

Systematic Theology

Part 4: Doctrine of Christ & Holy Spirit

Chapter 26: The Person of Christ

How is Jesus fully God and fully man, yet one person?

Introduction & Review

Note: The primary textbook for the structure of this series is Wayne Grudem's *Systematic Theology*. The primary text for the substance of this series is the Bible.

Grudem: What is systematic theology? Many different definitions have been given, but for the purposes of this book the following definition will be used: Systematic theology is any study that answers the question, "What does the _____ Bible teach us today?" about any given topic.

Explanation and Scriptural Basis

A. Grudem: The _____ of Christ

1. Grudem: Virgin birth. [Matthew 1:18](#)
2. Grudem: Human weaknesses and limitations. [Matthew 26:38](#); [John 11:35](#). Grudem: People near Jesus saw him as only a _____. [Matthew 13:53-58](#)
3. Grudem: Sin _____ness. [Romans 8:3](#); [2 Corinthians 5:21](#); [Hebrews 4:15](#)
5. Grudem: Why was Jesus' full humanity necessary?
6. Grudem: Jesus will be a man _____

B. Grudem: The _____ of Christ

1. Grudem: Direct scriptural claims. [Matthew 17:5](#); [Hebrews 1:8](#)
3. Grudem: Did Jesus give up some of his divine attributes while on earth? Grudem: Kenosis Theory
4. Grudem: Conclusion: Christ is _____ divine. [Colossians 1:19](#); [2:9](#); [Matthew 1:23](#)
6. Why was Jesus' deity necessary?

C. Grudem: The _____: Deity and humanity in the one person of Christ

1. Grudem: Three inadequate views of the person of Christ

a. Grudem: Apollinarianism: The one person of Christ had a human body but _____ a human mind or spirit, and that the mind and spirit of Christ were from the divine nature of the Son of God

b. Grudem: Nestorianism: Nestorianism is the doctrine that there were two _____ persons in Christ, a human person and a divine person

c. Grudem: Monophysitism (Eutychianism): The view that Christ had _____ nature only in which both were somewhat modified to form one new nature

2. Grudem: The solution to the controversy: The Chalcedonian Definition of A.D. 451 [abbreviated]:

We, then, following the holy Fathers, all with one consent, teach men to confess one and the same Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, the same perfect in Godhead and also perfect in manhood; truly God and truly man, of a reasonable [rational] soul and body; consubstantial [coessential] 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, and in these latter days, for us and for our salvation, born of the Virgin Mary, the Mother of God, according to the Manhood; one and the same Christ, Son, Lord, Only-begotten, 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, not parted or divided into two persons, but one and the same Son, and only begotten, God, the Word, the Lord Jesus Christ . . .

3. Grudem: Combining specific biblical texts on Christ's deity and humanity

Remaining what he _____, he became what he was _____

Grudem: Questions for Personal Application (abbreviated)

1. After reading this chapter, are there specific ways in which you now think of Jesus as being more like you than you did before? What are these? How can a clearer understanding of Jesus' humanity help you face temptations?
2. After reading this chapter, is there anything that you understand more fully about the deity of Jesus? Can you describe (and perhaps identify with) what the disciples must have felt as they came to a growing realization of who Jesus actually was? Do you think Jesus is the one person you would be able to trust with your life for all eternity?

Scripture Memory Passage

John 1:14: And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, full of grace and truth; we have beheld his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father.

Hymn: "Fairest Lord Jesus" (Münster Gesangbuch, 1677)

If you want to test your Christology (disclaimer: not infallible and very difficult), this: bit.ly/JesusQuiz

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Chapter 27: The Atonement

Was it necessary for Christ to die? Did Christ's entire earthly life earn any saving benefits for us? The cause and nature of the atonement.

Scripture Memory Passage Review: John 1:14

Explanation and Scriptural Basis

Grudem: The work Christ did in his life and death to earn our _____ (at- _____-ment)

A. Grudem: The cause of the atonement

Grudem: The love and justice of _____. **John 3:16**

Grudem: God sent Christ to be a "_____." **Romans 3:25-26; Psalm 5:5**

B. Grudem: The necessity of the atonement

Matthew 26:39; Luke 24:25-26; Hebrews 2:17; 10:4; 9:23, 25-26

C. Grudem: The nature of the atonement

1. **Grudem:** Christ's obedience for us (sometimes called his "_____ obedience")

Grudem: Christ had to live a life of perfect obedience to God in order to earn righteousness for us. **Philippians 3:9; 1 Corinthians 1:30; Romans 5:19; Matthew 3:15**

2. **Grudem:** Christ's sufferings for us (sometimes called his "_____ obedience")

Grudem: Christ also took on himself the sufferings necessary to pay the penalty for our sins.

a. **Grudem:** Suffering for his whole life. **Matthew 4:1-11; Hebrews 5:8; 12:3-4; Isaiah 53:3**

b. **Grudem:** The pain of the cross. **Matthew 26:38**

(1) **Grudem:** Physical pain and death

(2) **Grudem:** The pain of bearing _____. **Isaiah 53:6, 12; Galatians 3:13; Hebrews 9:28; 1 Peter 2:24**

(3) **Grudem:** Abandonment. **Mark 14:34; Matthew 26:56; 27:46; Habakkuk 1:13**

(4) **Grudem:** Bearing the _____ of God. **Hebrews 2:17; 1 John 4:10; Matthew 27:46; Psalm 22**

c. Grudem: Further understanding of the death of Christ. . . . There is no more penalty for sin left for us to pay. The penalty has entirely been paid by Christ, and we should have no remaining fear of condemnation or punishment. . . . *“Penal substitution.”* Christ’s death was “penal” in that he bore a penalty when he died. His death was also a “substitution” in that he was a substitute for us when he died. . . . *Vicarious atonement.* A “vicar” is someone who stands in the place of another or who represents another. Christ’s death was therefore “vicarious” because he stood in our place.

d. Grudem: New Testament terms describing different aspects of the atonement

(1) Grudem: _____. Hebrews 9:26

(2) Grudem: _____. 1 John 4:10

(3) Grudem: _____. 2 Corinthians 5:18-19

(4) Grudem: _____. Mark 10:45; 1 John 5:19; Hebrews 2:15; Colossians 1:13; Romans 6:11, 14

D. Grudem: The extent of the atonement

Grudem: When Christ died on the cross, did he pay for the sins of the entire human race or only for the sins of those who he knew would ultimately be saved? (read more at teachings.jim314.com)

Grudem: Questions for Personal Application (abbreviated)

1. If Christ bore all the guilt for our sins, all the wrath of God against sin, and all the penalty of the death that we deserved, then will God ever turn his wrath against you as a believer (Romans 8:31-39)? If not, then why do we as Christians experience difficulties and sufferings in this life (Romans 8:28; Hebrews 12:3-11)?
2. Do you think Christ’s life was good enough to deserve God’s approval? Which would you rather trust in for your eternal standing before God: your own life or Christ’s?
3. Do you think it was fair for Christ to be your substitute and to pay your penalty? When you think about him acting as your substitute and dying for you, what attitude and emotion is called forth in your heart?

Scripture Memory Passage

Romans 3:23-26: 23 for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, 24 being justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, 25 whom God set forth as a propitiation by His blood, through faith, to demonstrate His righteousness, because in His forbearance God had passed over the sins that were previously committed, 26 to demonstrate at the present time His righteousness, that He might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus.

Hymn: “When I Survey the Wondrous Cross” (Isaac Watts, 1707)

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Chapter 28: Resurrection & Ascension

What was Christ's resurrection body like? What is its significance for us? What happened to Christ when he ascended into heaven?

Scripture Memory Passage Review: Romans 3:23-26

Explanation and Scriptural Basis

A. Grudem: Resurrection

1. Grudem: New Testament evidence

Matthew 28; Mark 16:1-8; Luke 24; John 20-21; Acts; the epistles; Revelation. Grudem: The _____ New Testament bears witness to the resurrection of Christ

2. Grudem: The nature of Christ's resurrection

It was a resurrection in a _____ body: John 20-21; Luke 24:39; 24:13-32; John 20:14-16; Matthew 28:9, 17; John 20:19-20, 26-28; 21:7, 12; 1 Corinthians 15:53, 42-44, 20, 23. Grudem: The physical resurrection of Jesus, and his eternal possession of a physical resurrection body, give clear affirmation of the goodness of the _____ creation that God originally made

3. Grudem: Both the Father and the Son participated in the resurrection

Who resurrected Christ from the dead? Himself (John 10:17-18; 2:19-21) or the Father (Acts 2:24; Romans 6:4; 1 Corinthians 6:14; Galatians 1:1; Ephesians 1:20)? _____

4. Grudem: Doctrinal significance of the resurrection

a. Grudem: Christ's resurrection ensures our _____. 1 Peter 1:3; Ephesians 2:5-6; Philippians 3:10; Ephesians 1:19-20; Romans 6:4, 11; Acts 1:8

b. Grudem: Christ's resurrection ensures our _____. Romans 4:25

c. Christ's resurrection ensures that we will receive perfect resurrection _____ as well. 1 Corinthians 6:14; 2 Corinthians 4:14; 1 Corinthians 15:12-58

5. Grudem: Ethical significance of the resurrection

1 Corinthians 15:58: Continue _____; Colossians 3:1-4: Look forward to heaven; Romans 6:11-13: Stop _____

B. Grudem: Ascension into heaven

1. Grudem: Christ ascended to a place

John 14:2-3: Jesus _____ He was going to heaven. **Acts 1:3**; **Luke 24:50-51**; **Acts 1:9-11**

Acts 7:55-56: Stephen _____ Him in heaven

3. Grudem: Christ was seated at God's right hand (Christ's session)

Psalm 110:1; **Hebrews 1:3**. Grudem: This welcoming into the presence of God and sitting at God's right hand is a dramatic indication of the _____ of Christ's work of redemption.

Ephesians 1:20-21; **1 Peter 3:22**. **Acts 2:33**: _____ out the Holy Spirit. What else is Jesus doing in heaven? **Acts 7:56**; **Revelation 2:1**

4. Grudem: Christ's ascension has doctrinal significance for our lives

Grudem: Christ's going up into heaven foreshadows our future ascension into heaven _____ him.

1 Thessalonians 4:17; **John 14:2-3**; **Hebrews 12:1-2**; **Ephesians 2:6**; **1 Corinthians 6:3**; **Hebrews 2:5-8**;

Revelation 2:26-27; **3:21**. Grudem: We are able to share now (in _____) in Christ's authority over the universe, and we will later share in it more fully

Questions for Personal Application (Abbreviated)

1. Can you think of some characteristics of the resurrection body that you . . . look forward to?
2. What things would you like to do now but find yourself unable to do because of the weakness or limitations of your own physical body?
3. When you were born again, you received new spiritual life within. If you think of this new spiritual life as part of the resurrection power of Christ working within you, how does that give you encouragement in living the Christian life and in ministering to people's needs?
4. The Bible says that you are now seated with Christ in the heavenly places (**Ephesians 2:6**). As you meditate on this fact, how will it affect your prayer life?
5. When you think of Christ now in heaven, does it cause you to focus more attention on things that will have eternal significance? Does it increase your assurance that you will someday be with him in heaven? How do you feel about the prospect of reigning with Christ over the nations and over angels as well?

Scripture Memory Passage

1 Corinthians 15:20-23: **20** But now Christ is risen from the dead, *and* has become the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. **21** For since by man *came* death, by Man also *came* the resurrection of the dead. **22** For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ all shall be made alive. **23** But each one in his own order: Christ the firstfruits, afterward those *who are* Christ's at His coming.

Hymn: "Christ the Lord Is Risen Today" (Charles Wesley, 1739)

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Chapter 29: The Offices of Christ

How is Christ prophet, priest, and king?

Scripture Memory Passage Review: 1 Corinthians 15:20-23

Explanation and Scriptural Basis

Grudem: There were _____ major offices among the people of Israel in the Old Testament

A. Grudem: Christ as prophet

Grudem: The Old Testament prophets _____ God's words to the people. **Deuteronomy 18:15-18**. Many thought Jesus was _____ Prophet (**John 6:14; 7:40** including Peter in **Acts 3:22-24**).

Grudem: Jesus . . . is also far greater than any of the Old Testament prophets, in two ways:

1. Grudem: He is the one about whom the prophecies in the Old Testament were made. **Luke 24:27**

2. Grudem: Jesus was not merely a messenger of revelation from God (like all the other prophets), but was himself the *source* of revelation from God. **Matthew 5:22**

B. Grudem: Christ as priest

Grudem: In the Old Testament, the priests were appointed by God to _____ sacrifices. They also offered prayers and praise to God on behalf of the people.

1. Grudem: Jesus offered a _____ sacrifice for sin
Hebrews 10:4; 9:24-26

2. Grudem: Jesus continually brings us _____ to God
Hebrews 9:24; 9:1-7; Luke 23:45; Hebrews 10:19-22

3. Grudem: Jesus as priest continually _____ for us
Hebrews 7:25; Romans 8:34; 1 Timothy 2:5

C. Grudem: Christ as king

Grudem: In the Old Testament the king has authority to _____ over the nation of Israel.
Matthew 2:2; John 6:15; 18:36; Matthew 4:17, 23; 12:28; 28:18; Ephesians 1:22; 1 Corinthians 15:25; Matthew 26:64; Philippians 2:10; Revelation 19:11-16; 19:16

D. Grudem: Our roles as prophets, priests, and kings

Grudem: If we look back at the situation of Adam before the fall . . . these roles of prophet, priest, and king had _____ in the experience that God originally intended for man, and will be fulfilled in our lives in heaven.

Grudem: In the Garden of Eden . . . _____ [Genesis 1:26-28](#)

Grudem: After sin entered into the world . . . _____

Grudem: There was a partial recovery . . . _____

Grudem: When Christ came . . . _____

Grudem: We as Christians even now . . . _____; [1 Peter 2:5, 9](#); [Hebrews 10:19, 22; 13:15-16](#); [Romans 12:1](#); [Ephesians 2:6; 6:10-18](#); [James 4:7](#)

Grudem: When Christ returns and rules . . . _____; [1 Corinthians 13:12](#); [Revelation 22:3-4, 5; 3:21](#)

Grudem: For all eternity, we shall forever function as _____ prophets, priests, and kings, yet always subject to the Lord Jesus, the supreme prophet, priest, and king.

Questions for Personal Application (Abbreviated)

1. Can you see some ways in which an understanding of Christ's role as prophet, priest, and king will help you understand more fully the functions of prophets, priests, and kings in the Old Testament? Read the description of Solomon's kingdom in [1 Kings 4:20-34](#) and [1 Kings 10:14-29](#). Do you see in Solomon's kingdom any foreshadowing of the three offices of Christ? Any foreshadowing of Christ's eternal kingdom?
2. Can you see any fulfillment of the role of prophet in your life now? Of the role of priest? Of the role of king? How could each of these functions be developed in your life?

Scripture Memory Passage

[1 Peter 2:9-10](#): **But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light; who once were not a people but are now the people of God, who had not obtained mercy but now have obtained mercy.**

Hymn: "Rejoice the Lord Is King" (Charles Wesley, 1746)

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Chapter 30: Work of the Holy Spirit

What are the distinctive activities of the Holy Spirit throughout the history of the Bible?

Scripture Memory Passage Review: 1 Peter 2:9-10

Explanation and Scriptural Basis

Grudem: *The work of the Holy Spirit is to manifest the _____ presence of God in the world, and especially in the church.* **Genesis 1:2.** When the Holy Spirit comes, _____ comes next.

A. Grudem: The Holy Spirit _____

1. Grudem: He gives life
Psalm 104:30

2. Grudem: He gives power for service
Exodus 31:3; 35:34; Luke 4:18-19; Acts 1:8;
Revelation 22:17; Romans 8:26

B. Grudem: The Holy Spirit _____

Titus 3:5; Galatians 5:22-23

C. Grudem: The Holy Spirit _____

1. Grudem: Revelation to prophets and apostles
2 Peter 1:21

4. Grudem: He provides a Godlike atmosphere
when He manifests His presence

2. Grudem: He gives evidence of God's

John 16:14

5. Grudem: He gives us _____
Romans 8:16

3. Grudem: He guides and directs God's people
Acts 8:39-40; 1 Kings 18:12; Romans 8:14

6. Grudem: He teaches and

1 Corinthians 2:12; Psalm 119:18

D. Grudem: The Holy Spirit _____

Acts 2:16-18; 1 Corinthians 12:21, 11, 7, 13

E. Grudem: The Holy Spirit gives stronger or weaker evidence of the presence and blessing of God according to our response to Him

John 1:32; Judges 16:20

Grudem: Also in the New Testament the Holy Spirit can be _____ and cease to bring blessing in a situation. 1 Thessalonians 5:19

Matthew 12:31-32. Grudem: These statements are made in a context in which the Pharisees willfully and maliciously attribute to _____ the powerful work of the Holy Spirit that was evident in the ministry of Jesus.

1 Peter 4:14

Grudem: Therefore it is important that _____ our ministry be done *in the Holy Spirit*

Grudem: It is also possible to be filled with the Holy Spirit. Ephesians 5:18

Questions for Personal Application (Abbreviated)

1. In the past, has it been hard for you to think of the Holy Spirit as a person rather than simply as a presence or force?
2. Do you perceive any difference in the way the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit relate to you in your Christian life?
3. Have you ever been . . . aware of the Holy Spirit's empowering in a . . . situation of ministry?
4. Do you have a sense from time to time of the pleasure or displeasure of the Holy Spirit at some course of action that you are taking? Is there anything in your life right now that is grieving the Holy Spirit? What do you plan to do about it?

Scripture Memory Passage

Romans 8:12-14: **12** Therefore, brethren, we are debtors—not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh. **13** For if you live according to the flesh you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. **14** For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God.

Hymn: “Come, O Creator Spirit” (Anonymous, tenth century or earlier)

Alternate Hymn: “Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart” (George Crowly, 1854)