

“The Man Christ Jesus”

Some years ago I heard an excellent sermon by Peter Ruckman entitled **“Behold the Man”** that was a great blessing to me. I too, want to take a moment to **“Behold”** him through the words of God.

Being that the King James Bible is perfect we can be sure that we have a high definition **“image”** of God by looking at what the Book says about Jesus Christ.

The Bible says **“For there are three that bear record in heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost: and these three are one.”** (1 John 5v7), and while Bible rejecting liberals generally focus only on His humanity, let’s take a look at it ourselves under the guidance of the Holy Ghost through the words of God, knowing that He is **“God manifest in the flesh.”**

“And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us...” (John 1v14)

1. He was a Man with a man’s needs

-He got tired and thirsty

“Now Jacob’s well was there. Jesus therefore, being wearied with his journey, sat thus on the well: and it was about the sixth hour. There cometh a woman of Samaria to draw water: Jesus saith unto her Give me to drink.” (John 4v6v7)

“And he was in the hinder part of the ship, asleep on a pillow...” (Mark 4v38)

“...I thirst” (John 19v28)

Who has never at some point been tired and thirsty? I can remember going on hikes with my Dad as a boy, and years later, on ruck marches with my Soldiers as an Army officer. Every so often, taking a seat by the road or trail and taking a long drink of water was just exactly what I needed. As Ruckman said, I don’t have anything in common with anyone who can make a nuclear furnace like the sun, but someone that gets tired and thirsty is a little more my “type.”

-He got hungry

“And when he had fasted forty days and forty nights, he was afterward an hungered.” (Matthew 4v2)

“And on the morrow, when they were come from Bethany, he was hungry:” (Mark 11v12)

I’m a pretty big guy so I tend to stay hungry, and I’m sure that any healthy person can relate. In U.S. Marine Corps basic training, the Drill Instructors never eat or drink in front of the trainees, so that they will seem as machine-like, larger than life, and unapproachable as possible. Getting hungry and eating food shows humanity, and I’m so thankful for a Saviour who

is not machine-like or unapproachable, but a down-to-earth, sinless, Man (not to mention so tough He could show any Marine Drill Instructor who ever lived “a thing or two”).

-He sweat

“And being in agony he prayed more earnestly; and his sweat was as it were great drops of blood falling down to the ground.” (Luke 22v44)

Thank you Lord. That’s one of those verses that gives me the urge to get down on my knees and thank God for coming down to die in my place.

-He bled

“But one of the soldiers with a spear pierced his side, and forthwith came there out blood and water.” (John 19v34)

Any real, living man has blood coursing through his veins, but it’s probably the filthiest thing about him. Just about everything dirty that we’ve got in us shows up in the blood. Doctors order “blood work” so they’ll know what all is wrong with you.

When you or I bleed, they clean it up and put the bandages in a bin marked “BIO-HAZARD”...but His blood is so “**precious**” and “**innocent**” that it CLEANSSES from sin. He bled, and thank God He did.

“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; But with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot:” (1 Peter 1v18v19)

“But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin.” (John 1v7)

“And from Jesus Christ, *who is* the faithful witness, *and* the first begotten of the dead, and the prince of the kings of the earth. Unto him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in his own blood,” (Revelation 1v5)

2. He was a Man with a man’s feelings

“And when he had made a scourge of small cords, he drove them all out of the temple, and the sheep, and the oxen; and poured out the changers' money, and overthrew the tables; And said unto them that sold doves, Take these things hence; make not my Father's house an house of merchandise.” (John 2v15-16)

“Jesus wept.” (John 11v35)

“...He loved them unto the end” (John 13v1)

Have you ever been jealous for something that God said? Jesus was. Have you ever cried at a funeral? Jesus did. Have you ever felt love for a friend? Jesus surely did.

3. He was a Sinless Man

Adam, Noah, Abraham, Lot, Moses, David, Elijah, Jonah, Jeremiah, Peter, Paul, etc were all sinful men whose faults and shortcomings God carefully recorded in His perfect Book. Since God is **“a God of truth,”** the Bible doesn't leave out any detail that He wanted us to know, and it goes into exactly as much detail as is appropriate in describing their sins. A Book of such integrity would surely point out the “spots” in every character on it's pages, much like Nathan pointed at David and said **“Thou art the man.”** It most certainly does. But this same Book, when describing God's only begotten Son, the Lord Jesus Christ with the same brutal honesty as describing David's adultery and murder, says that He is **“a Lamb without blemish,” “in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin,” “holy, harmless, undefiled, separate from sinners, and made higher than the heavens.”**

The unclean devils knew He was Holy and sinless:

“And in the synagogue there was a man, which had a spirit of an unclean devil, and cried out with a loud voice, 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 4v33-34)

Pilate and Herod admitted He was innocent:

“...Ye have brought this man unto me, as one that perverteth the people: and, behold, I, having examined him before you, have found no fault in this man touching those things whereof ye accuse him: No, nor yet Herod: for I sent you to him; and, lo, nothing worthy of death is done unto him.” (Pilate, Luke 23v14-15)

Judas Iscariot admitted He was innocent:

Then Judas, which had betrayed him, when he saw that he was condemned, repented himself, and brought again the thirty pieces of silver to the chief priests and elders, Saying, I have sinned in that I have betrayed the innocent blood...” (Matthew 27v3-4)

Pilate's wife knew He was innocent:

When he was set down on the judgment seat, his wife sent unto him, saying, Have thou nothing to do with that just man: for I have suffered many things this day in a dream because of him. (Matthew 27v19)

The man crucified next to Jesus admitted He was innocent:

“And one of the malefactors which were hanged railed on him, saying, If thou be Christ, save thyself and us.

But the other answering rebuked him, saying, Dost not thou fear God, seeing thou art in the same condemnation?

And we indeed justly; for we receive the due reward of our deeds: but this man hath done nothing amiss.” (Luke 23v39-41)

The Centurion commanding the crucifixion detail admitted he was innocent:

Now when the centurion saw what was done, he glorified God, saying, Certainly this was a righteous man. (Luke 23v47)

Jesus' enemies, and Jesus' Father are all in agreement that He is perfect and sinless. I'm so thankful that God is not some distant Being in a galaxy far, far, away, but a loving, personal Saviour, Who came down as a Man, lived a perfect life, died in my place and rose again!

“Wherefore he is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by him, seeing he ever liveth to make intercession for them.” (Hebrews 7v25)