

New City Catechism Class

Week 21

Q21: What sort of Redeemer is needed to bring us back to God?

A21: One who is truly human and also truly God.

Isaiah 9:6 “For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.” (ESV)

Discuss the question:

- How is this question related to Question 20 & the text (1 Tim 2:5) from last week?
- Why does Q 21 point out that the Redeemer’s purpose is to bring us back to God?
- What are some misunderstandings about the nature of Jesus (historically & currently)?

Discuss the Scripture:

- How does this passage speak to the truly human nature of the Messiah?
- How does this passage speak to the truly divine nature of the messiah?
- How does this passage allude to the child’s role as redeemer?
- How do we know for certain that Isaiah 9:6 is referring to Jesus?

Discuss the answer:

- How do we understand from scripture that Jesus is truly human?
 - Jesus had (and still has) a human body.
 - Jesus had a natural birth. **(Matt 1:18)**
 - He grew physically and became strong. **(Luke 2:40)**
 - He grew in wisdom and in stature. **(Luke 2:51-52)**
 - He became tired from a Journey. **(John 4:4-6)**
 - He became hungry after a fast. **(Matt 4:2)**
 - He became thirsty on the cross. **(John 19:28)**
 - He rose and ascended to heaven in a physical body **(Luke 24:39, Acts 1:9)**
 - Jesus had a human mind.
 - He went through a learning process. **(Luke 2:52)**
 - Jesus experienced a full range of human emotions.
 - He marveled at the faith of the Centurion. **(Matt 8:10)**
 - He wept at the death of his friend Lazarus. **(John 11: 33-36)**
 - He prayed to God with loud cries of tears. **(Heb 5:7)**
 - He said “My soul is very sorrowful” before His crucifixion. **(Matt 26:30)**
- How do we understand from scripture that Jesus is truly God?
 - Jesus was miraculously conceived. **(Matt 1:18)**
 - The fullness of deity dwells in Him **(Col 1:19 & Col 2:9)**
 - The angels called Him “Lord”. **(Luke 2:11)**
 - Jesus claimed to be God **(John 8:57-59 & Exodus 3:13-14)**
 - Jesus is responsible for creation **(John 1:1-3)**
 - The angels worship Him **(Heb 1:6)**
 - The Messiah is referred to as “Might God, Everlasting Father”. **(Isaiah 9:6)**
- Why is it important that we maintain that Jesus was (and is) truly God at all times?
- How do we come to the conclusion that Christ is only one person in spite of having two distinct natures? Why is this important?