

# God-The Ultimate Humanitarian

## Chapter 8: A Humanitarian by Becoming Man

What makes a God great? What makes a God worthy of worship and praise? Some would say his awesomeness, some would say power, some would say majesty, some would say judgment. Many of these things puts God so far above people. Part of God is that he is greater than man, he is more powerful, he more knowledgeable, and he is eternal. These make our God amazing, but there is one thing that truly shows our God's love and greatness.

God became a man to save us.

There is no other god that became a man to save his people. Some gods would never stoop so low as to be a man. Some gods become men to experience the frailty of man and laugh at his ignorance, sin and stupidity. Other gods become man to experience the sins of the flesh.

However, when the time had fully come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under Law, to redeem those under Law, that we might receive the full rights of sons. (Gal 4:4,5). Our God showed his love by becoming a man to live for us and to die for us. Today we look at how awesome are God is by becoming a man to save us.

.....What did you learn from chapter 8?

1. One of my favorite sections of Chapter 8 is right at the beginning. I have never thought of Christmas as a deployment.

➤ What do you think of when you hear the word deployment?

**Deployment is a military word with military connotation. The troops are deployed to serve**

➤ How does that go well with what God did at Christmas?

**God deployed Jesus with a mission**

**It would be a mission of mercy**

**It would be a hard mission**

**It would be a mission of service**

**It would be a mission where someone died**

**It would be a mission of victory**

**It would be a mission of war**

2. How can't Jesus save us if he is just a great teacher?

**Sin has brainwashed humanity in its thinking. We no longer think like God or want to do things his way. A teacher can teach a lot, but when the students don't want to learn the teaching falls short. We need more than a teacher.**

3. How can't Jesus save us if he is just a guide showing us the way?

**Sin has blinded us to what to do. Our human mind does not even know what God's way is any more. Think about it, we know right and wrong, but what do we do anyway. We need more than a guide to show us the way. We need more than a guide**

4. How can't Jesus help us if he is just a helper?

**We need more than someone who will do some of the work for us because we don't want to do God's work. Sin has turned us from wanting to do anything that God would have us do. Much like the guide, we want to do what we want to do. We need more than a helper.**

5. To be our Savior, Jesus has to be more than a teacher, guide or helper. To be our Savior he has to be both True God and True Man.

6. How do you/we know that Jesus Christ is true God?

✦ 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.

✦ 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.

A. The Bible clearly calls Jesus, God. There is no debate here. \_\_\_\_

✦ John 1:1. In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. --- Eternal

✦ Matthew 28:20. and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.” **Present Everywhere**

✦ John 21:17. <sup>17</sup>The third time he said to him, “Simon son of John, do you love me?” 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.” **All-Knowing**  
Jesus said, “Feed my sheep.

B: The Bible clearly says that Jesus acts like God. Jesus has characteristics only God has. \_\_\_\_

✦ 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. After he had provided purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty in heaven.

C: The Bible clearly says that Jesus does things only God can do. \_\_\_\_\_

✦ 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.

D: The Bible clearly says we should honor and praise Jesus as God. \_\_\_\_\_

7. How do you/we know that Jesus Christ is true man?

✦ 1 Timothy 2:5. <sup>5</sup> For there is one God and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus,

A:      **The Bible clearly calls Jesus a man.**                     

✦ Luke 24:39. Look at my hands and my feet. It is I myself! Touch me and see; a ghost does not have flesh and bones, as you see I have.”

B: **The Bible clearly describes Jesus as a man. He has the same characteristics of a man.**

✦ Matthew 26:38. Then he said to them, “My soul is overwhelmed with sorrow to the point of death. Stay here and keep watch with me.”

C:    **The Bible clearly teaches that Jesus has a soul like men.**                     

✦ Luke 2:7. and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.

D:    **The Bible clearly teaches that Jesus experience life in the same way that man does. He was born as a man and walked this earth as a man.**     

8. Who is Jesus Christ?

✦ Matthew 16:13, 16.

<sup>13</sup> When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, “Who do people say the Son of Man is?”

<sup>16</sup> Simon Peter answered, “You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.”

**You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.” ---- The Christ – Greek for Messiah --- the Son – Immanuel --- of God --- the Old Testament God of our Fathers.**

9. How did God become man?

✦ Matthew 1:20. But after he had considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, “Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is **conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit.**

✦ Luke 2:7. **and she gave birth** to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.

**The Bible clearly describes Jesus birth as a normal miracle.**

**The birth was not the miracle. Jesus was born in the same way that we are. The miracle is how Mary conceived, through the Holy Spirit. without the regular normal process of conception is the miracle**

10. If Jesus Christ is not God and man in one person, he cannot possibly be our Savior. Explain.

A. Jesus had to be True Man so that:

- ✦ Galatians 4:4-5. But when the time had fully come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under law, <sup>5</sup> to redeem those under law, that we might receive the full rights of sons.
- ✦ 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.”
- ✦ Hebrews 4:15. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to empathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are—yet he did not sin.

**Jesus had to be True Man so that he could be under God’s Law and be perfect like people are. He needed to be tempted as we are so that he could be perfect unlike us. If he were not a man, he would not have been subject to the Laws that God made for man. Jesus following God’s Laws perfectly is called his Active Obedience.**

B: Jesus had to be True God so that:

- ✦ 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.
- ✦ Psalm 49:7-8. 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

**Jesus had to be True God so that he could be perfect and obey God’s Laws in everything and then pay the price for all people and not just for himself.**

**Jesus following God’s plan to save everyone by his suffering and death is called his Passive Obedience.**

11. Why do you think so many religions have such a difficult time believing that Jesus Christ is not only a man, but also God?

- ✦ 1 Timothy 3:16. Beyond all question, the mystery of godliness is great: He appeared in a body, was vindicated by the Spirit, was seen by angels, was preached among the nations, was believed on in the world, was taken up in glory.

**It doesn’t make sense. In many ways it is a mystery that we must believe by faith. It is beyond out human ability to understand.**

**God – the creator of the universe was born as a baby in Bethlehem.**

**The eternal God made himself obedient to death....**

**God prayed?**

**Did Jesus need school?**

12. Read Philippians 2:5-8 and discuss how Jesus' humbling himself and becoming man shows God to be the Ultimate Humanitarian.

Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus:

<sup>6</sup> Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped, <sup>7</sup> but made himself nothing, taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. <sup>8</sup> And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself and became obedient to death—even death on a cross!

**We don't want to humble ourselves for anyone. We look out for number 1. Yet, if Jesus did that, none of us would be saved.**

**We can't grasp what Jesus did because it is outside of the way that we think and way beyond our comprehending. All we can do is marvel that he did it.**

13. Discuss the comfort of knowing that Jesus is both God and man in one person. We always want to look at the why. Why did Jesus do this? To Save Us. God did this miraculous thing that we can't even fully understand, but his reason is clear. He loves us and wants us to be saved. He didn't allow it to happen by chance or circumstance, he took an active personal role in your salvation and mine and came to earth to make sure it got done perfectly.

It is a comfort to know that the same Savior who went through this is the same Savior who forgives me now.

The same Savior we pray to is the same Savior who saw the hurt and helped, who saw the sick and healed who understood the worry and calmed the troubled mind. That's what he does for me too.

Assignment: Please read Chapter 9 of *God-The Ultimate Humanitarian*