

# Christian Doctrine

## Jesus Christ (Part 4)

### Sinlessness and Temptation

#### *The Sinlessness of Christ*

A major difference between Jesus Christ and the rest of humanity was the fact that He alone was sinless.

- Jesus was completely innocent of sin (**II Cor. 5:21**).
  - His enemies could find no fault in Him (**John 8:46; Matt. 22:15**).
  - He testified of His sinlessness, and said that everything He did pleased the Father (**John 8:29; 15:10**).
  - Even at His crucifixion, He was found innocent multiple times (**Matt. 27:24; John 18:38; 19:4, 6**; etc.).
  - Scriptures clearly state that He “knew no sin” (**II Cor. 5:21; I Pet. 2:22; I John 3:5; Heb. 4:15; 7:26**).
  - He was truly a “lamb without blemish or spot” (**I Pet. 1:19**).
- The significance of Christ’s sinlessness:
  - He was morally, ethically perfect. He succeeded where we failed. He did what we could not do.
  - While in our guilt, He became the perfect, innocent sacrifice who could take away our sin (**I Pet. 3:18**).

#### *The Temptation of Christ*

Jesus Christ was sinless, but yet He was not excluded from testing. He experienced temptation, just as everyone does.

- He faced temptation (**Heb. 2:18; Luke 4:1-13**).
  - His temptations were real. He was tested just as we are tested, yet He did not sin (**Heb. 4:15**).
  - He was tested in ways that appeal to human nature: lust of the eyes, lust of the flesh, and the pride of life (compare **I John 2:16** with **Matt 4:1-11**).
- \*Could Jesus have sinned? The fact that Jesus did not have a sin nature (being born of a virgin), and the fact that in His deity sin would not appeal to Him (**James 1:13**), strongly suggests that He could not have sinned.
- The purpose of His testing:
  - To relate to us as we experience testing (**Heb. 4:15**).
  - To show us how to be victorious (**I Pet. 1:16**).
  - To offer us grace and strength (**Heb. 2:18; 4:16**).