

Video Lecture Series

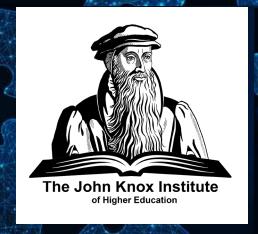
by Dr. Stephen Myers and Robert D. McCurley, ThM

STUDY GUIDE

Module 4: CHRISTOLOGY

Lecture 3:

THE HUMANITY OF CHRIST



John Knox Institute of Higher Education

Entrusting our Reformed Inheritance to the Church Worldwide

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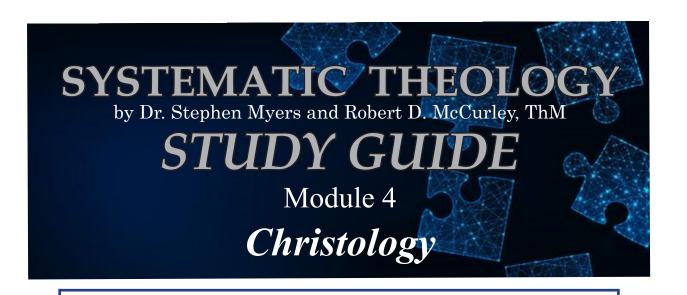
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Unless otherwise indicated, all Scripture quotations are from the Authorized King James Version.

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Lectures by Dr. Stephen Myers:

- 1. Introduction to Christology
- 2. The Divinity of Christ
- 3. The Humanity of Christ

Lectures by Robert D. McCurley, ThM:

- 4. The Hypostatic Union
- 5. The States of Christ
- 6. The Offices of Christ
- 7. The Necessity of the Atonement
- 8. The Nature of the Atonement
- 9. The Extent of the Atonement
- 10. The Preeminence of Christ

SYSTEMATIC THEOLOGY

by Dr. Stephen Myers

STUDY GUIDE

Module 4: CHRISTOLOGY Lecture 3:

The Humanity of Christ

Introduction

If we ask the question, "Whom do you say that Jesus is," a critically important part of the answer has to be that Jesus is God. But there's more to the answer. Yes, Jesus is fully God, but he's also something else. In 1 Timothy chapter 2, verse 5, the Apostle Paul tells us that we are saved by "the man Christ Jesus." Again, in Romans chapter 5, and verse 15, we are told that the grace of God comes "by one man, Jesus Christ." Central to Christianity is the fact that Jesus Christ is fully God; but equally central to Christianity is the fact that Jesus Christ is fully man; that the Word became flesh, as John chapter 1, verses 14 tells us. This is what we refer to as *The Humanity of Christ*. Christ is fully human.

Theme: The humanity of Christ.

I. Jesus is fully and perfectly human

- 1. The most elementary evidence that Jesus is fully man is that he was born.
 - a. Galatians 4:4; Luke 1:26–35; Isaiah 7:14.
 - b. This clearly points to Jesus' divinity as well as his humanity.
- 2. As fully man, Jesus partakes of all that constitutes humanity.
 - a. He has a real human body—1 John 1:1; John 20:27; 2 John 1:7.
 - b. He has a human mind, a human soul, and a human will—Matthew 24:36; Luke 23:46; 22:42.
- 3. Jesus Christ was totally and perfectly free from sin.
 - a. He remained free from sin his entire life—Hebrews 4:15; Matthew 27:23.

| Questions: |
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| 1. What is meant by the term "incarnation"? |
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| 2. How does the fact that Jesus was born become the most elementary evidence that Jesus is fully man? Which Scriptures about the birth of Christ clearly show us the humanity of Jesus? |
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| 3. How do we know that Jesus has a real human body? Have you heard of other ideas that people have about the human body of Jesus which are against the gospel truth? |
| 4. What other components of human nature does Jesus have? Is there any lack in Jesus' humanity as he took a full human nature? |
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| 5. Did Jesus ever sin in his life? Was he born with a sinful nature? Please give Scripture passages to prove your answer. |
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II. A Question about Jesus' Humanity

| 1. Question: If all men are sinners, and Jesus was not a sinner, how can we say that he was fully man? |
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| Answer: <i>Jesus is perfectly free from sin, and yet he is fully man—</i> Hebrews 4:15. |
| 2. More evidences about the humanity of Jesus. |
| a. Jesus experienced normal physical growth and development. |
| b. Jesus did have human limitations. |
| c. Jesus had human emotions. |
| d. Jesus lived like an ordinary man. |
| e. Jesus died. |
| f. Jesus remains fully man in his resurrection. |
| Questions 1. How do you answer this question: If all men are sinners, and Jesus was not a sinner, how can we say that he was fully man? |
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| 2. What does the Bible tell us about Jesus' normal physical growth and development? |
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| 3. What does it mean to say that, as a man, Jesus had human limitations? |
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| 4. By which Scripture passages do we know that Jesus has human emotions as well? |

| 5. How do we know that the description of the suffering servant in the book of Isaiah chapter 53 is referring to Jesus in his humanity? |
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| 6. How does the death of Jesus prove his humanity? |
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| 7. Did Jesus' incarnation end after his resurrection from the dead? How does the resurrected human body of Jesus differ from his body prior to the resurrection? |
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III. The Implications of Jesus' Humanity for Believers

- 1. At the end of the age, Jesus shall change our vile body that it may be fashioned like unto his glorious body.
 - 2. In order to save flesh and blood, the Son of God had to become flesh and blood.
 - a. Hebrews 2:14-15.
 - b. The incarnation was utterly necessary for the salvation of sinners.
 - 3. The incarnation continues to be necessary for the work that Jesus does now.
 - a. Hebrews 4:14-16.
 - 4. A challenge to not blame our sin on our humanity.

| Questions: |
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| 1. What will Jesus do for his people regarding their human body? |
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| 2. Why do we say that the incarnation was utterly necessary for the salvation of sinners? |
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| 3. What does it mean to say that the incarnation continues to be necessary for the work that Jesus is doing now? What comforts does this truth bring to you? |
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| 4. Can we simply blame our humanity as the cause of our sin? What is the truth about this? What should we do? |
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| IV. Self-Reflection |
| Meditate on Jesus' incarnation in his ongoing ministry, especially on him interceding for us as our great High Priest. Far from being just an exalted sovereign who is far removed from our situation, struggles, and trials, Christ has a tender heart for his people, especially in their afflictions and temptations. Do you know his throne of grace in your life? Do you adore the Lord |
| Jesus for his incarnation? |
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