

God, the Son

Christian Belief 103-2

The Son of God is a God-Man, a Divine Person who became Man to die for our sins, co-equals with the Father (see John 10:30, 38; 14:10; 17:21-22).

1. *The God-Man, Jesus Christ*

Jesus Christ is truly God and truly Man in one person. His two natures as human and divine are distinguishable but indivisible.

- 'Son' used figuratively to speak of Christ as distinctively divine, having the same glorious nature and character that the Father has (see John 1:14, 18). 'Son' also speaks of Christ as distinctively human, able to 'understand our weaknesses'. He faced all of the same temptations we do, yet He did not sin (see Hebrews 4:15). Christ took on the form of man by an incarnation (means God became a man, a creature of blood) through the virgin birth under the power of the Holy Spirit (see Luke 1:26-35; Philippians 2:5-8).
- 'Jesus' means God is our Savior. 'Christ' means an 'anointed person' whom God has supernaturally empowered (see Luke 4:18-19). Jesus Christ means 'Anointed Savior'.

a. **God became man to defeat Satan**

The Second Person of the Trinity God became a blood creature to defeat Satan.

And the ransom he paid was not mere gold or silver. He paid for you with the precious lifeblood of Christ, the sinless, spotless Lamb of God. God chose him for this purpose long before the world began (1 Peter 1:18b-20a NLT).

- God has planned to buy us back from sin with 'the precious lifeblood of Christ', even 'before the world began'.
For you made us only a little lower than God (Heb. *Elohim*), and you crowned us with glory and honor. You put us in charge of everything you made, giving us authority over all things (Psalm 8:5-6 NLT).
- God made man a creature of blood in view of defeating Satan. Though man is a blood creature, was made second to *Elohim* (means God).
- Adam's authority is higher than the authority of angels (see Hebrews 1:14). Satan who was an angel, having lost his authority after he was cast out of heaven, tempted Adam to disobey God to forfeit his authority and gave it to the devil (see Genesis 3:1-6). Hence, man has become lower than angels.
But we see Jesus, who for a short time was made lower than the angels. And now he is wearing a crown of glory and honor because he suffered and died. And by God's grace, he died for everyone (Hebrews 2:9 NCV).
- When the incarnated Christ died for us, He took our position and became lower than the angels to take us out of death which is the judgment of sin (see Genesis 2:17; Romans 6:23).
- The incarnation was God's best held secret to turn what seemed to be the greatest defeat into the greatest victory. If Satan had known of it, he would have prevented people from crucifying Christ (see 1 Corinthians 2:7-8).

b. **Christ perfected us to rule with Him**

Christ's death for our sins has perfected us to rule with Him in the spiritual realm.

Because God's children are human beings—made of flesh and blood—Jesus also became flesh and blood by being born in human form. For only as a human being could he die, and only by dying could he break the power of the Devil, who had the power of death. Only in this way could he deliver those who have lived all their lives as slaves to the fear of dying (Hebrews 2:14-15 NLT).

- The incarnated Christ has shed sinless blood to break 'the power of death' and to set us free from the 'fear of dying'.
Then God made you alive with Christ. He forgave all our sins (Colossians 2:13b NLT).
- Christ came back to life by Himself and has also 'made us alive' with Him. And He has forgiven 'all our sins'—of the past, present, and even future.

Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from wrath through Him. For if when we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of His Son, much more, having been reconciled, we shall be saved by His life (Romans 5:9-10 NKJV).

- He has 'justified' us (made us right), 'reconciled' us with God, and 'saved us from the wrath' of God's judgment.
For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him (2 Corinthians 5:21 NKJV).
- And we have 'become the righteousness of God'.
For by that one offering he perfected forever all those whom he is making holy (Hebrews 10:14 NLT).
- By His death for all our sins, Christ has 'perfected us forever'.
For he raised us from the dead along with Christ, and we are seated with him in the heavenly realms—all because we are one with Christ Jesus (Ephesians 2:6 NLT).
- We are now seated together with Him in the spiritual realm where we can share Christ's authority to come against Satan and all the demons (see also Luke 9:1).

2. *Jesus Christ gives us victory*

Our spiritual victory depends entirely on what Christ has achieved for us.

a. To reign in life with Christ

By what Christ has done on the cross, you can reign in life.

For if by the one man's offense death reigned through the one, much more those who receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness will reign in life through the One, Jesus Christ (Romans 5:17 NKJV).

- Because of Adam's sin, 'death' as a wage of sin rules in human life to destroy it eventually (see also Genesis 2:17; Romans 6:23a).
- By God's 'abundance of grace' you have been saved, not by yourselves (see also Ephesians 2:8-9). By believing what Christ has done on the cross, 'the gift of righteousness' is transferred to your life. With the 'abundance of grace' and the 'gift of righteousness' you can 'reign' or rule in your life against the sinful nature.
- When you reign with Christ in your life, you reign over temptation, oppression, sickness, and poverty. Self-righteous efforts cannot remove your sins and make you holy.

b. To defeat Satan's accusation

By what Christ has done on the cross, you can defeat the accusation of Satan.

Then I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, "Now salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of His Christ have come, for the accuser of our brethren, who accused them before our God day and night, has been cast down. And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, and they did not love their lives to the death" (Revelation 12:10-11 NKJV).

- Satan, 'the accuser', finds fault with Christians 'day and night' to trap them in guilt and unrest (see Job 1:6-2:10).
- You can overcome Satan's accusation by applying the blood of the Lamb.

The blood you have smeared on your doorposts will serve as a sign. When I see the blood, I will pass over you. This plague of death will not touch you when I strike the land of Egypt (Exodus 12:13 NLT).

- In 1462 BC, before the Israelites left Egypt, they sprinkled the blood of a lamb on the sides and top of their doorframe as a sign for the judgment of death to 'pass over' or skip their first born children and farm animals.
The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him. John said, "Look, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!" (John 1:29 NCV).
- Christ was incarnated to become the 'Lamb of God' for shedding sinless blood to cover us from the judgment of sin.
- Like the Israelites applied blood on their doorframes by faith, you put sins under 'the blood of the Lamb' to come out of the devil's accusation.

The blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin. ...If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness (1 John 1:7b, 9 NKJV).

- We are responsible to acknowledge our sins. It is the 'the blood of Jesus Christ', not our confession, that 'cleanses us from all sin' and removes guilty conscience (see also Hebrews 9:14).
- When you repent and submit to God, the devil flees from you (see James 4:7-9). Satan has no more ground to accuse you.

You can overcome Satan's accusation also by 'the word of your testimony' (see Revelation 12:11).

We know that whoever is born of God does not sin; but he who has been born of God keeps himself, and the wicked one does not touch him (1 John 5:18 NKJV).

- 'Does not sin' means 'does not continue to sin' (NCV) or 'do not make a practice of sinning' (NLT). 'Keeps himself' means guarding yourself against sin. Satan cannot 'touch' or accuse a life guarded by God's Word, not giving in to sin.