

# Biblical Topics

## Son – Two Natures – True God

Jesus Christ is true God, begotten of the Father, from eternity. In our day many praise Jesus as a great teacher and reformer, but deny He is God. If Jesus is not true God, then He was a base deceiver and by no means a model of virtue and truthfulness. He is then not the Savior of me, and His religion is a fraud. The Deity of Christ is a fundamental doctrine, a denial of which makes saving faith impossible (1 John 4:3; 5:12, 13). Human reason cannot comprehend how this man Jesus could also be true God. We not follow our reason, but simply believe what the Bible says. The Scriptures ascribe to Him...

### A. Divine names:

- 1 John 5:20: We know also that the Son of God has come and has given us understanding, so that we may know him who is true. And we are in him who is true—even in his Son Jesus Christ. He is the true God and eternal life.
- John 20:28: Thomas said to him, “My Lord and my God!”
- Matthew 17:5: While he was still speaking, a bright cloud enveloped them, and a voice from the cloud said, “This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased. Listen to him!”
- Romans 9:5: Theirs are the patriarchs, and from them is traced the human ancestry of Christ, who is God over all, forever praised! Amen.

### B. Divine attributes:

- John 1:1-2: In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.
- Hebrews 13:8: Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.
- Matthew 28:20: And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.
- John 21:17: Peter was hurt because Jesus asked him the third time, “Do you love me?” He said, “Lord, you know all things; you know that I love you.”
- Matthew 28:18: All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.

### C. Divine works:

- John 1:3: Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made.
- Hebrews 1:3: The Son is the radiance of God’s glory and the exact representation of his being, sustaining all things by his powerful word.
- Matthew 9:6: But so that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins.
- John 5:27: And he has given him authority to judge because he is the Son of Man.

### D. Divine honor and glory:

- John 5:23: that all may honor the Son just as they honor the Father. He who does not honor the Son does not honor the Father, who sent him.

- Hebrew 1:6: And again, when God brings his firstborn into the world, he says, “Let all God’s angels worship him.”

It was necessary for our Savior to be true God so that...

- A. His fulfilling of the Law might be sufficient for all men. A sinful man can fulfill the Law not even for himself, much less for another; even a saint. For the fact that He is God gives immeasurable value to His obedience. He assures that He fulfilled the Law to the full satisfaction of God, who was well pleased with Him (Matt. 17:5). By Jesus’ vicarious obedience we are made righteous.
  - Psalm 49:7-8: <sup>7</sup> No man can redeem the life of another or give to God a ransom for him, <sup>8</sup> the ransom for a life is costly, no payment is ever enough.
  - Romans 5:19: For just as through the disobedience of the one man the many were made sinners, so also through the obedience of the one man the many will be made righteous.
- B. His life and death might be a sufficient ransom for our redemption. A sinful man must die for his own sins, he could not die for anyone else. Jesus fully satisfied the demands of divine justice against us. His suffering and death was a sufficient ransom for our salvation.
  - Mark 10:45: For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.
- C. He might be able to overcome death and the devil for us. Because of our sins death and the devil had power over us. The Son of God became our champion against these dread enemies. Christ took upon Himself our sins and died in our place. When He arose He overpowered death and the devil, thereby destroying their power over us.
  - Hebrews 2:14: Since the children have flesh and blood, he too shared in their humanity so that by his death he might destroy him who holds the power of death—that is, the devil.
  - 1 Corinthians 15:56-57: <sup>56</sup> The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. <sup>57</sup> But thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

The above information is taken from: “Luther’s Small Catechism” annotated by Edward W. A. Koehler.