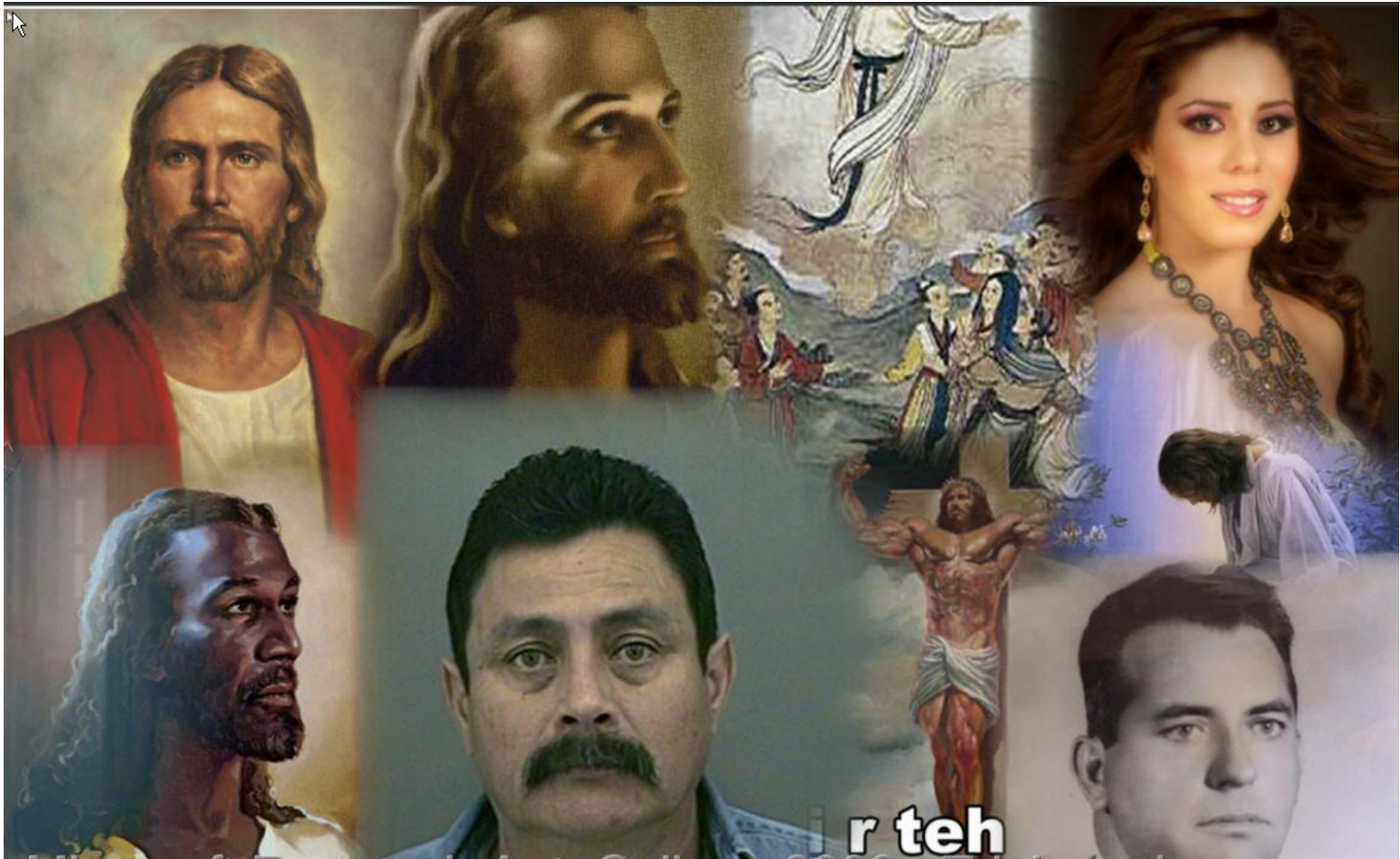


Trusting in Jesus for Salvation

# Jesus



# Why does it matter, which Jesus I trust in?

1. No man can redeem the life of another or give to God a ransom for him. (Ps 49:7)
2. Faith is only as good as the object of faith

# Historical View of Christ

# Christological Heresies

1. Ebionites -
2. Adoptionism
3. Docetism
4. Arianism
5. Apollinarinaism
6. Nestorianism
7. Monophysitism
8. Sabellianism/Modalism

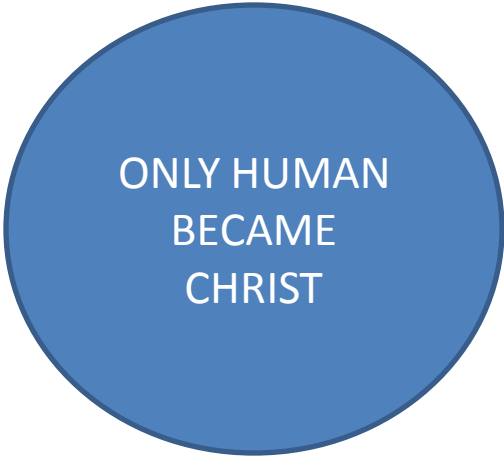
# Ebionism (Jewish-Christians 1<sup>st</sup> Century)

Jesus was only a man. He is not God. He was not born of a virgin, and he was the offspring of Joseph and Mary. (Acts 20:28, Matt 1:25)



# Adoptionism – (2<sup>nd</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Century)

Jesus was only a man and became the Christ by his obedience to the Mosaic Law. He is not God. Spirit of Christ descended at baptism and left at the crucifixion. The man Christ was left to suffer alone. (Luke 2:11)



ONLY HUMAN  
BECAME  
CHRIST

# Docetism (1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Century)

Jesus was only a divine spirit. He did not have a body. He only appeared human. Some Docetists claimed that someone else was crucified in the place of Christ. (1 John 1:1)





# Arianism (4<sup>th</sup> Century)

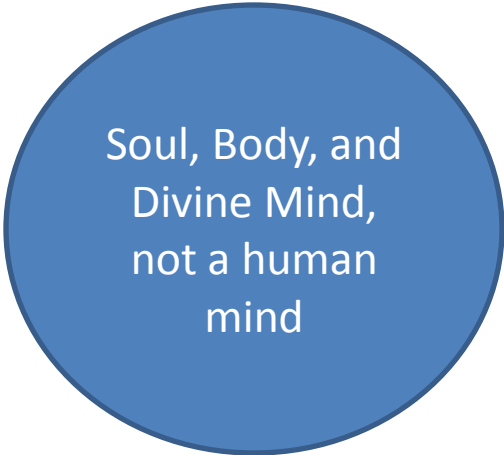
Jesus is a being created by God the father. As a creature, Jesus began to exist. Jesus can have no direct knowledge of God. The son must be liable to change and sin. Jesus is superior to all other creatures. Jesus is a demigod. Similar in nature to God the father, but not of the same nature. They are two distinct beings. (John 1:18 ,Acts 20:28, John 1:1-3)



Not fully divine

# Apollinarianism (4<sup>th</sup> Century)

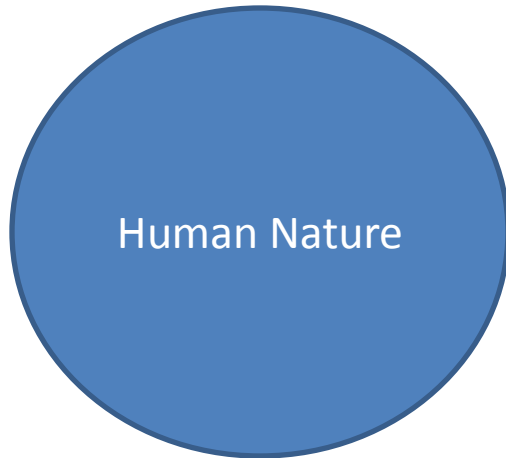
Christ was not completely human. He possessed only a divine mind, not a human mind. He was a hybrid of divine mind, human soul, and body. (Rom 5:12ff)



Soul, Body, and  
Divine Mind,  
not a human  
mind

# Nestorianism (5<sup>th</sup> century)

When used of Mary, Nestor objected to the use of “Theotokos,” which implied that Christ had one nature, divine. He proposed “Christokos” to emphasize the unity of two-natures in Christ. Some had charged that Nestor was dividing the person of Christ.



# Eutychianism/Monophysitism(5<sup>th</sup> century)

Jesus was only human. He had two natures prior the incarnation, but only one after wards.



# Sabellianism (3<sup>rd</sup> century)

God the father becomes God the son. God the son becomes God the Holy Spirit. This is like water changing state between solid, liquid and gas. This is a denial of the trinity (Mark 1: 9-11, Matt 3:16) What about Isa 9:6?



# Counterfeit Money

## **KNOW YOUR MONEY**

### **How To Detect Counterfeit Money**

The public has a role in maintaining the integrity of U.S. currency. You can help guard against the threat from counterfeiters by becoming more familiar with United States currency.

Look at the money you receive. Compare a suspect note with a genuine note of the same denomination and series, paying attention to the quality of printing and paper characteristics. Look for differences, not similarities.

# Counterfeit Jesus

## KNOW YOUR JESUS

### How To Detect Counterfeit Jesus

The [believer](#) has a role in maintaining the integrity of the [gospel](#). You can help guard against the threat from counterfeiters by [becoming more familiar with the orthodox version of Jesus.](#)

Look at the [Jesus](#) you receive. [Compare a suspect Jesus with a genuine Jesus](#)  
Look for differences, not similarities.

# Orthodox View of Christ



# Athanasian Creed – 4<sup>th</sup> century

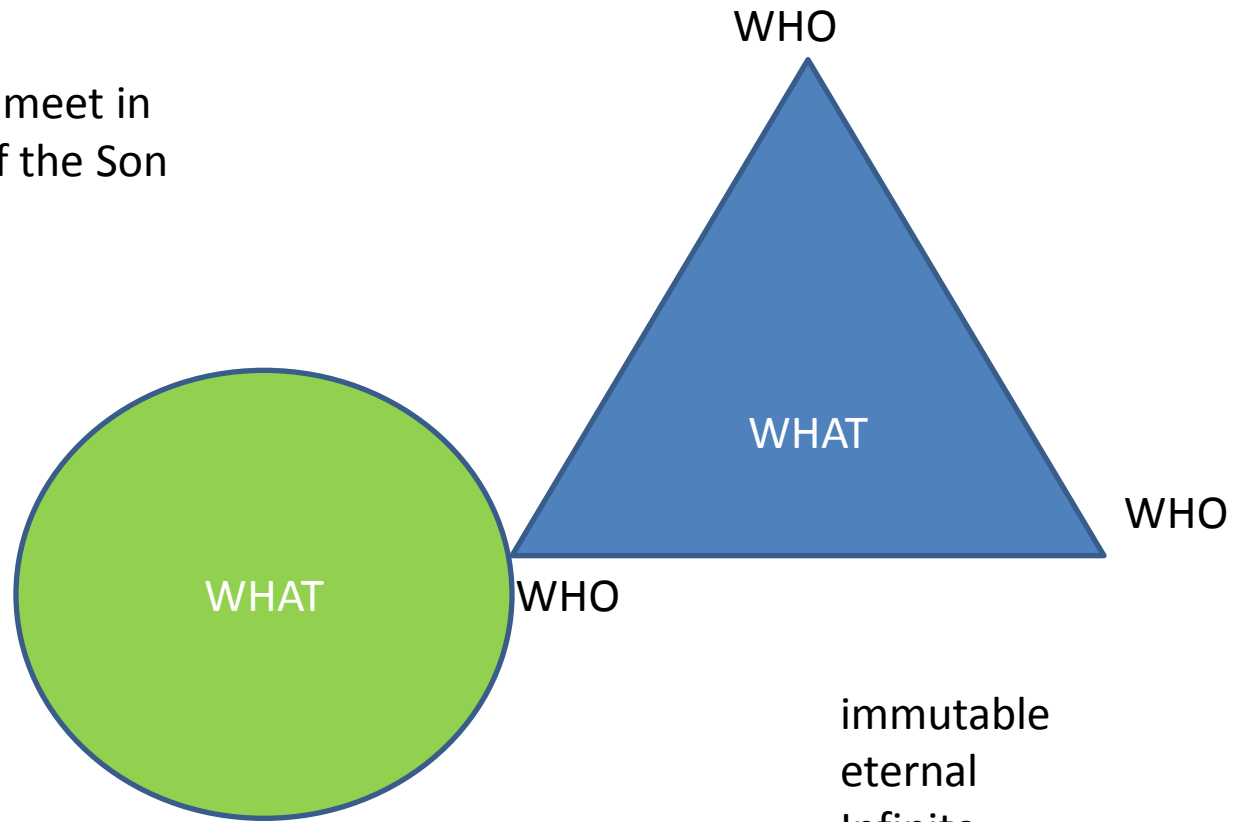
Whosoever will be saved, before all things it is necessary that he hold the Catholic Faith. Which Faith except every one do keep whole and undefiled; without doubt he shall perish everlastingly. And the Catholic Faith is this: That we worship one God in Trinity, and Trinity in Unity; Neither confounding the Persons; nor dividing the Essence. For there is one Person of the Father; another of the Son; and another of the Holy Ghost. But the Godhead of the Father, of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost, is all one; the Glory equal, the Majesty coeternal. Such as the Father is; such is the Son; and such is the Holy Ghost. The Father uncreated; the Son uncreated; and the Holy Ghost uncreated. The Father unlimited; the Son unlimited; and the Holy Ghost unlimited. The Father eternal; the Son eternal; and the Holy Ghost eternal. And yet they are not three eternal; but one eternal. As also there are not three uncreated; nor three infinites, but one uncreated; and one infinite. So likewise the Father is Almighty; the Son Almighty; and the Holy Ghost Almighty. And yet they are not three Almighties; but one Almighty. So the Father is God; the Son is God; and the Holy Ghost is God. And yet they are not three Gods; but one God. So likewise the Father is Lord; the Son Lord; and the Holy Ghost Lord. And yet not three Lords; but one Lord. For like as we are compelled by the Christian verity; to acknowledge every Person by himself to be God and Lord; So are we forbidden by the Catholic Religion; to say, There are three Gods, or three Lords. The Father is made of none; neither created, nor begotten. The Son is of the Father alone; not made, nor created; but begotten. The Holy Ghost is of the Father and of the Son; neither made, nor created, nor begotten; but proceeding. So there is one Father, not three Fathers; one Son, not three Sons; one Holy Ghost, not three Holy Ghosts. And in this Trinity none is before, or after another; none is greater, or less than another. But the whole three Persons are coeternal, and coequal. So that in all things, as aforesaid; the Unity in Trinity, and the Trinity in Unity, is to be worshipped. He therefore that will be saved, let him thus think of the Trinity.

# Athanasian Creed

Furthermore it is necessary to everlasting salvation; that he also believe faithfully the Incarnation of our Lord Jesus Christ. For the right Faith is, that we believe and confess; that our Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of God, is God and Man; God, of the Essence of the Father; begotten before the worlds; and Man, of the Essence of his Mother, born in the world. Perfect God; and perfect Man, of a reasonable soul and human flesh subsisting. Equal to the Father, as touching his Godhead; and inferior to the Father as touching his Manhood. Who although he is God and Man; yet he is not two, but one Christ. One; not by conversion of the Godhead into flesh; but by assumption of the Manhood into God. One altogether; not by confusion of Essence; but by unity of Person. For as the reasonable soul and flesh is one man; so God and Man is one Christ; Who suffered for our salvation; descended into hell; rose again the third day from the dead. He ascended into heaven, he sitteth on the right hand of the God the Father Almighty, from whence he will come to judge the quick and the dead. At whose coming all men will rise again with their bodies; And shall give account for their own works. And they that have done good shall go into life everlasting; and they that have done evil, into everlasting fire. **This is the Catholic Faith; which except a man believe truly and firmly, he cannot be saved.**

# Christian View

Two Natures meet in  
the person of the Son

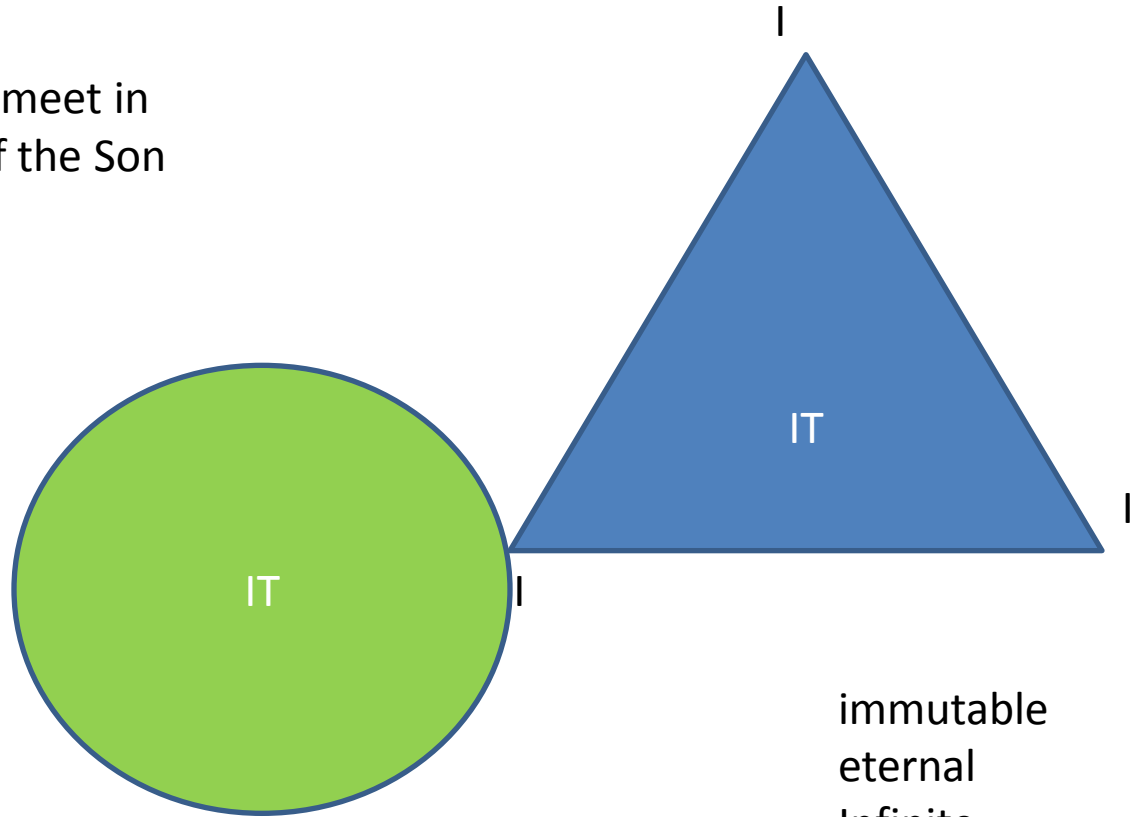


learning  
mutable  
finite  
Limited in time and space

immutable  
eternal  
Infinite  
omnipresent  
omniscience

# Christian View

Two Natures meet in  
the person of the Son

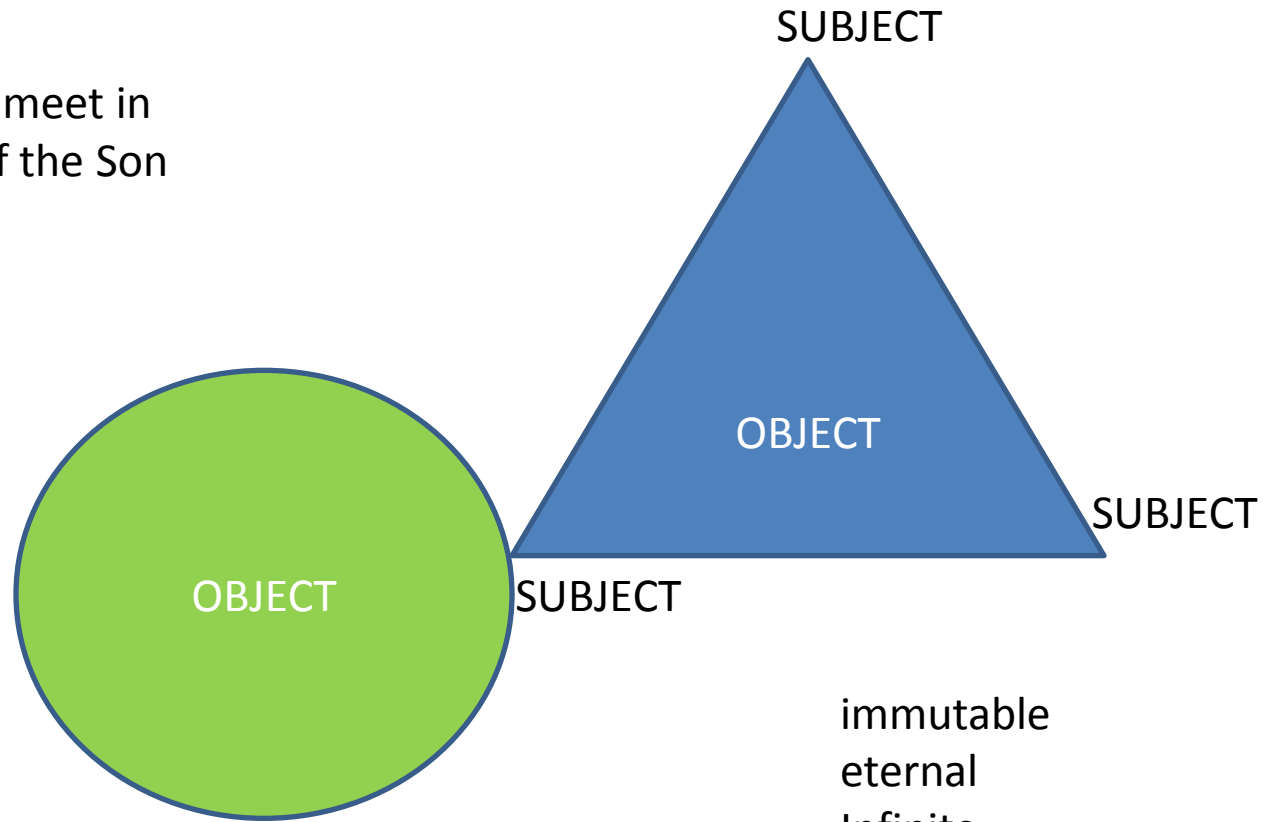


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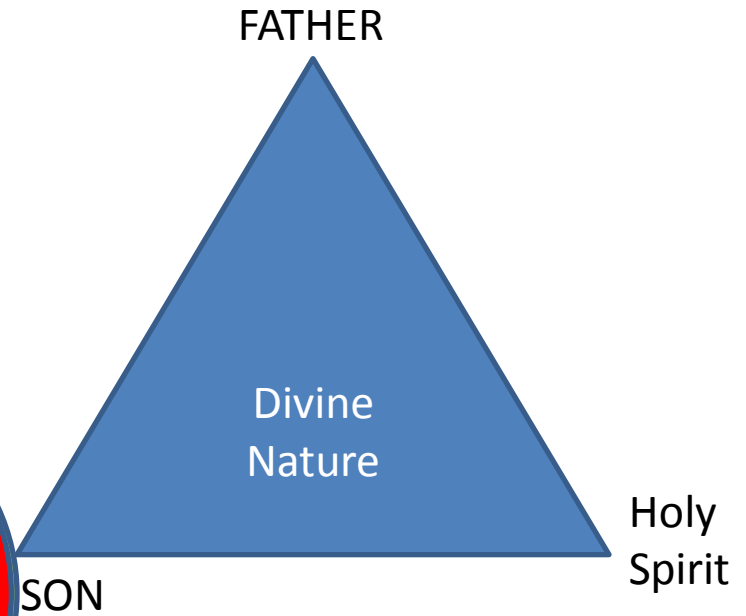


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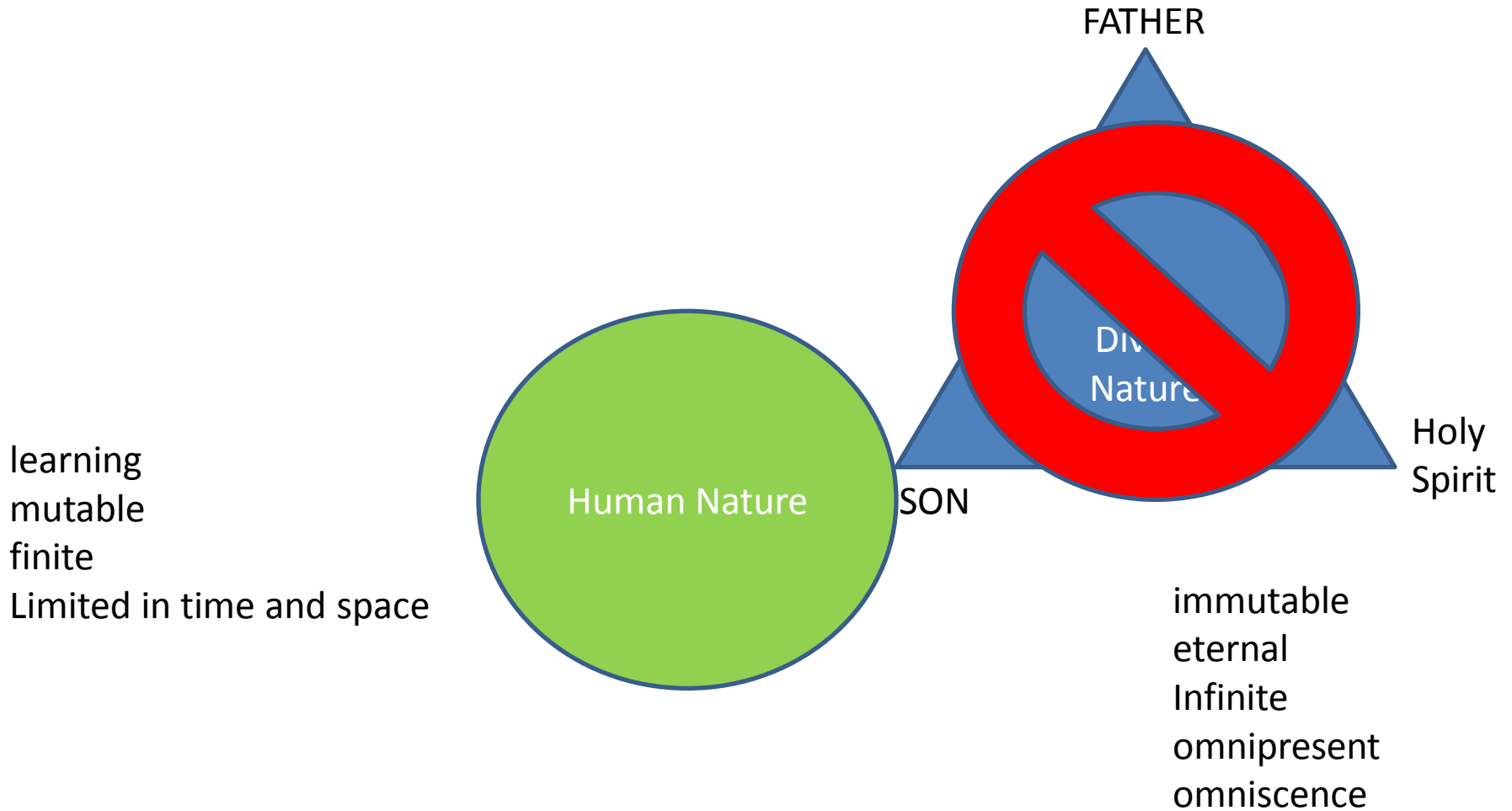
# Heretical Views – Deny Humanity

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finite  
Limited in time and space

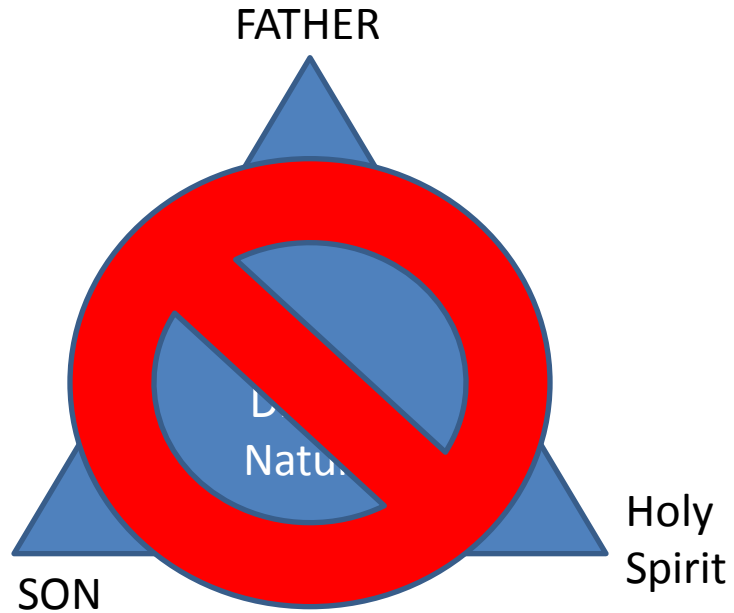


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# Heretical Views – Deny Deity

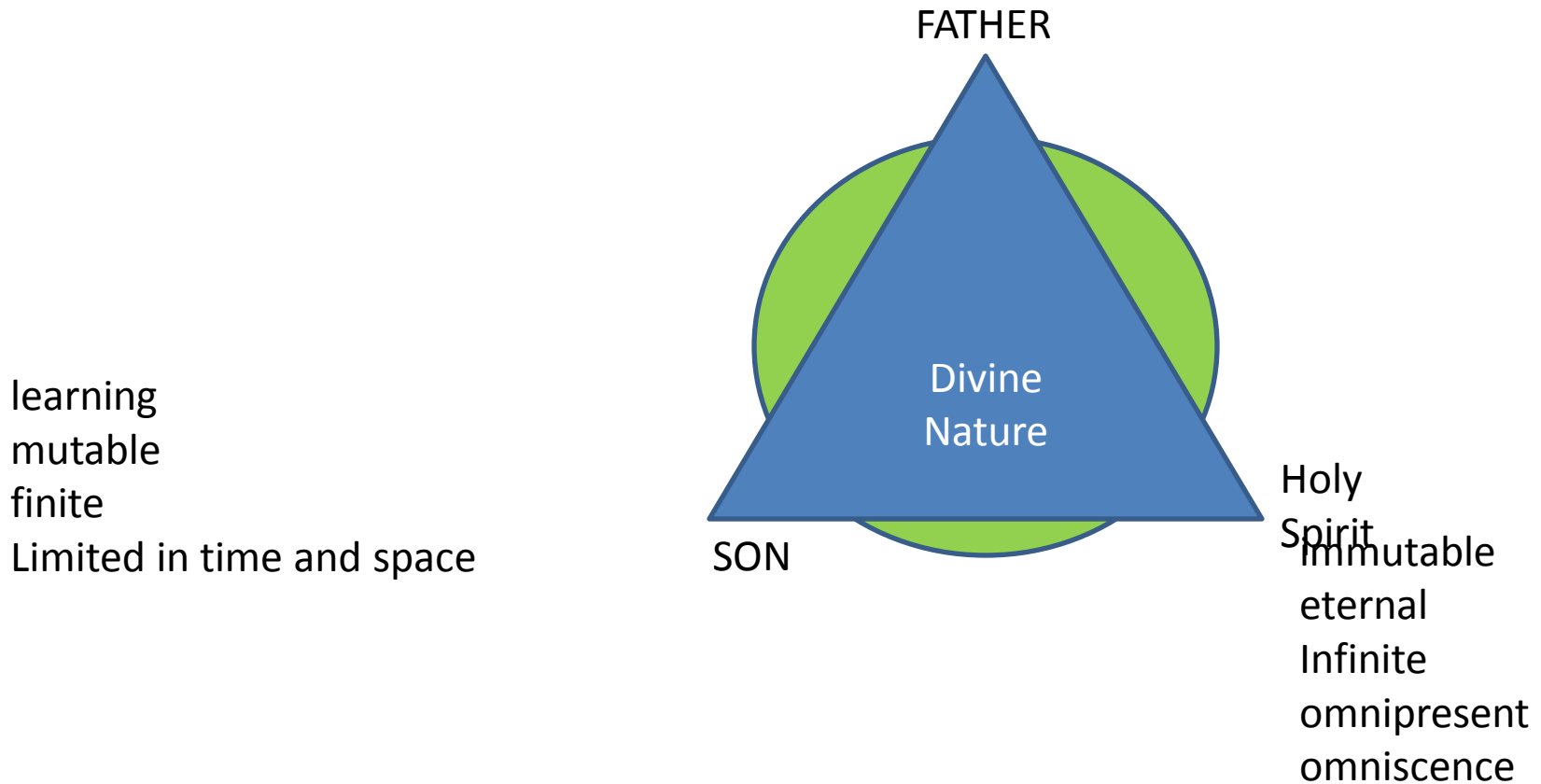


# Heretical Views – Deny Trinity

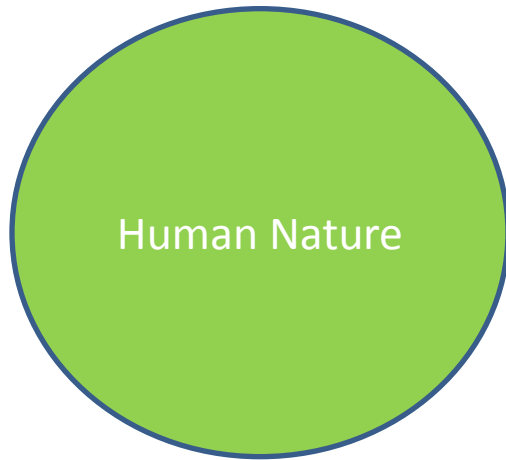




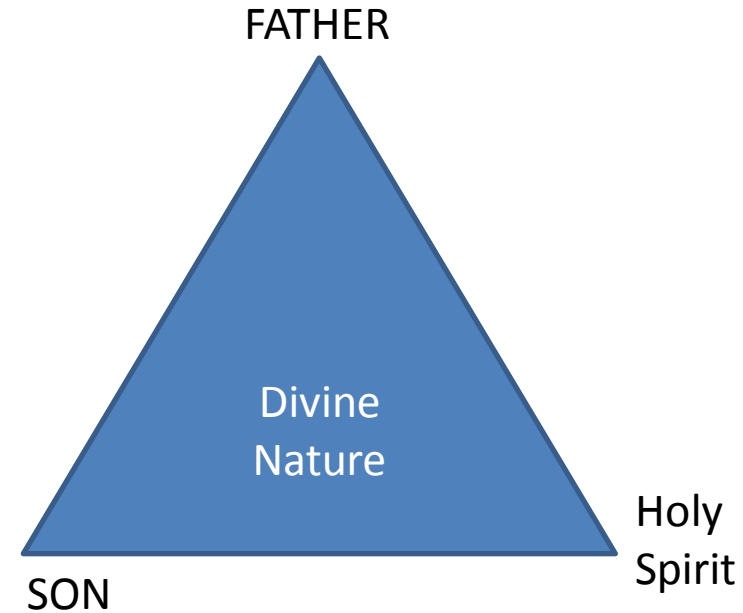
# Heretical Views – Conflate Substances



# Heretical Views – Divide the Person



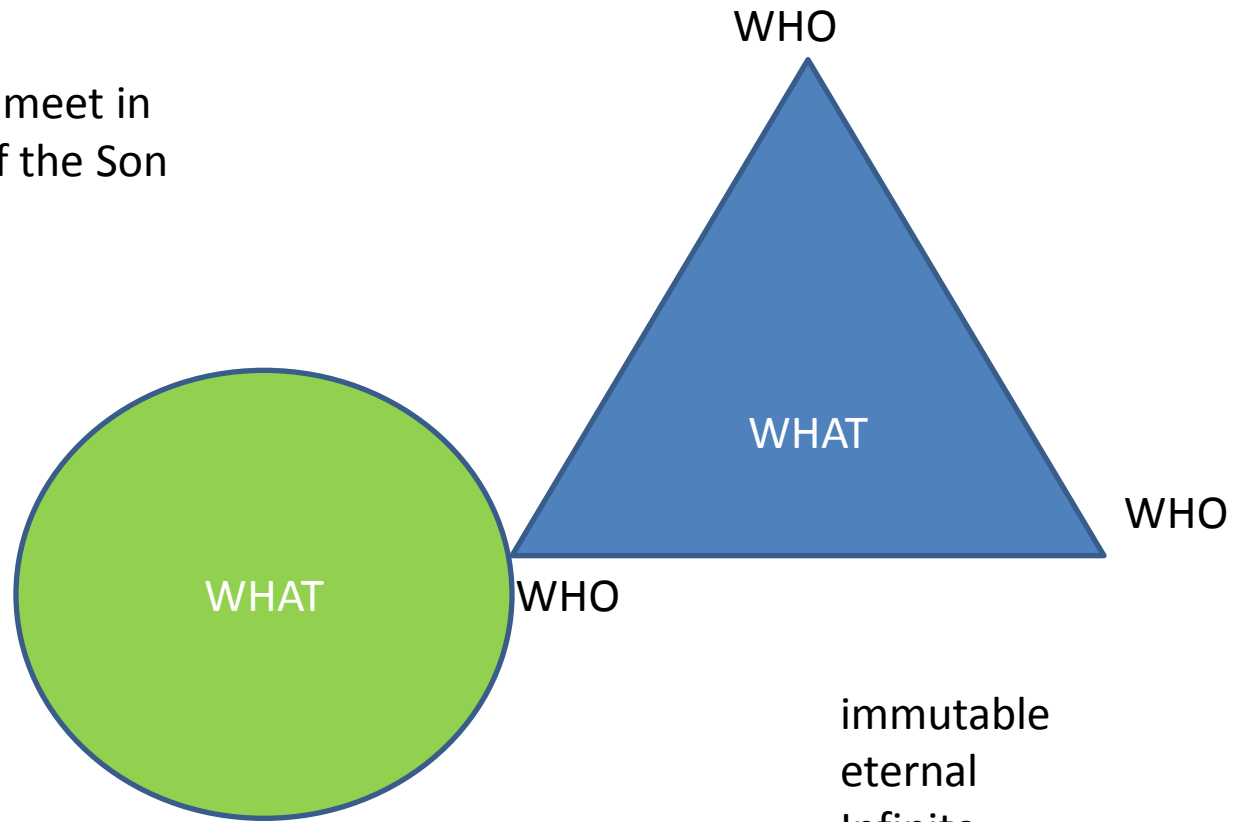
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Two Natures meet in  
the person of the Son



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# Ecc 1:9-11

what has been done will be done again;  
there is nothing new under the sun.

<sup>10</sup> Is there anything of which one can say,  
"Look! This is something new"?  
It was here already, long ago;  
it was here before our time.

<sup>11</sup> There is no remembrance of men of old,  
and even those who are yet to come  
will not be remembered  
by those who follow.

# Mormon View of Jesus

Jess L. Christensen, Institute of Religion director at Utah State University, Logan, Utah. [On first hearing, the doctrine that Lucifer and our Lord, Jesus Christ, are brothers may seem surprising to some—especially to those unacquainted with latter-day revelations. But both the scriptures and the prophets affirm that Jesus Christ and Lucifer are indeed offspring of our Heavenly Father and, therefore, spirit brothers.](#) Jesus Christ was with the Father from the beginning. Lucifer, too, was an angel “who was in authority in the presence of God,” a “son of the morning.” (See [Isa. 14:12](#); [D&C 76:25–27](#).) Both Jesus and Lucifer were strong leaders with great knowledge and influence. But as the Firstborn of the Father, Jesus was Lucifer’s older brother. (See [Col. 1:15](#); [D&C 93:21](#).)

How could two such great spirits become so totally opposite? The answer lies in the principle of agency, which has existed from all eternity. (See [D&C 93:30–31](#).) Of Lucifer, the scripture says that because of rebellion “he became Satan, yea, even the devil, the father of all lies.” ([Moses 4:4](#).) Note that he was not created evil, but *became* Satan by his own choice. When our Father in Heaven presented his plan of salvation, Jesus sustained the plan and his part in it, giving the glory to God, to whom it properly belonged. Lucifer, on the other hand, sought power, honor, and glory only for himself. (See [Isa. 14:13–14](#); [Moses 4:1–2](#).) When his modification of the Father’s plan was rejected, he rebelled against God and was subsequently cast out of heaven with those who had sided with him. (See [Rev. 12:7–9](#); [D&C 29:36–37](#).)

**That brothers would make dramatically different choices is not unusual.** It has happened time and again, as the scriptures attest: Cain chose to serve Satan; Abel chose to serve God. (See [Moses 5:16–18](#).) Esau “despised his birthright”; Jacob wanted to honor it. ([Gen. 25:29–34](#).) Joseph’s brothers sought to kill him; he sought to preserve them. ([Gen. 37:12–24](#); [Gen. 45:3–11](#).)

Jess L. Christensen, “I Have a Question,” *Ensign*, June 1986, 25–26

[http://lds.org/ldsorg/v/index.jsp?hideNav=1&locale=0&sourceId=4a10ef960417b010VgnVCM1000004d82620a\\_\\_\\_\\_&vgnextoid=2354fccf2b7db010VgnVCM1000004d82620aRCRD](http://lds.org/ldsorg/v/index.jsp?hideNav=1&locale=0&sourceId=4a10ef960417b010VgnVCM1000004d82620a____&vgnextoid=2354fccf2b7db010VgnVCM1000004d82620aRCRD)

# Mormon view of Jesus

The purport of these scriptures is to the effect that God the Eternal Father, whom we designate by the exalted name-title “Elohim,” is the literal Parent of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ and of the spirits of the human race. Elohim is the Father in every sense in which Jesus Christ is so designated . . . . Jesus Christ is the Son of Elohim both as spiritual and bodily offspring; that is to say, Elohim is literally the Father of the spirit of Jesus Christ and also the body in which Jesus Christ performed His mission in the flesh . . . . No extended explanation of the title “Son of God” as applied to Jesus Christ appears necessary. . . . Let it not be forgotten, however, that He is essentially greater than any or all others, by reason (1) of His seniority as the oldest or firstborn; (2) of His unique status in the flesh as the offspring of a mortal mother and of an immortal, or resurrected and glorified, Father . . . . Jesus Christ is not the Father of the spirits who have taken or yet shall take bodies upon this earth, for He is one of them. He is The Son, as they are sons or daughters of Elohim. So far as the stages of eternal progression and attainment have been made known through divine revelation, we are to understand that only resurrected and glorified beings can become parents of spirit offspring. Only such exalted souls have reached maturity in the appointed course of eternal life; and the spirits born to them in the eternal worlds will pass in due sequence through the several stages or estates by which the glorified parents have attained exaltation.

“The Father and the Son,” *Ensign*, Apr 2002, 13.

<http://lds.org/ldsorg/v/index.jsp?hideNav=1&locale=0&sourceId=dd428c6a47e0c010VgnVCM1000004d82620a&vgnnextoid=2354fccf2b7db010VgnVCM1000004d82620aRCRD>

# Summary of Mormon view of Jesus

Jesus' was engendered by god the father (Elohim) reproducing with a spiritual mother. (Jesus was created)

Jesus's physical body was engendered by god the father (Elohim) reproducing with Mary.

Jesus is the spirit brother of Lucifer inasmuch as god the father engendered both Jesus and Satan.

The mormon's deny the classical doctrine of the trinity as three persons in one being. Instead, they are polytheists such that god the father, god the son, and god the holy spirit are three separate beings.

They hold an Arian view of Jesus.

They also believe that men can become gods as Elohim was once a man. That is to say, one can "evolve" to Godhood.

# Jehovah Witness View of Jesus

Jesus is the first of Jehovah's creation - "Let God be True" (Brooklyn, Watchtower Bible and Tract Society, 1952) p. 200

Jesus is Michael the archangel - "The Watchtower", 15 May 1969, p.307; Dec 15, 1964, p. 29.

Jesus rose from the dead as an invisible spirit, not in a physical body. Jesus is the first of Jehovah's creation. - "Let God be True" (Brooklyn, Watchtower Bible and Tract Society, 1952) p. 272

Jesus is a mighty God, but He is not Jehovah – "The Watchtower", 15 March 1975, p.307;

Michael (Jesus) ceased to exist when Jehovah transferred Michael's "life force" into Mary's womb. In other words, Michael the angel cease to be. Jesus died as a ransom for mankind.

Jesus resumed his identity as Michael the archangel - "Aid to Bible Understanding" (Brooklyn, Watchtower, 1971), p. 1152



# Summary of JW View of Jesus

Jesus was created by God as a Michael the arch-angel

Michael the archangel created everything else.

Michael the archangel is a “god”, but not Jehovah. (Also polytheists)

Michael become Jesus and rose as a spiritual being

Jesus did not rise from the dead in bodily form.

# How does this help us?

1. It helps understand how cults differ from Christianity
  1. Deity of Christ
  2. Virgin Birth
  3. Trinity
  4. Sinless life
  5. Vicarious death
  6. Bodily Resurrection
  7. Come to judge the living and the dead
2. It helps us understand the Bible.
3. It helps us given an intelligent response to the cults.

# John 3:1-14

<sup>1</sup> There was a man of the Pharisees named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews. <sup>2</sup> This man came to Jesus by night and said to Him, “Rabbi, we know that You are a teacher come from God; for no one can do these signs that You do unless God is with him.”

<sup>3</sup> Jesus answered and said to him, “Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.”

<sup>4</sup> Nicodemus said to Him, “How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter a second time into his mother’s womb and be born?”

<sup>5</sup> Jesus answered, “Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. <sup>6</sup> That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. <sup>7</sup> Do not marvel that I said to you, ‘You must be born again.’ <sup>8</sup> The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear the sound of it, but cannot tell where it comes from and where it goes. So is everyone who is born of the Spirit.”

<sup>9</sup> Nicodemus answered and said to Him, “How can these things be?”

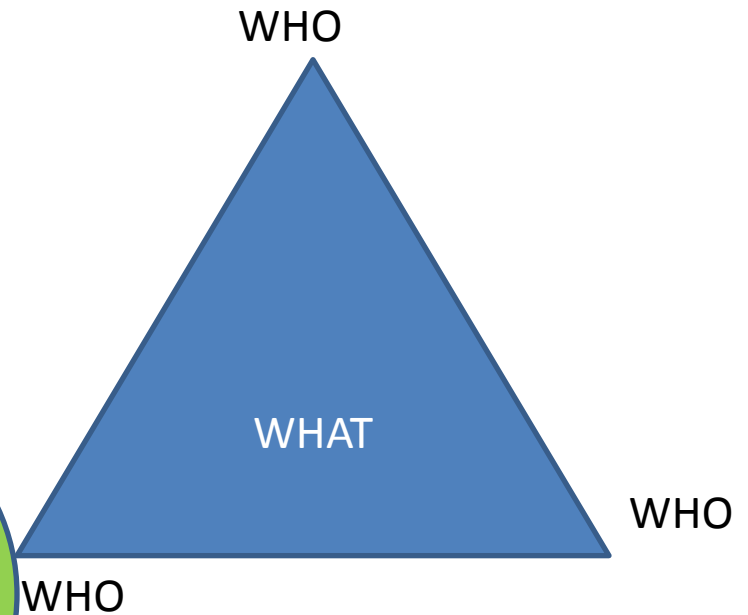
<sup>10</sup> Jesus answered and said to him, “Are you the teacher of Israel, and do not know these things?

<sup>11</sup> Most assuredly, I say to you, We speak what We know and testify what We have seen, and you do not receive Our witness. <sup>12</sup> If I have told you earthly things and you do not believe, how will you believe if I tell you heavenly things? <sup>13</sup> No one has ascended to heaven but He who came down from heaven, *that is*, the Son of Man who **is** in heaven.

# Christian View

Two Natures meet in  
the person of the Son

learning  
mutable  
finite  
Limited in time and space



immutable  
eternal  
Infinite  
omnipresent  
omniscience

# Phil 2:7

Do nothing from <sup>(E)</sup>selfishness or <sup>(E)</sup>empty conceit, but with humility of mind <sup>(G)</sup>regard one another as more important than yourselves;

<sup>4(H)</sup>do not merely look out for your own personal interests, but also for the interests of others.

<sup>5(I)</sup>Have this attitude in yourselves which was also in <sup>(J)</sup>Christ Jesus,

<sup>6</sup>who, although He <sup>(K)</sup>existed in the <sup>(L)</sup>form of God, <sup>(M)</sup>did not regard equality with God a thing to be grasped,

<sup>7</sup>but <sup>[a]</sup><sup>(N)</sup>emptied Himself, taking the form of a <sup>(O)</sup>bond-servant, and <sup>(P)</sup>being made in the likeness of men.

<sup>8</sup>Being found in appearance as a man, <sup>(Q)</sup>He humbled Himself by becoming <sup>(R)</sup>obedient to the point of death, even <sup>(S)</sup>death on a cross.

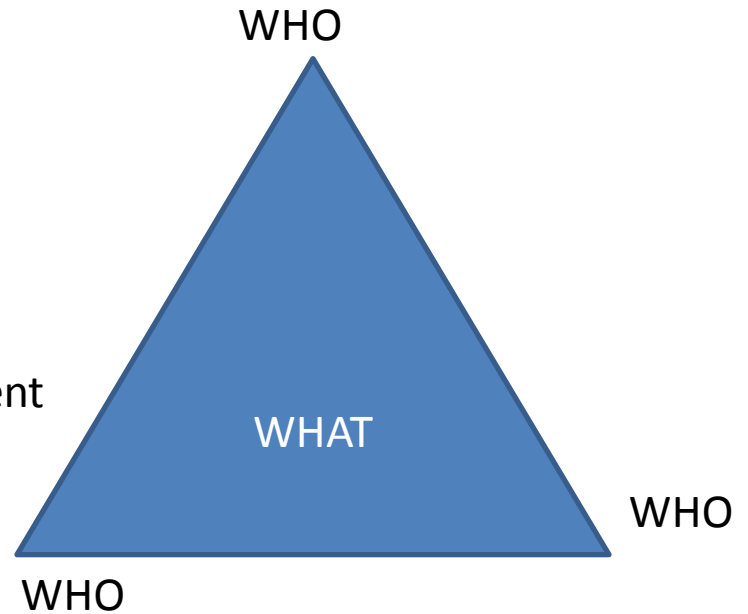
<sup>9(T)</sup>For this reason also, God <sup>(U)</sup>highly exalted Him, and bestowed on Him <sup>(V)</sup>the name which is above every name,

<sup>10</sup>so that at the name of Jesus <sup>(W)</sup>EVERY KNEE WILL BOW, of <sup>(X)</sup>those who are in heaven and on earth and under the earth,

<sup>11</sup>and that every tongue will confess that Jesus Christ is <sup>(Y)</sup>Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

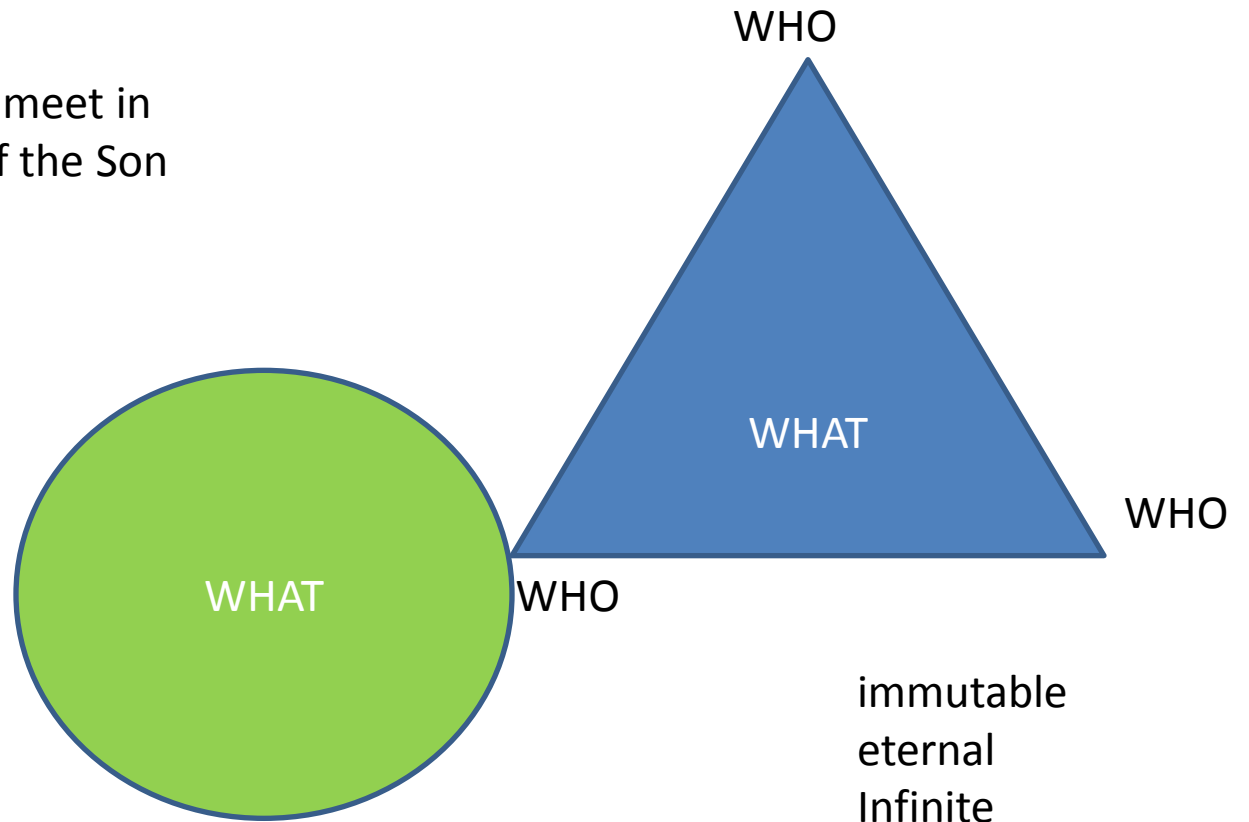
# Christian View

immutable  
eternal  
Infinite  
omnipresent  
omniscience  
omnibenevolent  
omnipotent



# Christian View

Two Natures meet in  
the person of the Son



learning  
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omnipotent

# JW Objection to the Deity of Christ

JW: “Is Jesus God?”

CH: “Yes”

JW: “Does God know all things?”

CH: “Yes”

JW: “Why didn’t Jesus know the time of His second coming? Didn’t Jesus himself say, ‘No one knows about that day or hour, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son,<sup>[f]</sup> but only the Father.’”

CH: “I guess your right Jesus is not God or well I just believe it by faith”



# Two Natures/Two Questions

Does Jesus know all things?

As God, "Yes."

As man, "No." Luke 2:52

Is Jesus Omnipresent?

As God. "Yes." John 3:14

As man, "No." John 3:1

Does Jesus sleep?

As God, "No." Psalm 121:4

As Man, "Yes" Luke 8:23

# JW Objection to the Deity of Christ

<sup>18</sup>A certain ruler asked him, "Good teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?" <sup>19</sup>"Why do you call me good?" Jesus answered. "No one is good—except God alone. <sup>20</sup>

First, note that Jesus did not say, "I am not good."

Second, note that Jesus did not say, "I am not God"

Third, rational creatures are called "good" or "bad" based on what they do. A person who is virtuous (i.e., has a habit of doing good) is called a "good person." A person who is vicious (i.e., has a habit of doing bad) is called a "bad person." Created things are called "good or bad" based on their **actions**.

God, on the other hand, if He never did anything, He would still be good because His goodness does not stem from what He **does**, but what He **is**. In other words, this verse is not a denial of deity but the assertion that He Himself is God.

# Verses affirming Jesus's Deity

1. Great I am: John 8:24, John 8:58, John 13:19, John 18:5, Exo 3:14
2. The first and the last: Rev 1:17, Rev 2:8, Rev 22:13
3. The Rock: Cor 10:4, Isa 8:14, 1 Peter 2:6, Psa 18:2
4. Savior: Acts 2:21, Acts 4:12, Romas 10:9 , June 25, Isa 45:22,Isa 43:11
5. Judge: Gen 18:25, Joel 3:12, John 5:27, Matt 25:31
6. Light: Micah 7:8, Isa 60:20, Ps 27:1, John 9:5
7. Creator: Job 33:4, Isa 40:28, Gen 1:1, Col1:16
8. Good Shepherd: Psa 23, John 10:11
9. Forgiver of Sins: Jer 31:34, Mark 2:7,10

# Homework

Use what you just learned to answer these verses that are used to deny the deity of Jesus.

John 14:28

Mark 13:32

1 Cor 11:3

1 Cor 15:28

John 17:21

Mark 10:18

Mark 15:34