

Christianity 101

Week 2

(revised 7/1/17)

Two Questions from last week

1. Write down your biggest takeaway from Class One. This could be something that was new to you, something that fascinates you, or just something you'd like to know more about.

2. As you reflect on Class One, write down if you have any question that remains unanswered.

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth;

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the Virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.**

He descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again.

**He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

“I believe in Jesus Christ”

‘JESUS’

‘CHRIST’

FULFILLS OLD COVENANT

FULFILLS ISRAEL’S BLESSING OF ALL NATIONS

Transliteration of Yeshua Into Jesus		
Hebrew/Aramaic	Ye-sh-ua	(yay-shoo-ah)
	↓ ↓ ↓	
Greek	Ie-s-ous	(ee-ay-sous)
	↓ ↓ ↓	
Latin	Ie-s-us	(ee-ay-sous)
	↓ ↓ ↓	
English	Je-s-us	(gee-sus)

“his only Son”

BEGOTTEN

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son...
- John 3:16 (KJV)

FULLY GOD

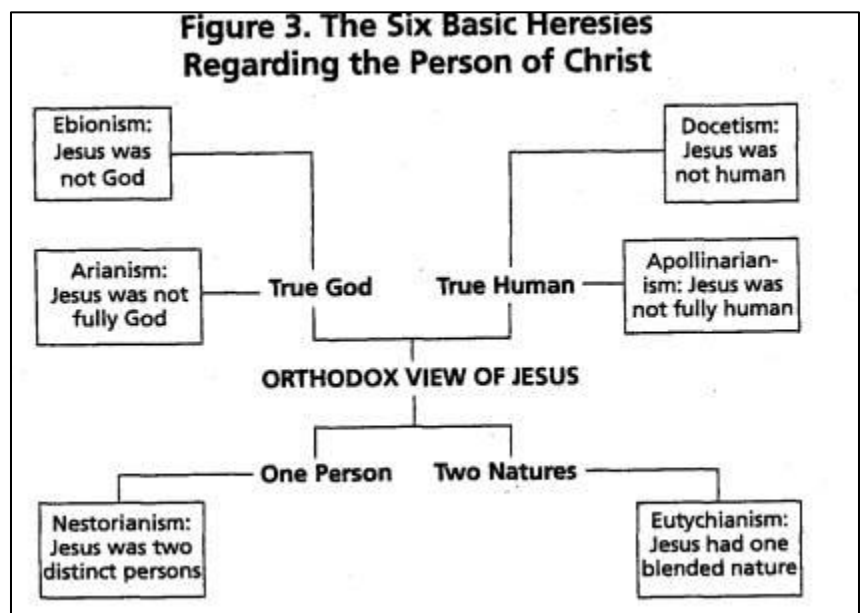
FULLY MAN

FULLY GOD & FULLY MAN

“HYPOSTATIC UNION” –
COUNCIL OF
CHALCEDON (451 A.D.)

CANNOT DIVIDE JESUS’
TWO NATURES

JESUS DID DIVINE
THINGS HUMANLY &
HUMAN THINGS
DIVINELY



“our Lord”

Thomas answered (Jesus), “My Lord and my God!” - John 20:28

PRESENT AND FUTURE RULER OF THE UNIVERSE

OUR CO-CREATOR

“I believe in Jesus Christ, his only son, our Lord”

RECEIVE HIM AS YOUR PERSONAL LORD

Question: Is Jesus the Lord of your life?

*Jesus said, “If you love me, you will keep my commandments.”
- John 14:15*

“He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary”

Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel. - Isaiah 7:14

THE INCARNATION

SON SENT BY FATHER, IN LOVE

CONSUMMATED BY THE HOLY SPIRIT

*Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit.
- Matthew 1:18*

WITHOUT SIN

Jesus said, “The one who sent me is with me; he has not left me alone, for I always do what is pleasing to him.” - John 8:29

For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God. - 2 Corinthians 5:21

For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. - Hebrews 4:15

MARY

MARY NOT WITHOUT SIN

And Mary said, 'My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior' -Luke 1:46-47

UNBIBLICAL: DOCTRINE OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

ABOUT THE CONCEPTION OF MARY, NOT JESUS

THEOTOKOS (MARY = "BEARER OF GOD") IS BIBLICAL

UNBIBLICAL ABOUT MARY: PERPETUAL VIRGINITY & HER ASSUMPTION

"Is not this (Jesus) the carpenter, the son of Mary and brother of James and Joses and Judas and Simon, and are not his sisters here with us?" - Mark 6:3

ON JESUS' EXPERIENCE OF TEMPTATION

"He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried."

Question: Who killed Jesus?

PILATE

PASSION

...this man, handed over to you according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of those outside the law. -Acts 2:23

He said, 'Abba, Father, for you all things are possible; remove this cup from me; yet, not what I want, but what you want.' - Mark 14:36

CUP = WRATH OF GOD

Thus the LORD, the God of Israel, said to me: "Take from my hand this cup of the wine of wrath, and make all the nations to whom I send you drink it. -Jeremiah 25:15

Wake yourself, wake yourself, stand up, O Jerusalem, you who have drunk from the hand of the LORD the cup of his wrath, who have drunk to the dregs the bowl, the cup of staggering. -Isaiah 51:17

And another angel, a third, followed them, saying with a loud voice, "If anyone worships the beast and its image and receives a mark on his forehead or on his hand, he also will drink the wine of God's wrath, poured full strength into the cup of his anger, and he will be tormented with fire and sulfur in the presence of the holy angels and in the presence of the Lamb. -Revelation 14:9-10

THE PASSION = GOD'S WRATH PLACED ON HIS SON

All we like sheep have gone astray; we have all turned to our own way, and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all. - Isaiah 53:6

ATONEMENT

Question: What does Jesus' death accomplish?

Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. -1 John 4:8-10

PROPITIATION

'Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?' He said to him, ' "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind." This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." - Matthew 22:36-39

RECONCILIATION

REDEMPTION

VICTORY

For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. – Romans 8:38-39

“He descended to the dead.”

FORMERLY: “HE DESCENDED INTO HELL”

For Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh but made alive in the spirit, in which he went and proclaimed to the spirits in prison, because they formerly did not obey, when God's patience waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was being prepared, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were brought safely through water. -1 Peter 3:18-20

“THE DEAD” MAY OR MAY NOT BE A REFERENCE TO HELL

Christ was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit, in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah... - 1 Peter 3:18-20

TRANSFORMED DEATH

“on the third day he rose again”

A FACT OF HISTORY

JESUS RISING WAS CRUCIAL

Question: Why does it matter that Jesus rose from the dead?

...VINDICATED JESUS THE AS SON OF GOD

Jesus was declared to be Son of God with power according to the spirit of holiness by resurrection from the dead. - Romans 1:4

...DEMONSTRATED VICTORY OVER DEATH

God raised (Jesus) up, having freed him from death, because it was impossible for him to be held in its power. - Acts 2:24

...Christ Jesus is the one who died—more than that, who was raised—who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us. –Romans 8:34

...GUARANTEED FUTURE RESURRECTION OF BELIEVERS

If Christ has not been raised...then those also who have died in Christ have perished. - 1 Corinthians 15:17-18

...GUARANTEED FORGIVENESS AND JUSTIFICATION TO BELIEVERS

If Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins. - 1 Corinthians 15:17

Jesus was handed over to death for our trespasses and was raised for our justification. - Romans 4:25

...MAKES THE RESURRECTION LIFE AVAILABLE TO BELIEVERS NOW

*Therefore we have been buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life.
- Romans 6:4*

...MAKES IT POSSIBLE FOR JESUS TO REIGN NOW

“He ascended into heaven”

As (the disciples) were watching, Jesus was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. While he was going and they were gazing up towards heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. They said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up towards heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven." - Acts 1:9-11

Question: Does the Creed mean that Jesus was the first astronaut?

THE ASCENSION = THE SAVIOR REIGNS

“They saw first a shot vertical movement and then a vague luminosity (that is what ‘cloud’ presumably means) and then nothing.” - C.S. Lewis

SEATED AT THE RIGHT HAND OF THE FATHER

THREE IMPLICATIONS OF THE ASCENSION

CHRIST RULES THE COSMOS

JESUS INTERCEDES FOR BELIEVERS

For Christ ... entered into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God on our behalf. - Hebrews 9:24

ETERNAL LIFE BEGINS NOW

My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one will snatch them out of my hand. - John 10:27-28

“he shall come to judge the living and the dead”

JUDGEMENT

Jesus said "Very truly, I tell you, the hour is coming, and is now here, when the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God, and those who hear will live. For just as the Father has life in himself, so he has granted the Son also to have life in himself; and he has given him authority to execute judgement, because he is the Son of Man. Do not be astonished at this; for the hour is coming when all who are in their graves will hear his voice and will come out—those who have done good, to the resurrection of life, and those who have done evil, to the resurrection of condemnation." - John 5:25-29

CERTAIN & GLORIOUS

FINAL TERMINATION OF EVIL AND TRIUMPH OF TRUTH

NO ONE EXEMPT

OUR HOPE FOR SALVATION IS IN JESUS

BE PREPARED

Jesus said, "You... must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour." - Matthew 24:44

Question: How is one to be ready?

RECEIVE THE NEW COVENANT OF GOD IN CHRIST

THE NEW COVENANT (Jeremiah 31:31-34)

- 1) In Christ we receive *forgiveness of our sins...*
- 2) ...placing us in *relationship with God...*
- 3) ...who *transforms our hearts* to see the goodness of his law & live according to it.

LIVE IN CHRIST; PLACE OUR HOPE IN HIM

"Aim at Heaven and you will get Earth 'thrown in': aim at Earth and you will get neither." - C.S. Lewis

THE FOUR GOSPELS (of the New Testament)

Question: What is *the* gospel message (the good news)?

*Jesus Christ is God's son who became human for us,
suffered, died and rose again,
has been appointed Lord over all things,
and in him God's grace has been made available to us.*

Question: What are the Gospels?

MATTHEW, MARK, LUKE, & JOHN

BIOGRAPHICAL SERMONS

PURPOSE...

- 1) TO CONVERT THE UNBELIEVER
- 2) TO BUILD UP BELIEVERS IN THEIR FAITH

Question: Why Four Gospels?

ALLOW US TO GET TO KNOW OUR LORD (GET TO KNOW GOD)

3-DIMENSIONAL JESUS

DISCREPANCIES...

...INTERPRETING SOME OF JESUS ACTIONS/WORDS

...MINOR FACTUAL DISCREPANCIES ARE INCONSEQUENTIAL

EVIDENCE OF GOSPELS' TRUTHFULNESS

GOSPELS ARE OVERWHELMINGLY CONSISTENT ON MAJOR POINTS/FACTS

CONNECTIONS BETWEEN THE GOSPELS

SYNOPTIC GOSPELS: MATTHEW & LUKE USED MARK

CHARACTERISTICS OF EACH GOSPEL

In all 4 Gospels	UNIQUE PASSAGES			
	Matthew	Mark	Luke	John
The Feeding of the 5000	Visit of wise men; Escape to Egypt; Herod's massacre of the innocents		John the Baptist's birth Story; story from Jesus' boyhood	Thomas doubting
Jesus' Death & Resurrection	the Great Commission		Census and travel to Bethlehem; birth in manger	"I am" claims
<i>The gospel message!</i>	Parables of hidden treasure, pearl, workers in vineyard, two sons, ten bridesmaids, talents		Parables of rich man & Lazarus, persistent widow, fig tree, great banquet with reluctant guests	