

=THE BODY OF JESUS=

Lesson 10

The Humanity of Christ

INTRODUCTION: We have been studying the body of Christ which leads us to the discussion of the fact that physically He was human. Though He was deity in the highest sense, though He possessed all the attributes and titles of God, and though He was free from any taint of sin or error, we must not forget that He was also perfect humanity—bone of our bone, flesh of our flesh. During His earthly ministry He lived on this earth as a man among men, subject to all the trials and temptations that are common to men. As a babe, He came to consciousness. As a child and a youth, He “increased in wisdom and stature and in favour with God and man.” As a man, He fulfilled perfectly the divine idea of what God had made man and meant man to be.

From the mouth of His mother, He learned the sacred things of God, and at her knee He knelt to pray. He grew up in the obscure town of Nazareth. He bore the responsibility of supporting His mother and the rest of the family. As a carpenter, He knew the meaning of everyday toil. He passed through all the stages of human experience from childhood to manhood. Hence, He knows human life fully by personal experience. Because of this, He can be to us all that we need. To the child He can say, “I know childhood.” To the teenager He can say, “I understand the teenage years.” To the adult He can say, “I understand the burdens of adults.” Let us notice some of the facts that deal with His humanity.

- I. BIRTH. “Now when Jesus was born in Bethlehem...,” Matthew 2:1. “For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour...,” Luke 2:11.
- II. GROWTH. “And the child grew, and waxed strong in spirit, filled with wisdom...,” Luke 2:40. “And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favour with God and man,” Luke 2:52.
- III. FATIGUE. “Jesus therefore, being wearied with his journey, sat thus on the well...,” John 4:6. The word “wearied” here means “to be beaten out.” In other words, He was literally “beat.”
- IV. SLEEP. “...the ship was covered with the waves: but he was asleep,” Matthew 8:24. “...and they awake him...,” Mark 4:38.
- V. HUNGER. “And when he had fasted forty days and forty nights, he was afterward an hungred,” Matthew 4:2. “Now in the morning as He returned into the city, He hungered,” Matthew 21:18.
- VI. THIRST. “...Jesus...saith, I thirst,” John 19:28.
- VII. INDIGNATION: “But when Jesus saw it, he was much displeased (*moved with indignation*)...,” Mark 10:14. “And when he had looked round about on them with anger, being grieved for the hardness of their hearts...,” Mark 3:5.
- VIII. LOVE. “Then Jesus beholding him loved him...,” Mark 10:21. “...one of his disciples, whom Jesus loved,” John 13:23.
- IX. JOY. “These things have I spoken unto you, that my joy might remain in you, and that your joy might be full,” John 15:11.
- X. SORROW AND ANXIETY. “And he...began to be sorrowful and very heavy,” Matthew 26:37.
- XI. WEEPING. “Jesus wept,” John 11:35.
- XII. TROUBLES. “Now is my soul troubled,” John 12:27a.
- XIII. TEMPTATION. “Then was Jesus led up of the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted of the devil,” Matthew 4:1. “For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities;

but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin,” Hebrews 4:15. “For in that he himself hath suffered being tempted, he is able to succour them that are tempted,” Hebrews 2:18.

XIV. SUFFERING. “But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed,” Isaiah 53:5. “...Thus it is written, and thus it behoved Christ to suffer...,” Luke 24:46. “Though he were a Son, yet learned he obedience by the things which he suffered,” Hebrews 5:8. “For it became him...to make the captain of their salvation perfect through sufferings,” Hebrews 2:10.

CONCLUSION: The entire lesson could be summed up by saying that though Jesus was God, He was in all points also a man. The Scripture says that “in all things it behoved him to be made like unto his brethren,” Hebrews 2:17. The true teaching for all of this is that He understands us—our problems, our needs, and our temptations.