

# Blueprints for Belief

*Laying the Theological Foundations for Constructing Your Faith*

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1. It pleased God, in his eternal purpose, to choose and ordain the Lord Jesus, his only begotten Son, to be the Mediator between God and man, the Prophet, Priest, and King, the Head and Savior of his church, the Heir of all things, and Judge of the world: unto whom he did from all eternity give a people, to be his seed, and to be by him in time redeemed, called, justified, sanctified, and glorified.

- Isaiah 42:1 – “Behold my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen, in whom my soul delights.”
- John 17:6 – “I have manifested your name to the people whom you gave me out of the world.”
- Philippians 2:7-8 – “...he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.”
- Hebrews 7:25 – “He is able to save to the uttermost those who draw near to God through him.”

2. The Son of God, the second person in the Trinity, being very and eternal God, of one substance and equal with the Father, did, when the fullness of time was come, take upon him man’s nature, with all the essential properties, and common infirmities thereof, yet without sin; being conceived by the power of the Holy Ghost, in the womb of the virgin Mary, of her substance. So that two whole, perfect, and distinct natures, the Godhead and the manhood, were inseparably joined together in one person, without conversion, composition, or confusion. Which person is very God, and very man, yet one Christ, the only Mediator between God and man.

- John 1:14 – “And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us.”
- Galatians 4:4 – “But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law.”
- 1 Timothy 2:5 – “For there is one God, and there is one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus.”

3. The Lord Jesus, in his human nature thus united to the divine, was sanctified, and anointed with the Holy Spirit, above measure, having in him all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge; in whom it pleased the Father that all fullness should dwell; to the end that, being holy, harmless, undefiled, and full of grace and truth, he might be thoroughly furnished to execute the office of a mediator, and surety. Which office he took not unto himself, but was thereunto called by his Father, who put all power and judgment into his hand, and gave him commandment to execute the same.

- John 3:34 – “He whom God has sent utters the words of God, for he gives the Spirit without measure.”
- Colossians 1:19 – “For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell.”
- Hebrews 5:5 – “So also Christ did not exalt himself to be made a high priest, but was appointed by him who said to him, ‘You are my Son...’”

4. This office the Lord Jesus did most willingly undertake; which that he might discharge, he was made under the law, and did perfectly fulfill it; endured most grievous torments immediately in his soul, and most painful sufferings in his body; was crucified, and died, was buried, and remained under the power of death, yet saw no corruption. On the third day he arose from the dead, with the same body in which he suffered, with which also he ascended into heaven, and there sitteth at the right hand of his Father, making intercession, and shall return, to judge men and angels, at the end of the world.

- John 10:18 – “No one takes [my life] from me, but I lay it down of my own accord.”
- Matthew 5:17 – “I have not come to abolish [the Law or the Prophets] but to fulfill them.”
- Isaiah 53:5 – “He was pierced for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities.”
- Acts 2:27 – “You will not abandon my soul to Hades, or let your Holy One see corruption.”

## Objections

“Why must there be only one Mediator?”

- Some argue that it’s arrogant or too exclusive to claim that Christ is the *only* way to God. They point to other religions and suggest that there may be many valid mediators or paths.
- It is perhaps an inconvenient truth, but other religions are not compatible with Christianity.

“How can one person be both fully God and fully man?”

- Critics (ancient Arians, modern skeptics, Jehovah’s Witnesses, and Unitarians) say it’s contradictory for Christ to be one person with two complete natures.
- It is a *mystery*, but it is not a contradiction. Both Scripture and historical church councils and creeds affirm this mystery.

## Discussion Questions

- 1) In a culture that values “many paths,” how can we hold to Christ’s exclusivity with both conviction and compassion?
- 2) What comfort do you find in knowing Jesus is *fully human* and understands weakness, temptation, and suffering?
- 3) How does Jesus’ willingness to fulfill the law and suffer willingly encourage you in times when obedience feels costly?