

# Major Bible Themes

## 52 Vital Doctrines of the Scriptures Simplified and Explained

Adapted from the book *Major Bible Themes*  
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### God the Son: His Incarnation

- Introduction
  - When considering the Incarnation, two important truths should be realized:
    - ✦ Christ became at the same time and in the absolute sense very God and very man.
    - ✦ In becoming flesh He, though laying aside His privileges and glory, in no sense ceased to be deity.
  - John says that God became flesh and dwelt among us (Jn 1:14).
  - Christ existed in the form of God, but emptied Himself and became in the likeness of men (Phil 2:6-7).
  - Luke presents the historical fact of His incarnation, as to both His conception and His birth (Luke 1:26-38; 2:5-7).
  - Biblical contrasts of His deity and humanity:
    - ✦ He was weary (John 4:6), yet He called the weary to Himself for rest (Mt 11:28).
    - ✦ He was hungry (Mt 4:2), yet He was “the bread of life” (Jn 6:35).
    - ✦ He was thirsty (Jn 19:28), yet He was the water of life (Jn 7:37).
    - ✦ He grew, became strong, and increased in wisdom (Luke 2:40), yet He was unchanging (Heb 13:8).
    - ✦ He was made lower than angels (Heb 2:7), yet He and the Father are one (John 10:30).
    - ✦ He asked, “Who do people say that the Son of Man is?” (Mt 16:13), yet He “did not need anyone to testify concerning man” (Jn 2:25).
    - ✦ He died (Lk 23:46), yet He is eternal life (1 John 1:2; 5:20).
- The Fact of Christ’s Humanity
  - The humanity of Christ was purposed from eternity (Eph 3:11).
  - Every type and prophecy in the O.T. concerning Christ was an anticipation of the incarnate Son of God.
  - The fact of the humanity of Christ is seen in His annunciation and birth (Luke 1:31-35).
  - His life here on earth revealed his humanity.
    - ✦ His human names “The Son of man,” “The Son of David,” etc.
    - ✦ His human parentage as “her firstborn,” “made of a woman,” etc.
    - ✦ He possessed a human body, soul and spirit (1 John 4:2; Mt 26:38; Jn 13:21).

- The humanity of Christ is seen in His death and resurrection.
- The fact of the humanity of Christ is seen in that He ascended to heaven and is now, in His human glorified body, ministering for His own.
- When He comes again it will be the “same Jesus” coming as He went, in the same body (though glorified).
- He is “the last Adam” (1 Cor 15:45).
- The “body of His glory” is an abiding fact (Phil 3:21).
- Reasons for the Incarnation
  - He came to reveal God to man (Matt 11:27; John 1:18; 14:9).
  - He came to be an example for believers (1 Pet 2:21).
  - He came to provide a sacrifice for sin (Heb 10:1-10).
  - He came to destroy the works of the devil (Heb 2:14; 1 Jn 3:8).
  - He came that He might be our High Priest (Heb 2:17; 8:1).
  - He came to fulfill the Davidic covenant (2 Sam 7:16; Ac 2:30).
  - He came to be the head of the Church (Eph 1:22).
- Questions
  - What two important truths must be realized in understanding the incarnation of the Son of God?
  - Why is it important to uphold the full deity and the full humanity of Christ?
  - What evidence is there that Christ had full humanity?
  - What evidence is there that Christ had normal human experiences?
  - How is the fact of His deity also asserted even while Christ was on earth?
  - How is the incarnation related to God’s revelation to man?
  - How is the incarnation related to Christ’s sacrifice for sin?
  - What is the relationship between destroying the works of the devil and the incarnation?
  - How is the incarnation related to Christ’s office as High Priest?
  - What is the relationship of the Davidic covenant to the incarnation?
  - How is the position of Christ as Head over the Church related to His incarnation?