

# Simply Christ

Gospel Newsletter

*Sharing the simplicity that is in Christ*

July 15, 2021

## MORE THAN A MAN

Many teachers and theologians have presented that Jesus walked upon earth as 100% man. We are told he did this to show us what a man can become and do through faith, fasting, and spiritual consecration. Is this true? Did Jesus walk among us as only a man, or was he something much, much more?

If we can set our lofty theology aside and look solely to the word of God, it becomes evident the above-mentioned doctrine cannot be true. According to the scripture, Christ, who was *“in the form of God”* and *“thought it not robbery to be equal with God,”* was *“made in the likeness of men.”* Philippians 6-7. Being made *“in the likeness of men”* is not the same as being made exactly as a fallen man.

The Apostle Paul describes this difference saying, *“The first man **Adam was made a living soul**; the last Adam (**Jesus Christ**) was made a quickening spirit. ...The first man is of the earth, earthy: the second man is the Lord from heaven.”* I Corinthians 15:45-49. There was never a moment in Jesus’ life upon earth when he was the same as any other person. Adam, the father of all humanity, was made to be a *“living soul.”* Jesus Christ, on the other hand, was made to be a *“quickenin*

*spirit.*” Although Jesus walked among men clothed in human flesh and faced the same tests we face in life, he was far from being just a man.

From the moment of conception in the womb of Mary, Jesus would forever be both the Son of God and the son of Mary. I have a natural mom and dad. There has never been a moment of my life when I have not been the offspring of both my parents. Jesus also had a mother and a father. He never took a single action when it was not the son of Mary taking that action. Neither did he do anything when he was not equally the Son of God. Even today, Jesus is both the Son of God and the son of man as he sits at the right hand of the Father. Acts 7:56.

The key to everything Jesus did on earth began with who he was. He was *“the only begotten son of God.”* John recognized this, saying, *“...we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father...”* John 1:18. There was no prayer, no faith, and no consecration that could have produced what Jesus was. This could only be a product of a heavenly birth.

Jesus was more than just a man. He had no sin in his nature or in his heart. John 14:30. God Almighty was his father, and that reality affected everything he did on this earth. But what about those who come to Christ and are also born of God? Are they the same as natural men and women?

When Paul tells us *“The first man **Adam was made a living soul**; the last Adam (Jesus Christ) was made a quickening spirit,”* he adds to this,

saying, *“The first man is of the earth, earthy: the second man is the Lord from heaven. **As is the earthy, such are they also that are earthy: and as is the heavenly, such are they also that are heavenly.**”* I Corinthians 15:45-48. He is clear that just as Adam was a *“living soul”* those who are *“earthy,”* the unregenerate person, are also living souls. They may exist forever, but they are not *“spirit”* as Christ is. Those who teach that a natural man *“is a spirit who has a soul and lives in a body,”* teach an error. It sounds good. It’s just not scriptural.

The Apostle assures us that although the *“earthly”* are not *“spirit,”* the children of God are *“as the heavenly (Jesus Christ).”* If you are born of God, you are not merely a *“living soul.”* As Christ is spirit, even so you are now spirit! Jesus also confirmed this powerful truth when speaking to Nicodemus about being *“born again.”* He said, *“That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.”* John 3:6. Jesus is measuring the natural birth against the spiritual birth. All of us are born into this world as *“flesh,”* but **only those who are *“born of the Spirit”* are spirit.** Those who teach that *“God is in every man”* are deceived and they are deceiving you.

The power of the new birth is such that it produces a creation which did not exist before. Through this new birth, we who were *“living souls”* receive a spirit from God himself. In that moment we become *“spiritual”* beings. This new spirit is not *“Christ and you,”* it is *“Christ in you!”* Sin is no longer your nature because the *“old*

*man*” of sin has been crucified with Christ. Romans  
6:6.

If you are a child of God, you are not just a cleaned-up man or woman. Yes, you are human, but you are more than human; you are more than Adam; you are more than a man! The Spirit of God has given birth to a new creation whose life, meat, and drink flows from heaven itself. You cannot be sustained by earthly things. You are not of this earth. You are more than a man!