

JESUS AND THE HOLY SPIRIT

Growing up, in my mind's eye, I pictured Jesus with the Halo, the robe, the staff, the sheep. I pictured Jesus as God, in a human body, doing incredible things that astonished both the people and even his own followers.

I pictured him as a hybrid that could choose who he was going to be at the time, sleeping in the boat = human, walking on water = God, raising the dead = God, going to the cross = human.

With that mind set, I would struggle with scriptures like these:

(Ep 4:13) until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the *whole measure of the fullness of Christ*.

(Rom 8:29) For those God foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the *likeness of his Son*, that he might be the firstborn among many brothers.

I believed that ‘becoming like Jesus’ is nearly impossible because Jesus is God, and we’re mere humans.

FACTS ABOUT JESUS – GOD FUNCTIONING AS HUMANITY

Jesus Was Fully God, and Fully Man.

Jesus by His virgin birth, was totally man yet He was also totally and completely God.

Jesus Gave Up Rights

Jesus willfully laid aside all of His rights and privileges as God while he was alive here on this earth.

He had come as the "last Adam" to fulfill all that He had created man to do on this earth when He created the first Adam. (1 Cor 15:45)

(Phil 2:5-8) Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus: Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped. . .

(1 Cor 15:47 NIV) The first man was of the dust of the earth, the second man from heaven.

I. LET’S LOOK AT JESUS’ EARLY LIFE

(Isa 7:14-16) Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign: The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel. . . when he knows enough to reject the wrong and choose the right. . .

We see that Jesus chose to do right from the time that was first possible. Think about this Jesus; had the right to choose, just like us, just like Adam. Jesus was not a robot he also had a free will.

(Heb 4:15) For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are—yet was without sin.

JESUS’ HUMANITY GREW IN SPIRITUAL UNDERSTANDING

We can see Jesus maturing in the eyes of God in Luke, as a child, and then when he was 12, when his parents find him in the temple. (Luke 2:40-42) (Luke 2:46-47)

Here we see Jesus growing both physically and mentally, and God's grace is on him. Jesus, as a man, had to learn the Word of God, even though he was the Word of God in the Flesh. In these few scriptures we see Jesus being taught, learning, and asking questions about the scriptures.

(Luke 2:52 NASB) "And Jesus kept increasing in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and men."

Here we see Jesus increasing physically and mentally and increasing in favor with God. How can God increase in favor with God? Jesus came as a man and was learning the ways of God. Yet he was sinless. Jesus is learning the ways of his both human and spiritual father. (Joseph the carpenter; God the creator)

(Heb 5:8-9 NASB) "Although He was a Son, He learned obedience from the things which He suffered. . .

Jesus spent his early life learning and understanding the Word of God (remember that they did not have Bible that they could take home he had to go to the synagogue to read the Word of God). This was his foundation for his later ministry. (Remember he said, "it is written" at the temptation, In Mark he said to the Pharisees and teachers "'Isaiah was right when he prophesied about you hypocrites; as it is written". Over and over we see him quoting the Word). The Word of God in the flesh (John 1) had to learn the word of God in the flesh.

Jesus; Our Pattern

Jesus, the pattern Son of God is the example of the working of the Spirit in humanity in an unhindered operation. The believer, as a son of God should follow in His steps and come under the same working of the Holy Spirit.

(1 Pet 2:21) (John 13:15 NIV Jesus speaking) (Ep 4:11-13) (Rom 8:29)

Jesus Anointed By The Holy Spirit

Jesus ministry did not begin until he was baptized in water and the Holy Spirit came to empower Him and dwell within Him. (Mat 3:16-17)

(John 1:33) John the Baptist, is speaking here and he is Jesus cousin. John grew up hearing the stories of Jesus virgin birth, and yet he still did not know for sure who Jesus was. That is how much Jesus looked like a man.

In Matthew 11:2 while John was in prison, he sent his disciples to ask Jesus if He was really the one.

Jesus returns to Galilee. (Mat 13:54-56)

Jesus looked like a man, because he was a man. There was no halo around his head,

except for the transfiguration. So now we must ask the same question that they asked, “Where then did this man get all these things?”

II. JESUS EMPOWERED BY THE HOLY SPIRIT

Everything that Jesus did in His life and ministry from that time forward, He did as a man empowered by the Holy Spirit. We see that though Jesus was born of the Spirit and was therefore God, he chose to lay aside that ability, that power as God, so that he could do life on the earth using the empowerment of the Spirit in the same way that we do.

(Mat 3:16-17) As soon as Jesus was baptized, he went up out of the water. At that moment heaven was opened, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and lighting on him. And a voice from heaven said, "This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased."

1. He Was Born of the Spirit (Luke 1:35) Are you born of the Spirit? Are you born again?

Then you are a new creation according to (2Co 5:17)

2. He was Filled with the Spirit Without Limit (John 3:34-35)

3. He Was Led by the Holy Spirit (Mat 4:1)

4. He Was Empowered By The Spirit (Luke 4:14)

5. He Was Anointed By The Spirit (Luke 4:18)

6. He Healed The Sick By The Spirit (Luke 4:18)

7. He Spoke and Taught By The Spirit Again (Luke 4:18), (Acts 1:2)

8. He Cast Out Demons By The Holy Spirit (Mat 12:28)

9. He Offered Himself Up (Sinless) On The Cross By The Spirit

(Heb 9:14) 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!

10. He Was Resurrected By The Holy Spirit (Rom 8:11)

11. He was full of Joy by the Holy Spirit (Luke 10:21)

12. Jesus was operating in the Gifts of the Spirit. (Mark 2:78 NIV) Word of Wisdom Word of Knowledge

13. Jesus was operating in the Fruit of the Spirit. The fruit to the Spirit was the nature and character of Jesus. (Gal 5:22-25 NIV)

Jesus, like other prophets, did all of this under the Old Testament age. When he sent out the seventy to minister (Luke 10:1-18) they did so under His anointing. (Like when the Spirit was taken from Moses and put on the seventy elders Numbers 11:24-25). Once Jesus was resurrected and returned to heaven, he instructed the disciples to remain until they received power - the Spirit was now released on all mankind (Acts 2:16-18).

This was the advent of the New Testament age. Under the Old Testament covenant, the Spirit could only work with priest, kings, prophets, and people anointed for special acts of service. This is the reason that Jesus said that this and greater works will you do, because under the New Testament covenant, we are not under the age of the law, but are now under the age of

grace and the Spirit.

(John 14:12 NIV) I tell you the truth, anyone who has faith in me will do what I have been doing. He will do even greater things than these, because I am going to the Father.

III. JESUS IS ALSO OUR BAPTIZER

If it was so important for Jesus to live and be empowered by the Holy Spirit, *how much more* should we, the believer, constantly depend upon the Holy Spirit. All God has for us, and wants to do in us, will only be done by the operation of the Holy Spirit in our lives.

(John 16:7 NIV) But I tell you the truth: It is for your good that I am going away. Unless I go away, the Counselor will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you.

The only way we can walk in the call that the Holy Spirit has given us is by the same example that Jesus gave us while he was on earth- a total dependence on the Holy Spirit.

The Holy Spirit did this in the life of the Disciples. When they followed Jesus around Israel they were confused, they did not understand what Jesus was telling them. But *after* receiving the baptism of the Holy Spirit they understood what Jesus was doing and what the kingdom was about.

BEFORE:

- ...The Disciples were self-seeking; who is the greatest among us? whom will you set at your right and left?
- ... Peter could not understand that Jesus came to die.
- ...They went into the upper room in fear

AFTER:

- ... Peter speaks the Word and 3000 were born again in one meeting
- ...They came out of the upper room with boldness
- ...They were men that were sold out to the Holy Spirit and the Word.

When they were filled with the Holy Spirit they received the same Heavenly Point of view in which Jesus operated during His ministry here on earth.

IN SUMMARY

- 1. Jesus walked the earth as a man**
- 2. Then He operated in the power of the Spirit (Luke 4:14)**
- 3. Jesus is our Baptizer (John 16:7 NIV)**