

Jesus Is... Truly God and Man
Luke 2:41–51

Who is Jesus?

What is a catechism? It is a number of questions with specific responses meant to teach us foundational truths about the Christian faith found in Scripture.
New City Catechism

What is God? God is the creator of everyone and everything.

What sort of Redeemer is needed to bring us back to God? One who is truly human and also truly God.

He is **true God and true man** — eternal Creator in human flesh.
(Luke 2:41–51).

Every year Jesus' parents went to Jerusalem for the Festival of the Passover. When he was twelve years old, they went up to the festival, according to the custom.

80-mile journey from Nazareth to Jerusalem for the Passover. (Danville to Lancaster)

What traditions or godly habits have you made a sacrifice to make a permanent part of your family? Do you guard Sunday mornings? Do you make a point to fully involve your family around holy days (holidays) that remind us of the truths of God?

Luke 2:42 "When he was twelve years old..."

Jewish culture, twelve was the age just before adulthood — take responsibility for keeping God's Law for himself.

1 Corinthians 13:11 — "When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became a man, I gave up childish ways."

Ecclesiastes 12:1 — "Remember your Creator in the days of your youth."

Psalms 119:9 — "How can a young man keep his way pure? By guarding it according to your word."

Micah 6:8 — "He has told you, O man, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?"

1 Corinthians 16:13–14 – “Be watchful, stand firm in the faith, act like men, be strong. Let all that you do be done in love.”

Genesis 2:15 – “The Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to work it and keep it.”

1 Timothy 5:8 – “If anyone does not provide for his relatives... he has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever.”

Jesus grew into manhood.

Luke 2:52 – “And Jesus grew in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and man.”

Theologian Millard Erickson puts it:

“Sin is not part of the essence of human nature. Instead of asking ‘Is Jesus as human as we are?’ we might better ask, ‘Are we as human as Jesus?’ For the type of human nature that each of us possess is not pure human nature. The true humanity created by God has, in our case, been corrupted and spoiled. All the rest of us are but broken, corrupted versions of humanity. Jesus is not only as human as we are; He is more human.”

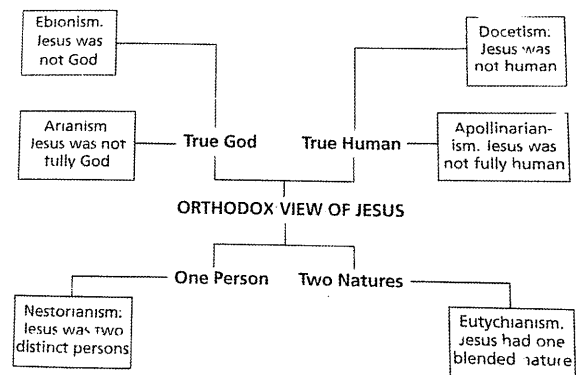
Luke 2:46 After three days they found him in the temple courts, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. 47 Everyone who heard him was amazed at his understanding and his answers.

48 When his parents saw him, they were astonished. His mother said to him, “Son, why have you treated us like this? Your father and I have been anxiously searching for you.” “Why were you searching for me?” he asked. “Didn’t you know I had to be in my Father’s house?”

He doesn’t say, “our Father,” like the rest of Israel might say. He says, “My Father.” Jesus knew who He was. Fully human — but fully divine.

Ebionism	Jesus was not God
Arianism	Jesus was not fully God
Docetism	Jesus was not human
Apollinarianism	Jesus was not fully human
Nestorianism	Jesus was two distinct persons
Eutychianism	Jesus had one blended nature

Figure 3 The Six Basic Heresies Regarding the Person of Christ



Biblical (Orthodox) View of Jesus:

➡ True God. True Human. One Person. Two Natures.

- **Oneness Pentecostalism**: denies the Trinity, saying Jesus *is* the Father and the Spirit
→ resembles **Modalism** (a separate heresy not listed above).

Even though Mary and Joseph didn't fully understand, Jesus submitted to His parents.
That's amazing. The Creator obeying His creation.

Philippians 2: "He humbled Himself and became obedient..." "

"If Jesus never sinned, did He really experience temptation like we do? Did He really feel the full weight of it?"

The answer is yes — Jesus really experienced temptation like we do...and I would argue, even more than we do.

Leon Morris: *"The person who resists temptation to the end feels the full weight of it. Giving in to temptation relieves the pressure; resisting means enduring its full force."*

Hebrews 4:15 says, "He was tempted in every way, just as we are — yet without sin."

Hebrews 12:2–3

"Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer/author and perfecter of our faith,
...Consider him who endured such opposition from sinners, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart."

1 Peter 2:21

"To this you were called, because Christ suffered for you, leaving you an example, that you should follow in his steps."

SO WHAT?

21 "Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven. **22** Many will say to me on that day, 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name and in your name drive out demons and in your name perform many miracles?' **23** Then I will tell them plainly, 'I never knew you. Away from me, you evildoers!' Matthew 7:21-23

Why does it matter? Because eternity matters. Your relationship with Jesus matters.

My challenge: Do you know Jesus? Do you know the biblical Jesus, the one true God? Have you been introduced to a false Jesus?

Men, what ways can you grow more and more into the manhood that God has designed you to be?

Challenge yourselves to memorize a question from New City Catechism and answer one per week, I believe there are 52 questions total.