

Basic Theology

What Is Jesus Like?

When we earlier asked “What is God like?” we answered that

God is one God in three persons, and each person is fully God.

Today we ask “What is Jesus like?”

In John 20:28, what does Thomas call Jesus? “My Lord and my God”

In 1 Timothy 2:5, what does Paul call Jesus? “one God, one mediator, the man Christ Jesus”

Jesus is one person with two natures, divine and human.

We believe this doctrine because it is taught in scripture:

John 1:1, 14 “The Word was God...” “The Word became flesh”
Both natures are revealed in these verses

Some passages are best explained when we hold to this doctrine of what Jesus is like:

These verses demonstrate either human attributes ascribed to a divine title or divine attributes ascribed to a human title:

Acts 20:28 God (divine title)/his blood (human attribute)

1 Corinthians 2:8 Lord of glory (divine title)/crucified (human attribute)

Romans 9:5 God over all (divine attribute)/Christ according to the flesh (human title)

Some passages richly show to us the mystery of this amazing person:

Matthew 8:23-27 (parallel Mark 4:35-41; compare Psalm 107:23-29)

In this passage we see the person of Jesus who is tired enough to sleep (human attribute) commanding the silencing of the winds and wave (divine prerogative – see Psalm 107:28-29)

Other passages do the same, but only when we look closely:

John 19:37 (compare Zechariah 12:1,10) – Jesus pierced in John 19:37, but YHWH in Zech 12