

# BIBLICAL TRUTH ABOUT GOD THE FATHER, SON, AND HOLY SPIRIT

## Lesson 13: Jesus is Sinless

Biblical doctrine is the study of what the Bible teaches about God and other important truths. This is the third of ten lessons about Jesus Christ, the Son of God, and our Lord and Savior. We will explore what the Bible teaches about the sinless nature of Christ.

### MAIN TRUTH, CENTRAL SCRIPTURE, AND OUTLINE

Jesus Christ was tempted as we are, yet He remained perfectly holy and sinless. Even in His humanity, Christ has always been, and always will be without sin. Like all men, He was tempted in every way, yet He never sinned in thought, attitude, word, or deed. Since He was tempted, He can sympathize with our weakness. He now intercedes for us before the Father and advocates on our behalf. He also justifies sinners who trust fully in Him by means of His perfect obedience to God the Father and His law. Sinners can be justified and stand righteous before God because of Christ's sinless life and atoning death.

Since the fall of Adam (Gen. 3), mankind watched and waited for a Savior who would reconcile sinners to God (Gen. 3:15). Many generations came and went, yet no one qualified to serve as man's representative before the holy God. After thousands of years and many imperfect mediators in the form of prophets and priests, God became a man to live, die, rise again, and intercede on our behalf. Jesus is the one and only Prophet, Priest, and King (Heb. 4:14-16) who obeyed God perfectly and was absolutely sinless. (Luke 4:1-13; Hebrews 4:14-16).

#### 1. Jesus is sinless (Luke 4:1-13; Hebrews 4:14-16)

Jesus alone resisted all temptation and perfectly obeyed God. Although the Holy Spirit led Jesus to the wilderness to be tempted (Lk. 4:1), the Spirit was not the one tempting Jesus. God does not tempt anyone to sin (Jas. 1:13). Satan tempted Christ in the wilderness by the same tactics he used on Adam and Eve in the Garden (Gen. 3:6) and that he continues to use against us today: the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life (1 John 2:16). As Jesus suffered from hunger and the humiliation of all that it means for Him to be human, the devil reminded Him of the power He had. Satan tempted Him to stray from the work the Father had planned for Him and to take an easier way.

- A. He did not sin – In the face of temptation Jesus remained humble, submissive to the Father's will and His Word.
- B. He always desired and followed righteousness – The consistent testimony of Scripture is that Jesus never sinned.

#### 2. Jesus is triumphant (Hebrews 4:15)

- A. He justifies sinners – The good news is that Christ represented all of His people with His perfect life. He credits His righteousness to them freely through faith alone.
- B. He sympathizes with sinners – Christ is a perfect priest because He remained sinless, even though He was tempted in every way as we are. He understands our weaknesses because He has endured temptation without sin, and He is our perfect and sympathetic High Priest.

## MEMORY VERSES

**Hebrews 4:15** *For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin.*

**Hebrews 7:26** *For such an high priest became us, who is holy, harmless, undefiled, separate from sinners, and made higher than the heavens.*

**1 Peter 2:22** *Who did no sin, neither was guile found in his mouth.*

## ADDITIONAL NOTES

The following verses indicate the sinless nature of Christ. He was born with a holy and sinless nature. He was perfectly obedient and submissive to his earthly parents, Joseph and Mary. He resisted all temptations and remained obedient to the Father's will. No one could bring a charge of sin against Him. The conclusive evidence of Scripture is that Jesus Christ was without sin in thought, attitude, word, or deed.

**Isaiah 53:9** *And he made his grave with the wicked, and with the rich in his death; because he had done no violence, neither was any deceit in his mouth.*

**Matthew 27:4** *Saying, I have sinned in that I have betrayed the innocent blood. And they said, What is that to us? see thou to that.*

**Mark 1:23-24** <sup>23</sup> *And there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit; and he cried out, <sup>24</sup> Saying, Let us alone; what have we to do with thee, thou Jesus of Nazareth? art thou come to destroy us? I know thee who thou art, the Holy One of God.*

**Luke 1:35** *And the angel answered and said unto her, The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee, and the power of the Highest shall overshadow thee: therefore also that holy thing which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God.*

**Luke 23:39-41** <sup>39</sup> *And one of the malefactors which were hanged railed on him, saying, If thou be Christ, save thyself and us. <sup>40</sup> But the other answering rebuked him, saying, Dost not thou fear God, seeing thou art in the same condemnation? <sup>41</sup> And we indeed justly; for we receive the due reward of our deeds: but this man hath done nothing amiss.*

**John 7:16-18** <sup>16</sup> *Jesus answered them, and said, My doctrine is not mine, but his that sent me. <sup>17</sup> If any man will do his will, he shall know of the doctrine, whether it be of God, or whether I speak of myself. <sup>18</sup> He that speaketh of himself seeketh his own glory: but he that seeketh his glory that sent him, the same is true, and no unrighteousness is in him.*

**John 8:29** *And he that sent me is with me: the Father hath not left me alone; for I do always those things that please him.*

**John 8:46** *Which of you convinceth me of sin? And if I say the truth, why do ye not believe me?*

**Acts 3:13-15** <sup>13</sup> The God of Abraham, and of Isaac, and of Jacob, the God of our fathers, hath glorified his Son Jesus; whom ye delivered up, and denied him in the presence of Pilate, when he was determined to let him go. <sup>14</sup> But ye denied the Holy One and the Just, and desired a murderer to be granted unto you; <sup>15</sup> And killed the Prince of life, whom God hath raised from the dead; whereof we are witnesses.

**Acts 4:27** For of a truth against thy holy child Jesus, whom thou hast anointed, both Herod, and Pontius Pilate, with the Gentiles, and the people of Israel, were gathered together.

**2 Corinthians 5:21** For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.

**Hebrews 1:9** Thou hast loved righteousness, and hated iniquity; therefore God, even thy God, hath anointed thee with the oil of gladness above thy fellows.

**Hebrews 4:15** For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin.

**Hebrews 7:26** For such an high priest became us, who is holy, harmless, undefiled, separate from sinners, and made higher than the heavens.

**Hebrews 9:14** How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without spot to God, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?

**1 Peter 1:18-19** <sup>18</sup> Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold, from your vain conversation received by tradition from your fathers; <sup>19</sup> But with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot.

**1 Peter 2:22** Who did no sin, neither was guile found in his mouth.

**1 Peter 3:18** For Christ also hath once suffered for sins, the just for the unjust, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh, but quickened by the Spirit.

**1 John 3:5** And ye know that he was manifested to take away our sins; and in him is no sin.

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The following comments are from Paul Washer, *Discovering the Glorious Gospel*, page 35.

“It was not enough for the Son of God to become a Man; it was required that He live a life of perfect obedience under the law of God. If He had been found guilty of even one violation of the law in thought, disposition, word, or deed, He would have disqualified Himself as a sacrifice for sin. For this reason, it is correct to say that without Christ’s perfect obedience throughout the full course of His life, all other aspects of His life and ministry would be of no effect. Only a perfectly obedient Second Adam could undo what the first Adam caused by his moral failure (Romans 5:12-19). Only a Lamb unblemished and spotless could give His life for the sins of the world (John 1:29; 1 Peter 1:19). Only the just could give Himself for the unjust that He might bring them to God (1 Peter 3:18). Only a sinless Savior could give His life as a ransom for many (Mark 10:45).”

Commenting on John 8:29, which states that Christ always did what was pleasing to God the Father, Washer writes: “The most amazing aspect of Christ’s claim is the adverb ‘always.’ Fallen men cannot even make a claim to periodic perfect obedience, but Christ claims an obedience that is not only perfect but also perpetual or unbroken. He was obedient, without even the slightest flaw, throughout the entire course of His life (page 36)”.

## HIS ROBES FOR MINE

His robes for mine: O wonderful exchange!  
Clothed in my sin, Christ suffered 'neath God's rage.  
Draped in His righteousness, I'm justified.  
In Christ I live, for in my place He died.

### *Chorus*

I cling to Christ, and marvel at the cost;  
Jesus forsaken, God estranged from God.  
Bought by such love, my life is not my own;  
My praise, my all, shall be for Christ alone.

His robes for mine: What cause have I for dread?  
God's daunting law Christ mastered in my stead.  
Faultless I stand, with righteous works not mine,  
Saved by my Lord's vicarious death and life.

His robes for mine: God's justice is appeased.  
Jesus is crushed, and thus the Father's pleased.  
Christ drank God's wrath on sin, then cried, "Tis done!"  
Sin's wage is paid; propitiation won.

His robes for mine: Such anguish none can know.  
Christ, God's beloved, condemned as though His foe.  
He, as though I, accursed and left alone;  
I, as though He, embraced and welcomed home!

*Chris Anderson (2008)*