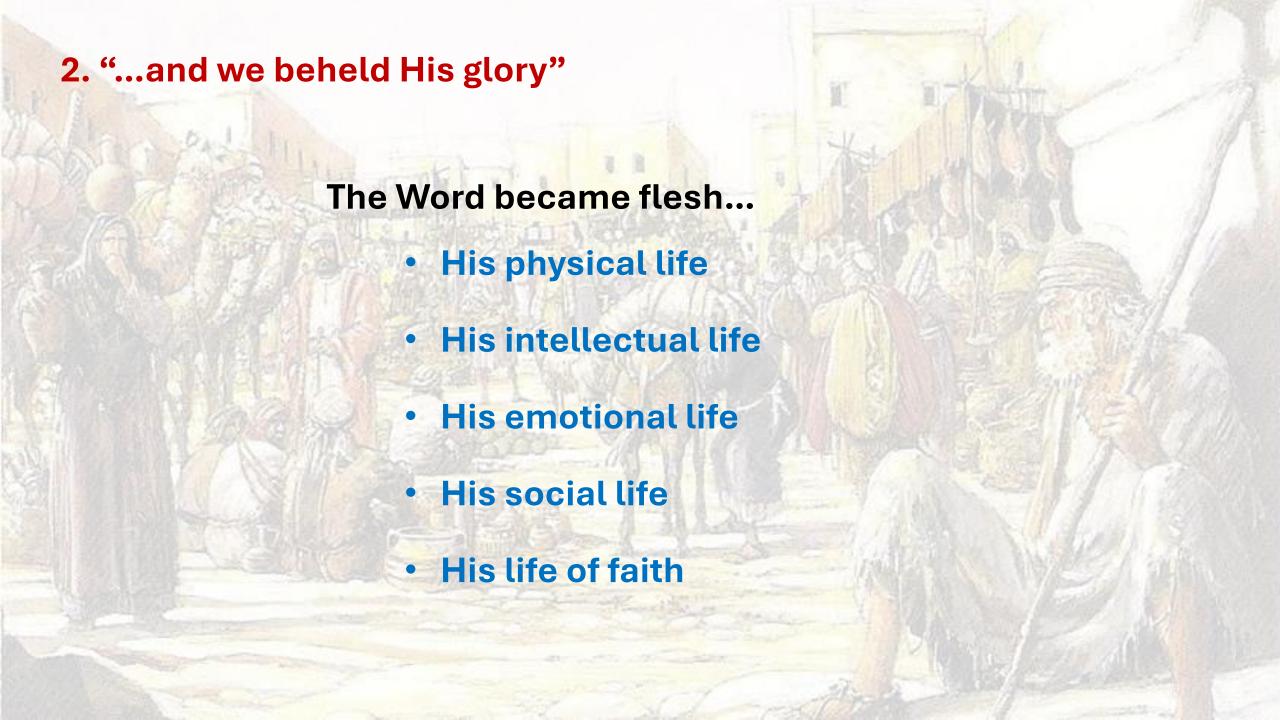
- > One Person with two natures
- > The divine and human are distinct and unmixed
- > He is forever fully man and fully God

✓ What if it was only a great prophet or angel that came? What does the incarnation of the Son mean for you?

✓ What does the Lord's incarnation say about humanity?

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- His physical life
 - He was born a helpless infant
 - And Jesus increased in wisdom and in stature and in favour with God and man. (Luke 2:52)
 - He slept, hungered, was wearied by travel
 - He worked, suffered pain, and died
- His intellectual life
- His emotional life
- His social life
- His life of faith

- His physical life
- His intellectual life
 - He learned and asked questions
 - He reacted to information (Mathew 14:13)
 - He was not, in His humanity, omniscient (Mark 13:32)
- His emotional life
- His social life
- His life of faith

- His physical life
- His intellectual life
- His emotional life
 - He showed wonder and surprise (Matthew 8:10)
 - He knew anger and disappointment
 - He wept openly and spoke of His joy
- His social life
- His life of faith

- His physical life
- His intellectual life
- His emotional life
- His social life
 - He was part of a family, working as a carpenter
 - He attended social events
 - He had special and dear friends
 - He valued companionship
- His life of faith

- His physical life
- His intellectual life
- His emotional life
- His social life
- His life of faith
 - He spent much time in prayer
 - He lived in dependence on His Father
 - He lived in obedience to His Father

- Life without sin
- Perfect balance
- Union

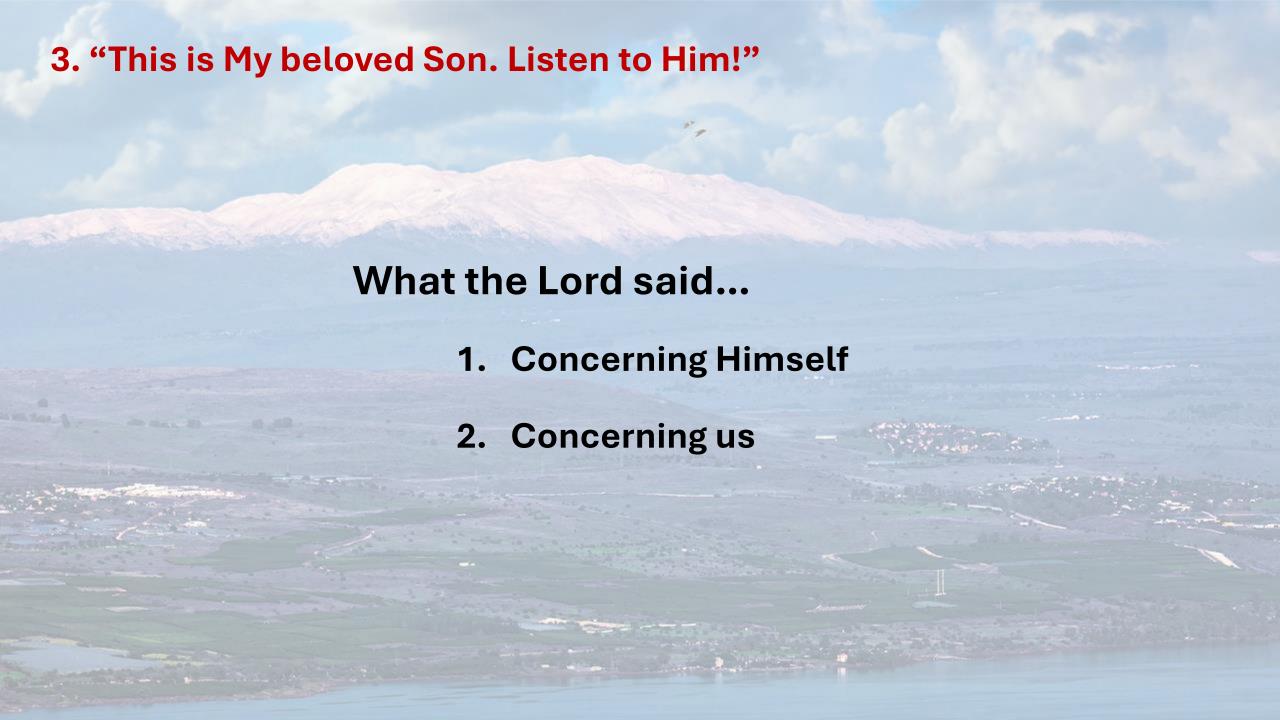
- Life without sin
 - He took a human nature, but not a fallen one (Luke 1:35)
 - Nothing He did or said needed correction or improvement
 - He had no consciousness of sin, no need of forgiveness
 - Sin was absent and all good was present perfect love!
- Perfect balance
- Union

- Life without sin
- Perfect balance
 - He had no strong points because He had no weak ones
 - He was serious and joyful, separate yet sociable
 - He was sensitive yet unswerving, meek and assertive
 - He was very active, yet unrushed and at peace
- Union

- Life without sin
- Perfect balance
- Union
 - Jesus love for His Father permeated everything
 - His works and words were from His Father
 - His life was human life as it was intended to be

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1. Concerning Himself

- He preached Himself The great "I am" statements
- He said that He would judge the world. (Matthew 25:31-32)
- "...no one knows the Father except the Son..." (Matthew 11:27)
- "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me." (Matthew 28:18)
- "...in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit" (Matthew 28:19)
- "...all should honour the Son just as they honour the Father." (John 5:23)
- "Before Abraham was, I am" (John 8:58)
- "I give to them eternal life" (John 10:28)
- "I am My Father are one." (John 10:30)
- "You believe in God; believe also in Me." (John 14:1)
- "If you ask anything in My name, I will do it" (John 14:14)

1. Concerning Himself

CS Lewis in **Mere Christianity**:

I am trying here to prevent anyone saying the really foolish thing that people often say about Him:

"I'm ready to accept Jesus as a great moral teacher, but I don't accept His claim to be God."

That is the one thing we must not say.

A man who was merely a man and said the sort of things Jesus said would not be a great moral teacher. He would either be a lunatic—on a level with the man who says he is a poached egg - or else he would be the Devil of Hell. **You must make your choice**.

Either this man was, and is, the Son of God: or else a madman or something worse. You can shut Him up for a fool, you can spit at Him and kill Him as a demon; or you can fall at His feet and call Him Lord and God.

But let us not come with any patronising nonsense about His being a great human teacher. **He has not left that open to us.** He did not intend to.

2. Concerning us

- "Whoever loves father or mother more than Me
 is not worthy of Me, and whoever loves son or daughter
 more than Me is not worthy of Me." (Matthew 10:37)
- "Any one of you who does not renounce all that he has cannot be My disciple." (Luke 14:33)
- "Unless you believe that I am He you will die in your sins." (John 8:24)
- "I am the way, the truth, and the life.

 No one comes to the Father except through Me." (John 14:6)

The Saviour of the World

- His humanity was real, without fault, complete.
- His words were profound, timeless and authoritative.
- "Whoever has seen Me has seen the Father." (John 14:9)
- A unique life no other is of the same order.

The Saviour of the World

And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen His glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.

(John 1:14)

Consider Him...

✓ Reflect upon the Lord's life, nature and personality in the four situations recorded in Luke chapter 7.