

HIStory (Part 2)
Jesus: His Humanity
(John 1:14)

Introduction: When Jesus became flesh and dwelt among us – not only did He allow us to relate to God, but in Jesus God can also relate to man. Therefore, by taking on humanity, Jesus became the true God-man. In order to fully understand all this we must take a look at the incarnation, its explanation, some illustrations and finally the application (what difference does all this make to us?).

Let's start with John's gospel and...

I. A look at the incarnation: In the simplest terms, the incarnation is a big word which means: "*The union of God and man in the person of Jesus Christ.*"

A. The moment of the union – This union took place at the moment of conception when both natures were melded together. (Mt. 1:20; Lk. 1:31-35)

B. The mystery of this union – Is that Mary's baby was God veiled in humanity. (Jn. 1:14; Heb. 1:1,2) Mary's baby Jesus, was "Immanuel," God with us," was from His conception to His birth and throughout His earthly life, Co-equal, co-eternal and co-existent with the Father. (2 Cor. 5:19)

II. A look at the explanation: (Phil. 2:5-7) gives us the best glimpse into what happen at Jesus incarnation.

A. What does it mean to say Jesus is God? It means Jesus as God emptied Himself (v.7)

1. **It does not mean** He shed His deity (stopped being God).
2. **But, it does mean** He voluntarily released His grasp on His divine prerogatives and set aside the independent use of His powers as deity.
3. **It also means** Jesus freely gave up some things for a time: (Jn. 17:5; v. 8 cf. Mt. 26:39; Jn.5:30; Heb.5:8; Mt. 8:20; 2 Cor. 8:9; Mt. 27:46 cf. 2 Cor. 5:21).

So then to say Jesus is God is to say that while God was in Christ in a human body, He emptied Himself or laid aside His divine privileges for a time.

B. What does it mean to say God was flesh? (v. 7b, 8)

1. In the likeness of men – (Lk. 2:52; Gal. 4:4; Col.1:22)

2. In the likeness of men - (Heb. 2:14, 17; 4:15)

3. He became the God – man fully God, fully in the flesh. But there was more to Jesus than His out-ward appearance as a man –

- a. Jesus being God in the flesh – humbled Himself so that He did not even demand basic human rights.
- b. He subjected Himself to persecution and suffering at the hands of unbelieving men (that He created) (Isa. 53: 7; Mt. 26:62-64; Mk. 14:60,61; 1 Pe. 2: 23). But He went further than this -
- c. He humbled Himself to experience death and not just any death...He died a criminals death per the Father's will (Mt. 26:39; Ac. 2:23)
- d. He died the humiliating death of a crucifixion – in order that He could bare our shame (Gal. 3:13; 1 Pe. 2:22-24.)

So then to say God was flesh is to say we have a Savior who has walked where we walk...hurt where we hurt...cried where we cry...ached where we ach! (Heb. 2:18; 4: 14-16)

III. A look at some illustrations: of times when Jesus gave us a glimpse of His deity and humanity together.

A. Mt. 14:22-33 –

B. Lk. 8:22-25 –

C. Jn. 11:32-36, 41-46 –

IV. A look at the application:

A. Jesus is an indescribable gift – (2 Cor. 9":15)!

B. Jesus is an invaluable gift – (Jn. 14:6; 1 Tim. 2:15; Heb. 4:14-16; Rom.8:34; 1 Jn.2:2)

Conclusion: In Jesus, God did more than just reveal Himself to man; He acquainted Himself with us by becoming flesh just like us. And now He is our sympathetic high priest – having displayed such a love as that, how can we do anything but turn to Him, trust in Him and walk with Him as Lord?