



ADDITIONAL NOTES

EFCA STATEMENT OF FAITH ON JESUS

We believe that Jesus Christ is God incarnate, fully God and fully man, one Person in two natures. Jesus—Israel's promised Messiah—was conceived through the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He lived a sinless life, was crucified under Pontius Pilate, arose bodily from the dead, ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father as our High Priest and Advocate.

JESUS IS GOD AND MAN (THE HYPOSTATIC UNION)

- ⌘ **Hypostatic Union** – A term used to explain the truth of Jesus being both God and Man. Hypostatic means “personal.” *The hypostatic union is the personal union of Christ’s two natures (divine and human) in one person.* Jesus is not partially God or partially man. He is 100% God and 100% man.
- ⌘ **The Deity of Jesus**
 - *His works of healing, controlling nature, casting out demons, etc.* (The Gospels)
 - *His claims of being God* (John 5:18, 8:58, 10:30)
 - *The Scriptures* (John 1:1-3; Colossians 1:15-20; Hebrews 1)
- ⌘ **The Humanity of Jesus**
 - *Born of a woman* (Matthew 1-2; Luke 2)
 - *Growth as a normal human being* (Luke 2:40, 52)
 - *Experienced normal human limitations* (Matthew 4:2; John 4:6, 19:28)
 - *Had a body, mind, emotions* (Luke 2:7, 52; John 11:35, 12:27)
 - *Sympathizes with us as a human* (Heb 4:15)
- ⌘ **Why Jesus being both God and Man is Essential**
 - *God alone is perfect* (Ps. 18:30; Isaiah 6; Rom 1:18, 3:10-31)
 - *Our salvation demands a perfect, human sacrifice* (Rom 5; Heb 10)

THE HISTORICITY & PERSON OF JESUS

✘ Jesus' existence is basically undisputed by historians

Will Durant, Pulitzer Prize-winning historian, in his 11 Volume work on history, "The Story of Civilization"

No one reading these scenes can doubt the reality of the figure behind them...After two centuries of higher criticism, the outlines of the life, character and teaching of Christ remains reasonably clear and constitute the most fascinating feature in the history of Western man.

✘ Jesus must be either a liar, lunatic, or Lord

C.S. Lewis in "Mere Christianity"

I am trying to prevent anyone saying the really foolish thing that people often say about Him: "I'm ready to accept Jesus as a great moral teacher, but I don't accept His claim to be God." That is the one thing we must not say. A man who was merely a man and said the sort of things Jesus said would not be a great moral teacher. He would either be a lunatic—on the level with the man who says he is a poached egg—or else he would be the Devil of Hell. You must make your choice. Either this man was, and is, the Son of God: or else a madman or something worse. You can shut him up for a fool, you can spit at him and kill him as a demon; or you can fall at his feet and call him Lord and God. But let us not come with any patronising nonsense about his being a great human teacher. He has not left that open to us. He did not intend to.

THE OFFICES OF JESUS

- ✘ **Prophet** (John 4:19, 6:14, 9:17 Acts 3:22-24; Hebrews 1:1-4)
- ✘ **Priest** (Hebrews 7-8, 10:21)
- ✘ **King** (Matthew 2:2, 4:17, 23; Luke 19:38; Eph 1:20-22; Rev 19:11-16)

THE CENTRALITY OF JESUS

- ✘ **As the focal point of Scripture** (Luke 24:13-34)
- ✘ **As the center of everything** (Colossians 1:15-20; Hebrews 1; Rev 19:16)

RESOURCES ON JESUS

- ✘ **Encounters with Jesus** by Timothy Keller
- ✘ **Systematic Theology: An Introduction to Bible Doctrine** by Wayne Grudem
- ✘ **The Story of Reality** by Gregory Koukl
- ✘ **The Cross of Christ** by John Stott
- ✘ **Can We Trust the Gospels** by Mark Roberts