

BORN: Identity

2 Corinthians 8:9

Jesus is 100% man and 100% God and that matters to you.

I. He Arrived:

1. His Divinity gives us hope.
 - a. God was "with" us. (Matt 1:22-23)
 - b. Jesus was from the beginning. (Colossians 1:15)
 - i. Christmas was not His beginning. (John 1:1,14)
 - ii. He was "sent" (Galatians 4:4)
 - c. God willingly made himself poor for our benefit. (2 Corinthians 8:9)
2. His Humanity makes this personal.
 - a. "Son of Man" (Matt 18:11)
 - b. He is fully man:
 - i. Jesus did all of those things babies do.
-He ate, He slept, He wept.
 - ii. Jesus did some of those things teenagers do.
-He frustrated his parents, got a job, spent significant time in a single parent home.
 - iii. Jesus was human in every way.
-Jesus had all the appetites we do.
-He experienced pain, exhaustion, scars, etc.

II. The Humanity of Christ matters.

1. Without his humanity, he could not relate to our temptations and pain. Being fully human, he can truly understand us and shepherd us.
 - Jesus was tempted; He was persecuted; He was poor; He was despised; He suffered physical pain; and He endured the sorrows of a lingering and cruel death.
 - Only a human being could experience and understand these things, (Hebrews 4:15)

"Jesus was shockingly human... not only does the Son of God have a fully human body, but also a fully human mind, heart, and will. Jesus took a human body to save our bodies. And he took a human mind to save our minds. Without becoming man in his emotions, he could not have rescued our hearts. And without taking a human will, he could not save our broken and wandering wills. In the words of Gregory of Nazianzus, 'That which he has not assumed he has not healed.'" David Mathis.

2. Without his humanity, he could not pay the penalty of our sins. Being fully human, he can perfectly atone for our sins. (Matt 20:28)
 - Gk. *lytron* ("ransom") describes the purchase price for freeing a slave that Jesus was able to pay in full through his sinless death.
 - He was born "under the law" and through his death he would bring the new covenant fulfilling the law.
 - Those who deny the humanity of Christ deny Christ. (1John 4:2-3)