

Philippians Series

Lesson #047

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Dean Bible Ministries

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The Humanity of Jesus Christ in the New Testament Philippians 2:5–11



Two Fundamental Questions:

Who was Jesus *Before* He Came?

What was Jesus *When* He Came?

We have learned:

- 1. Php. 2:5–11 was written in context to provide an example of humility and serving one another which is stated in Php. 2:1–4.**
- 2. That Christ Jesus preexisted His incarnation as undiminished deity. Php. 2:6**
- 3. At the Incarnation God the Son did not surrender or give up any divine attribute, or anything essential to Deity. Such a surrender would not have been possible.**

- 4. God the Son voluntarily restricted the use of His divine attributes to solve the problems, temptations, and challenges He faced in His humanity, and veiled the manifestation of His eternal glory.**
- 5. However, though the visible manifestation of His glory was veiled, the glory of His Person was made manifest through His words and works.**

John 1:14, “And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.”

Who was Jesus *before* He came?

Understanding Who God is: unity and plurality

Did Jesus preexist creation? And if so, is He eternal?

Distinguish preexistence from eternality of Christ

Passages which indicate His eternality

Passages in the Old Testament which teach His preexistence

Passages in the New Testament which teach His preexistence

Passages which predict the coming of the Messiah

Passages which indicate His humanity

Passages which indicate His Deity

Passages in the gospels which indicate His humanity and His Deity

Passages in the Epistles which indicate His humanity and Deity

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Passages which indicate the plurality of the Godhead

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Passages which predict the coming of the Messiah

Passages which indicate His Deity

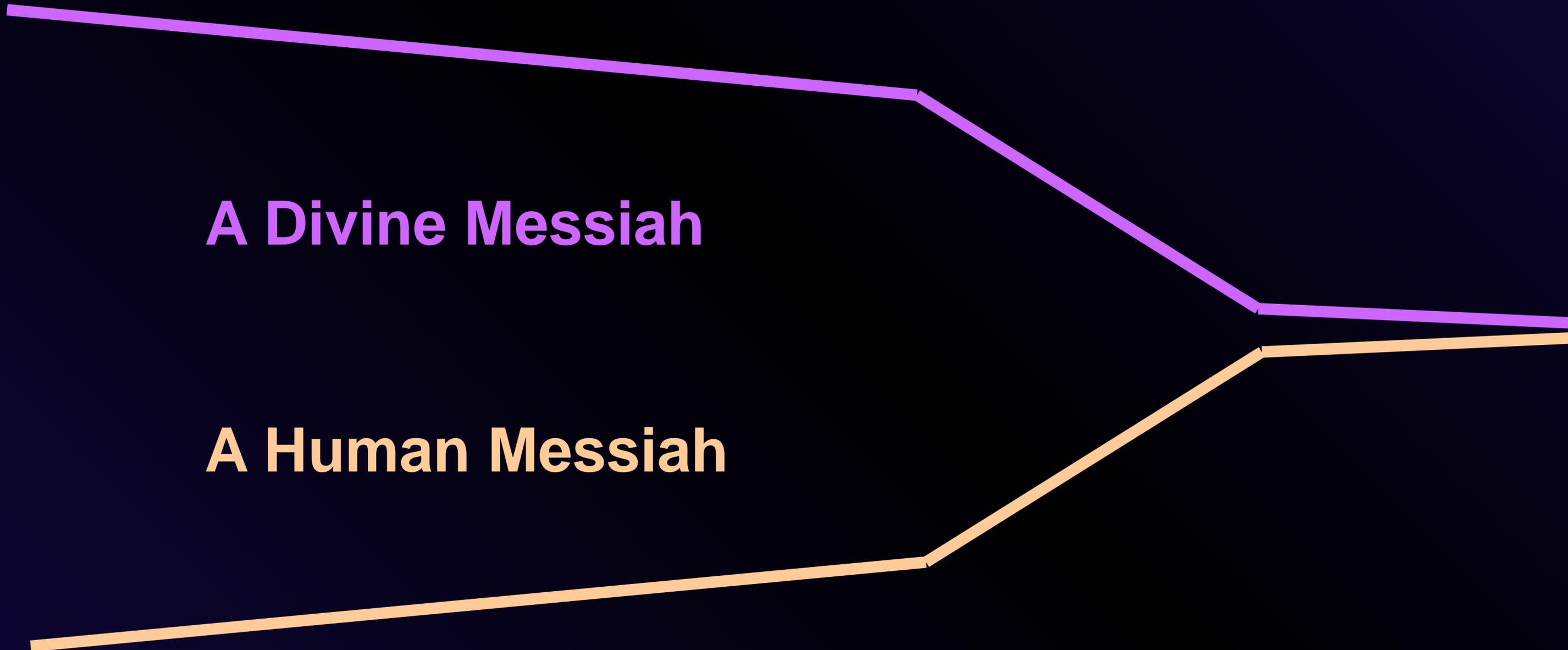
Passages which indicate His humanity

Passages in the gospels which indicate His humanity and His Deity

Two Streams from the Old Testament Converge in Jesus of Nazareth

A Divine Messiah

A Human Messiah



Jesus had the Attributes of Deity:

The fullness of Deity dwelt bodily in Him (Col. 2:9), eternal, immutable, self-existent, He was and is life itself, holy, righteous, sovereign over creation, omnipotent, omniscient, omnipresent

Jesus claimed to have come down from Heaven, to have come from the Father, to be one with the Father, to be the eternal I AM—the Pharisees clearly understood He was claiming Deity for they attempted to stone Him on many occasions.

He claimed that to know Him was to know God, to see Him was to see God, to receive Him was to receive God, to honor Him was to honor God.

He claimed to be the only object for saving faith, authority over eternal life, over the disciples, over the Temple and over the Sabbath and the Mosaic Law, the covenants, and the Messianic Kingdom.

Conclusion: Only someone determined to suppress truth (Rom. 1:18) could possibly claim that Jesus never claimed to be God.

1. Jesus had all the essential attributes of a genuine, unfallen, sinless human being: physical body, immaterial soul, immaterial human spirit.

a. Jesus had a human body:

His body was developed in the womb and born in the normal physical process.

Luke 2:6, “So it was, that while they were there, the days were completed for her to be delivered.

Luke 2:7, “And she brought forth her firstborn Son, and wrapped Him in swaddling cloths, and laid Him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.”

Luke 2:16, “And they came with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the Babe lying in a manger.”

a. Jesus had a human body:

His body was developed in the womb and born in the normal physical process.

Matt. 1:25, “and did not know her till she had brought forth [τίκτω *tiktō* ‘to bear children’] her firstborn Son. And he called His name JESUS.”

Matt. 2:1, “Now after Jesus was born [γεννάω *gennaō* ‘to give birth to’] in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem,”

a. Jesus had a human body:

Matt. 26:12, “For in pouring this fragrant oil on My body, she did it for My burial.”

Matt. 26:26, “And as they were eating, Jesus took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to the disciples and said, ‘Take, eat; this is My body.’ ”

Matt. 26:28, “ ‘For this is My blood of the new covenant, which is shed for many for the remission of sins.’ ”

a. Jesus had a human body:

Luke 2:21, “And when eight days were completed for the circumcision of the Child, His name was called JESUS, the name given by the angel before He was conceived in the womb.”

a. Jesus had a human body:

Luke 24:39, “Behold My hands and My feet, that it is I Myself. Handle Me and see, for a spirit does not have flesh and bones as you see I have.”

a. Jesus had a human body:

John 2:21, “But He was speaking of the temple of His body.”

a. Jesus had a human body:

Heb. 2:14, “Inasmuch then as the children have partaken of flesh and blood, He Himself likewise shared in the same, that through death He might destroy him who had the power of death, that is, the devil,”

a. Jesus had a human body:

Heb. 10:5, “Therefore, when He came into the world, He said: ‘*Sacrifice and offering You did not desire, but a body You have prepared for Me.*’ ” [Psa. 40:6–8]

Heb. 10:10, “By that will we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.”

b. Jesus had a human soul:

Matt. 26:38, “Then He said to them, ‘My soul is exceedingly sorrowful, even to death. Stay here and watch with Me.’ ”

John 12:27, “Now My soul is troubled, and what shall I say? ‘Father, save Me from this hour’? But for this purpose I came to this hour.”

Acts 2:27, “For You will not leave my soul in Hades, nor will You allow Your Holy One to see corruption.” [Psa. 16:8–11]

c. Jesus also had a human spirit:

Mark 2:8, “But immediately, when Jesus perceived in His spirit that they reasoned thus within themselves, He said to them, ‘Why do you reason about these things in your hearts?’ ”

Mark 8:12, “But He sighed deeply in His spirit, and said, ‘Why does this generation seek a sign? Assuredly, I say to you, no sign shall be given to this generation.’ ”

c. Jesus also had a human spirit:

Luke 23:46, “And when Jesus had cried out with a loud voice, He said, ‘Father, “into Your hands I commit My spirit.” ’ Having said this, He breathed His last.”

John 11:33, “Therefore, when Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who came with her weeping, He groaned in the spirit and was troubled.”

John 13:21, “When Jesus had said these things, He was troubled in spirit, and testified and said, ‘Most assuredly, I say to you, one of you will betray Me.’ ”

d. Jesus had a human ancestry traced back to Adam:

Matt. 1:1, “The book of the genealogy of Jesus Christ, the Son of David, the Son of Abraham:”

Rom. 1:3, “concerning His Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who was born of the seed of David according to the flesh,”

e. Jesus had human names:

***Son of Man* emphasized His humanity, used 82 times for Jesus.**

***Jesus* emphasized His role as Savior.**

f. Jesus was called a “man” by others:

John 1:30, “This is He of whom I said, ‘After me comes a Man who is preferred before me, for He was before me.’ ”

John 10:33, “The Jews answered Him, saying, ‘For a good work we do not stone You, but for blasphemy, and because You, being a Man, make Yourself God.’ ”

Acts 2:22, “Men of Israel, hear these words: Jesus of Nazareth, a Man attested by God to you by miracles, wonders, and signs which God did through Him in your midst, as you yourselves also know—”

f. Jesus was called a “man” by others:

Acts 13:38, “Therefore let it be known to you, brethren, that through this Man is preached to you the forgiveness of sins;”

Rom. 5:15, “But the free gift is not like the offense. For if by the one man’s offense many died, much more the grace of God and the gift by the grace of the one Man, Jesus Christ, abounded to many.”

1 Cor. 15:21, “For since by man came death, by Man also came the resurrection of the dead.”

f. Jesus was called a “man” by others:

1 Cor. 15:47, “The first man was of the earth, made of dust; the second Man is the Lord from heaven.”

Php. 2:8, “And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross.”

1 Tim. 2:5, “For there is one God and one Mediator between God and men, the Man Christ Jesus,”

g. Jesus was called a “man” by Himself:

John 8:40, “But now you seek to kill Me, a Man who has told you the truth which I heard from God. Abraham did not do this.”

h. Jesus from childhood to adulthood developed as a normal human:

Luke 2:40, “And the Child grew and became strong in spirit, filled with wisdom; and the grace of God was upon Him.”

Luke 2:52, “And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and men.”

i. Jesus experienced a range of human experiences:

Matt. 4:2, “And when He had fasted forty days and forty nights, afterward He was hungry.”

Matt. 21:18, “Now in the morning, as He returned to the city, He was hungry.”

John 19:28, “After this, Jesus, knowing that all things were now accomplished, that the Scripture might be fulfilled, said, ‘I thirst!’ ”

John 4:6, “Now Jacob’s well was there. Jesus therefore, being wearied from His journey, sat thus by the well. It was about the sixth hour.”

i. Jesus experienced a range of human experiences:

Matt. 8:24, “And suddenly a great tempest arose on the sea, so that the boat was covered with the waves. But He was asleep.”

Mark 10:21, “Then Jesus, looking at him, loved him, and said to him, ‘One thing you lack: Go your way, sell whatever you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, take up the cross, and follow Me.’ ”

Matt. 9:36, “But when He saw the multitudes, He was moved with compassion for them, because they were weary and scattered, like sheep having no shepherd.”

i. Jesus experienced a range of human experiences:

Luke 22:44, “And being in agony, He prayed more earnestly. Then His sweat became like great drops of blood falling down to the ground.”

John 12:27, “Now My soul is troubled, and what shall I say? ‘Father, save Me from this hour’? But for this purpose I came to this hour.”

Heb. 2:18, “For in that He Himself has suffered, being tempted, He is able to aid those who are tempted.”

i. Jesus experienced a range of human experiences:

Heb. 4:15, “For we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but was in all points tempted as we are, yet without sin.”

Luke 7:34, “The Son of Man has come eating and drinking, and you say, ‘Look, a glutton and a winebibber, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!’ ”

Luke 7:36, “Then one of the Pharisees asked Him to eat with him. And He went to the Pharisee’s house, and sat down to eat.”

j. Though omniscient in His Deity, He willingly limited His access to that omniscience and showed a limited knowledge:

Mark 13:32, “But of that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father.”

k. He physically suffered and physically died.

John 19:30, “So when Jesus had received the sour wine, He said, ‘It is finished!’ And bowing His head, He gave up His spirit.”

Heb. 2:14, “Inasmuch then as the children have partaken of flesh and blood, He Himself likewise shared in the same, that through death He might destroy him who had the power of death, that is, the devil,”

Heb. 5:8, “though He was a Son, yet He learned obedience by the things which He suffered.”

The Humiliation of Christ

His Physical Suffering on the Cross

1. The Incarnation was itself a humiliation as the Creator willingly took onto Himself the limitations of the creature.

Gal. 4:4, “But when the fullness of the time had come, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the law,”

Php. 2:6, “who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God,

Php. 2:7, “but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, and coming in the likeness of men.”

Heb. 2:14, “Inasmuch then as the children have partaken of flesh and blood, He Himself likewise shared in the same, that through death He might destroy him who had the power of death, that is, the devil,”

2. The eternally righteous and just Creator was not made sinful, but took on the *likeness* of sinful flesh.

Rom. 8:3, “For what the law could not do in that it was weak through the flesh, God did by sending His own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, on account of sin: He condemned sin in the flesh,”

Php. 2:7, “but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, and coming in the likeness of men.”

3. The eternal, infinite, unique (holy) One was born in humble circumstances—born in a manger, reared in a small, rural village, a measure of poverty.

Luke 2:7, “And she brought forth her firstborn Son, and wrapped Him in swaddling cloths, and laid Him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.”

Matt. 2:23, “And he came and dwelt in a city called Nazareth, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophets, ‘He shall be called a Nazarene.’ ”

Matt. 8:20, “And Jesus said to him, ‘Foxes have holes and birds of the air have nests, but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay His head.’ ”

4. He was born under the Mosaic Law and was subject to the restrictions of that Law.

Gal. 4:4, “But when the fullness of the time had come, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the law,”

5. Part of His humiliation was to live with the physical limitations of life, sufferings, temptations, rejection.

John 7:5, “For even His brothers did not believe in Him.”

Heb. 4:15, “For we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but was in all points tempted as we are, yet without sin.”

Heb. 12:3, “For consider Him who endured such hostility from sinners against Himself, lest you become weary and discouraged in your souls.”

6. In His humiliation He bore the punishment for our sin.

2 Cor. 5:21, “For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.”

1 Pet. 2:24, “who Himself bore our sins in His own body on the tree, that we, having died to sins, might live for righteousness—by whose stripes you were healed.”

7. In His humiliation He had to endure the curse of physical death on the Cross.

Gal. 3:13, “Christ has redeemed us from the curse of the law, having become a curse for us (for it is written, ‘Cursed is everyone who hangs on a tree’),”

Heb. 12:2, “looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.”

8. In His humiliation He had to be buried.

Matt. 27:59, “When Joseph had taken the body, he wrapped it in a clean linen cloth,

Matt. 27:60, “and laid it in his new tomb which he had hewn out of the rock; and he rolled a large stone against the door of the tomb, and departed.

Acts 13:34, “And that He raised Him from the dead, no more to return to corruption, He has spoken thus: ‘I will give you the sure mercies of David.’”

Acts 13:35, “Therefore He also says in another Psalm: ‘You will not allow Your Holy One to see corruption.’”

1 Cor. 15:4, “and that He was buried, and that He rose again the third day according to the Scriptures,”