



Heidelberg, Germany

A Quick Overview

I. Misery

II. Deliverance

God the Father



God the Son

God the Holy Spirit

The Holy Sacraments

Holy Baptism

The Holy Supper of Jesus Christ

III. Gratitude

The Ten Commandments

The Lord's Prayer

Last Week:

34. Why do you call him
“our Lord”?

34. Why do you call him “our Lord”?

Because— not with gold or silver, but with his precious blood—he has set us free from sin and from the tyranny of the devil, and has bought us, body and soul, to be his very own.

Tonight's Questions:

35. What does it mean that he “was conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary”?

36. How does the holy conception and birth of Christ benefit you?

35. What does it mean that he
“was conceived by the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary”?

That the eternal Son of God, who is and remains true and eternal God, took to himself, through the working of the Holy Spirit, from the flesh and blood of the virgin Mary, a truly human nature so that he might also become David's true descendant, like his brothers and sisters in every way except for sin.

Eternal Son of God

I and the Father are one. **John 10:30**

...he has fulfilled for us, their children, by raising up Jesus. As it is written in the second Psalm:

“‘You are my son; today I have become your father.’ **Acts 13:33**

Son of God, Lord of Creation

The Son is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. For in him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things have been created through him and for him. **Colossians 1:15-16**

Son of God, True God

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 by being in his Son Jesus Christ. He is the true God and eternal life. **1 John 5:20**

Born of a Virgin

The angel answered, “The Holy Spirit will come on you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God. **Luke 1:35**

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. She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins.” All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: “The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel” (which means “God with us”). **Matthew 1:20-23**

Son of Man: Flesh and Blood

But when the set time had fully come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law.

Galatians 4:4

Since the children have flesh and blood, he too shared in their humanity so that by his death he might break the power of him who holds the power of death—that is, the devil—

Hebrews 2:14

Son of Man, Son of David

The LORD swore an oath to David, a sure oath he will not revoke: “One of your own descendants I will place on your throne. **Psalm 132:11**

This is the genealogy of Jesus the Messiah the son of David, the son of Abraham. **Matt. 1:1**

Fully Human

...regarding his Son, who as to his earthly life was a descendant of David, **Romans 1:3**

He made himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. **Philippians 2:7**

For this reason he had to be made like them, fully human in every way, in order that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in service to God, and that he might make atonement for the sins of the people.

Hebrews 2:17

A Great High Priest

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. **Hebrews 4:15**

Such a high priest truly meets our need—one who is holy, blameless, pure, set apart from sinners, exalted above the heavens. ²⁷ Unlike the other high priests, he does not need to offer sacrifices day after day, first for his own sins, and then for the sins of the people. He sacrificed for their sins once for all when he offered himself. **Hebrews 7:26-27**

36. How does the holy conception and birth of Christ benefit you?

He is our mediator and, in God's sight, he covers with his innocence and perfect holiness my sinfulness in which I was conceived.

Christ Jesus, our Mediator

For there is one God and one mediator between God and mankind, the man Christ Jesus, who gave himself as a ransom for all people.

1 Timothy 2:5-6

His Sanctifying Blood

The blood of goats and bulls and the ashes of a heifer sprinkled on those who are ceremonially unclean sanctify them so that they are outwardly clean. How much more, then, will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself unblemished to God, cleanse our consciences from acts that lead to death, so that we may serve the living God! For this reason Christ is the mediator of a new covenant, that those who are called may receive the promised eternal inheritance—now that he has died as a ransom to set them free from the sins committed under the first covenant.

Hebrews 9:13-15

An Offering for Our Sins

For what the law was powerless to do because it was weakened by the flesh, God did by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh to be a sin offering. And so he condemned sin in the flesh, in order that the righteous requirement of the law might be fully met in us, who do not live according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. **Romans 8:3-4**

Justification, Redemption, Adoption

God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God. **II Corinthians 5:21**

But when the set time had fully come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law,⁵ to redeem those under the law, that we might receive adoption to sonship. **Galatians 4:4-5**

Sangre de Cristo!

For you know that it was not with perishable things such as silver or gold that you were redeemed from the empty way of life handed down to you from your ancestors, but with the precious blood of Christ, a lamb without blemish or defect.

1 Peter 1:18-19

Wrap-up thus far:

The particular genius of the Incarnation is that by his coming in human flesh, Jesus was able to express completely the character and love of God to us, was able to atone for our sins as a perfect offering, and was able to accomplish our own sanctification through his blood. All of this would have been impossible without the Incarnation.

Let's sing a
Christmas Hymn!

What Child is This?

What Child is this, who, laid to rest,
On Mary's lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet,
While shepherds watch are keeping?

This, this is Christ, the King,
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing:
Haste, haste to bring Him laud,
The Babe, the Son of Mary!

Why lies He in such mean estate,
Where ox and ass are feeding?
Good Christian, fear: for sinners here
The silent Word is pleading.

This, this is Christ, the King,
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing:
Haste, haste to bring Him laud,
The Babe, the Son of Mary!

So bring Him incense, gold, and myrrh,
Come, peasant, king to own Him.
The King of kings salvation brings;
Let loving hearts enthrone Him.

This, this is Christ, the King,
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing:
Haste, haste to bring Him laud,
The Babe, the Son of Mary!



Let us pray