

Doctrinal Statement

Person of Christ

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Jesus Christ, the Anointed One, is God incarnate (John 1:1-18). He is coequal and coeternal with God the Father, sharing in full divine deity and existence from the beginning (John 10:30; John 6:46; Gen. 1:26). He is the Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end (John 10:28; Rev. 22:13). He is the I AM (John 8:59), Immanuel (Matt. 1:23; Isa. 7:14), Great High Priest (Heb. 4:14-16) and sacrificial lamb (John 1:29), King (John 18:36), and the true Adam (Matt. 1:1, 1 Cor. 15:45-49). Jesus became man when he was conceived by the Holy Spirit and born to a virgin woman, Mary (Matt. 1:18).

Along with being fully God, Jesus is also fully man, sharing in human deity as He submitted himself to the will of the Father and the leading of the Holy Spirit here on earth (Col. 2:9; Phil. 2:5-7; Mark 1:12). In being human, He experienced development (Luke 2:40, 52), sorrow (John 11:35), anger (Mark 3:5), hunger (Matt. 4:2), sleep (John 4:5-6), physical pain (John 19:32-34), and death (Mark 15:37-45). Jesus is the full revelation of God, revealing the exact image, character, and will of God (Heb. 1:1-5; Col. 1:15). He saw Himself as fulfillment of all Scripture, as it all pointed to Him (Matt. 5:17-20; Luke 24:27, 44). He came to earth announcing the arrival of the promised Kingdom of God, proclaiming good news to the poor, liberty to the captives, recovering of sight to the blind, and freedom from the evil powers of the world, not just for the Israelite nation but for all humanity (Mark 1:14; Luke 4:16-19).

Eventually the plots against Jesus led to his betrayal, arrest, fierce beating, and tortured death on a cross (Matt. 10:4; John 18:12; John 19). Jesus was abandoned on the cross despite living the life that no other person had ever been able to live (Mark 15:34; Luke 23:47). Jesus was blameless, never going against the will of God the Father or the Law God had given Israel in thought or action and His death is able to stand as a substitute, atoning death, for the sin of all humanity, both past, present, and future (1 Pet. 2:22; 1 John 3:5, 1 John 2:2). Anyone who puts

their faith and hope in Jesus will have their full record of wrong done away with and be transformed back into an image bearer who is able to live in right relationship once again with God the Father (Heb. 2:9-11; 1 Cor. 5:15-21).

Jesus was placed in a tomb and three days later power of God raised Him from the grave (Matt. 28:1-7; Rom. 8:11). Jesus' sacrificial death proved victorious over evil, for not even death could hold Him down (1 Cor. 15:25; Col. 2:15; Acts 2:24). Now, Jesus sits at the right hand of God the Father as our High Priest and Advocate (Rom. 8:34; Heb 1:3; 1 John 2:1). One day Jesus is going to return (Heb. 9:28). When He does, He is going to judge the world, and bring an end to sin, misery, and injustice (Rev. 19). Those who have trusted Jesus will live forever with God in the wholeness and peace of renewed creation (Rev. 21).