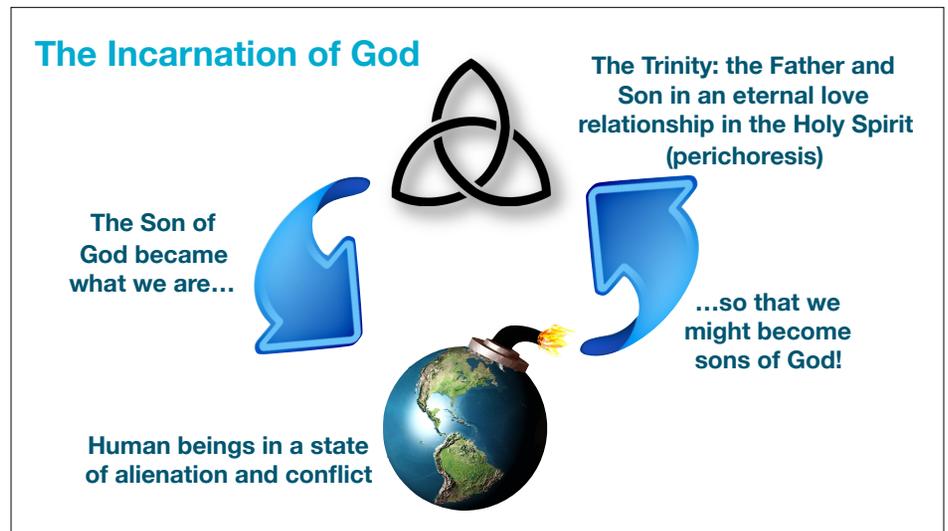


The Church's Lord: Christology

Eternality of Christ

- Is Jesus Christ eternal?
 - Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever. Heb. 13:8
 - You shall call his name Jesus. Matt. 1:21
- The eternal Word and Son of God became **incarnate** as Jesus of Nazareth.



Direct Proofs for Eternality

- In the **beginning** was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. **John 1:1**
- Jesus said to them, 'Truly, truly, I say to you, before Abraham was born, I am.' **John 8:58**
- But of the Son He says, 'Thy throne, O God, is forever and ever.' **Heb. 1:8 (Ps. 45:6-7)**
- He is before all things and in Him all things hold together. **Col. 1:17**

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Direct Proofs for Eternality

- But as for you, Bethlehem...from you One will go forth for Me ... His goings are from long ago, from the days of eternity. **Micah 5:2**
- For a child will be born to us, a son will be given to us...And His name will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Eternal Father, Prince of Peace. **Is. 9:6**

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Indirect Proofs for Eternality

- **Christ's Heavenly Origin**
 - And no one has ascended into heaven, but He who descended from heaven, even the Son of Man. **John 3:13**
 - For I have come down from heaven, not to do My own will, but the will of Him who sent Me. **John 6:38**
 - The first man is from the earth, earthy; the second man is from heaven. **1 Cor. 15:47**

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Indirect Proofs for Eternality

- **Christ's Work in Creation**
 - All things came into being by Him, and apart from Him nothing came into being that has come into being. **John 1:3**



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Indirect Proofs for Eternality

- Christ's Work in Creation
- Yet for us there is but one God, the Father, from whom are all things...and one Lord, Jesus Christ, by whom are all things, 1 Cor. 8:6



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Indirect Proofs for Eternality

- Christ's Work in Creation
- For by Him all things were created, both in the heavens and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things have been created by Him and for Him. Col. 1:16



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Indirect Proofs for Eternality

- OT Theophanies
- A theophany is an appearance of God in the Old Testament.
- Usually, the appearance is described as the Angel of the Lord.
- This may be the pre-Incarnate Christ.



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Indirect Proofs for Eternality

- Examples
- Abraham at the Oaks of Mamre, Gen. 18:1
- Moses at the Burning Bush, Exodus 3:2
- Samson's mother, Judg. 13:3



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The Virgin Birth: OT Prediction

- The Protoevangelium:
 - And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your seed and her seed; He shall bruise you on the head, and you shall bruise him on the heel. **Gen. 3:15**



Genesis 3:15 is the first proclamation of the Gospel.

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The Virgin Birth: OT Prediction

- The Sign of the Birth
 - The Lord Himself will give you a sign: Behold, a virgin will be with child and bear a son.” **Isaiah 7:14**



Genesis 3:15 is the first proclamation of the Gospel.

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Indirect Proofs for Eternality

- The Place of the Birth
 - From Bethlehem, “One will go forth for Me to be ruler in Israel.” **Micah 5:2**



Genesis 3:15 is the first proclamation of the Gospel.

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The Virgin Birth: NT Fulfillment

- The fulfillment is exact and literal.
 - Now the birth of Jesus Christ was as follows. When His mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child by the Holy Spirit. **Mt. 1:18**



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The Virgin Birth: NT Fulfillment

- The fulfillment is exact and literal.
- Now all this took place that what was spoken by the Lord through the prophet might be fulfilled: 'Behold, the virgin shall be with child, and shall bear a Son, and they shall call His name Immanuel,' which translated means, 'God with us.'" Mt. 1:22-23



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The Virgin Birth: NT Fulfillment

- Joseph “kept her a virgin until she gave birth to a Son.” Mt. 1:25



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The Virgin Birth: NT Fulfillment

- And Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the city of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem ...and it came about that while they were there, the days were completed for her to give birth. Luke 2:4-6



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The Virgin Birth: NT Fulfillment

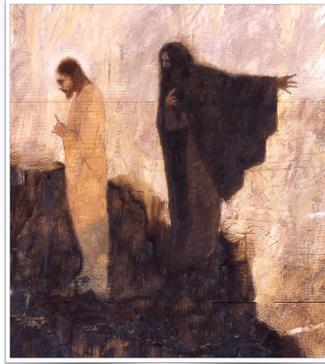
- Two different Gospel accounts record the fulfilled prophecy!
 - A young woman as a sign
 - A virginal conception & birth
 - Occurs in Bethlehem



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The Sinless Life of Christ

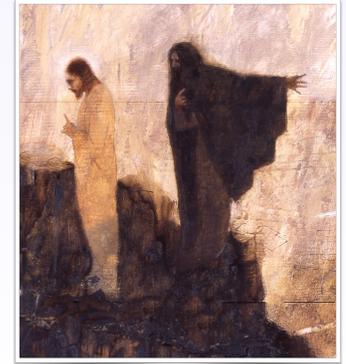
- Christ took our sinful nature to himself. He was tempted to sin but did not (and could not).



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The Sinless Life of Christ

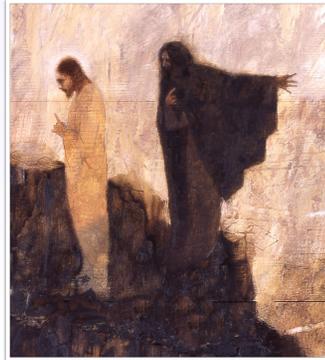
- For we do not have a high priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but One who has been tempted in all things as we are, yet without sin. [Heb. 4:15](#)



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The Sinless Life of Christ

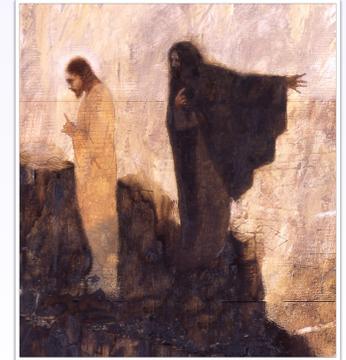
- He made Him who knew no sin to be sin on our behalf, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him. [2 Cor. 5:21](#)



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The Sinless Life of Christ

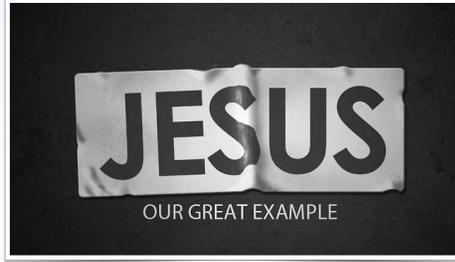
- Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example for you to follow in His steps, 'who committed no sin, nor was any deceit found in His mouth.' [1 Pet. 2:21-22](#)



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The Sinless Life of Christ

- He is our Example.
 - He shows that there is a way to overcome temptation and have victory over sin (Matthew 4:1-11). He is the pattern for our lives (1 John 2:6; 1 Peter 2:21).



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The Sinless Life of Christ

- He is Our Atonement.
 - He is the Lamb without blemish (Lev. 14:10; 1 Peter 1:19) that takes away the sin of the world (John 1:29; cf. Isaiah 53:7; 1 John 3:5).



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Past Work of Christ

Past Work of Christ

1. Views of Atonement
2. The Old Testament Sacrificial Background
3. New Testament Atonement Themes
4. The Resurrection

Views of Atonement

1. Ransom to Satan Theory

- The death of Jesus was a ransom to Satan to pay him for the rightful claims he had against man.



Views of Atonement

1. Ransom to Satan Theory

- This view is not correct. God does not owe Satan anything.
- However, the Bible does teach the triumph of Christ over sin, death and Satan.



Views of Atonement

2. Satisfaction Theory

- St. Anselm (1033-1109)
- Rejected the ransom to Satan theory and re-focused on God.



Views of Atonement

2. Satisfaction Theory

- Man's sin robbed God of His honor.
- Jesus' death satisfies this offense.



Views of Atonement

3. Moral Influence Theory

- Held by Peter Abelard (1079-1142), and most liberal theologians today.
- Christ's death should awaken love for God in sinners, causing them to turn from their sin.



Views of Atonement

3. Moral Influence Theory

- This is a **subjective** rather than **objective** theory of the atonement.



Views of Atonement

4. Penal Substitution

- The Cross fulfills God's just demand for punishment, while mercifully providing a substitute for us.



Views of Atonement

4. Penal Substitution

- The doctrine was first clearly articulated by the Reformers (but it follows the thought of St. Anselm).
- This is the main **facet** of the biblical theology of atonement.



Old Testament Background

1. The Tabernacle
2. The Animal Sacrifices
3. The Day of Atonement

- Then Aaron shall lay both of his hands on the head of the live goat, and confess over it all the iniquities of the sons of Israel ... and he shall lay them on the head of the goat and send it away into the wilderness. **Lev. 16:21**



Old Testament Background

1. The Tabernacle
2. The Animal Sacrifices
3. The Day of Atonement

- But when Christ appeared as a High Priest of the good things to come, he entered through the greater and more perfect tabernacle, not through the blood of goats and calves, but through his own blood, he entered the holy place once for all, having obtained eternal redemption. **Heb. 9:11-14**



Old Testament Background

1. The Tabernacle
2. The Animal Sacrifices
3. The Day of Atonement
4. The Prediction of Vicarious Suffering

- But he was wounded for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and by his stripes we are healed. **Isaiah 53:5**



New Testament Meaning of Cross

- It was a substitution.
- But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. **Rom. 5:8**
- God made him who knew no sin to be sin on our behalf ... **2 Cor. 5:21**



New Testament Meaning of Cross

- It was a **substitution**.
- The Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life a ransom **for many**.”
Mark 10:45



New Testament Meaning of Cross

- It was a **substitution**.
- For Christ also died for sins once for all, the just **for the unjust**, so that He might bring us to God ...
1 Peter 3:18



New Testament Meaning of Cross

- It turned away God's wrath: **propitiation**.
- God put [Christ] forward as a propitiation by his blood, to be received by faith. This was to show God's righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over former sins. **Romans 3:25**
- In this is love, not that we have loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins. **1 John 4:10**

New Testament Meaning of Cross

- It paid the price of sin: **redemption**.
- For you have been bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body. **1 Cor. 6:20**
- It accomplished **reconciliation**.
- For if, while 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. **Rom. 5:10**

New Testament Meaning of Cross

- It made **forgiveness** possible.
- In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of His grace. **Eph. 1:7**
- It resulted in **justification**.
- Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. **Romans 5:1; cf. 3:24**

The Resurrection

- For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received, that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, and that He was buried, and that He was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures ... If Christ has not been raised, your faith is worthless; you are still in your sins. Then those also who have fallen asleep in Christ have perished. If we have hoped in Christ in this life only, we are of all men most to be pitied. But now **Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who are asleep. 1 Corinthians 15:3-4, 17-20**

Facts about the Resurrection

- Christ actually died.
 - He did not swoon.
- Eyewitnesses saw the Risen Christ.
- It was a physical, bodily resurrection.



Finger of
St. Thomas

Theological Meaning of the Resurrection

- Jesus's resurrection is:
 - A divine **vindication**
 - A **first-fruits** resurrection
 - **Our resurrection!**

