



 One third - Jesus was a "Good Teacher" but not God

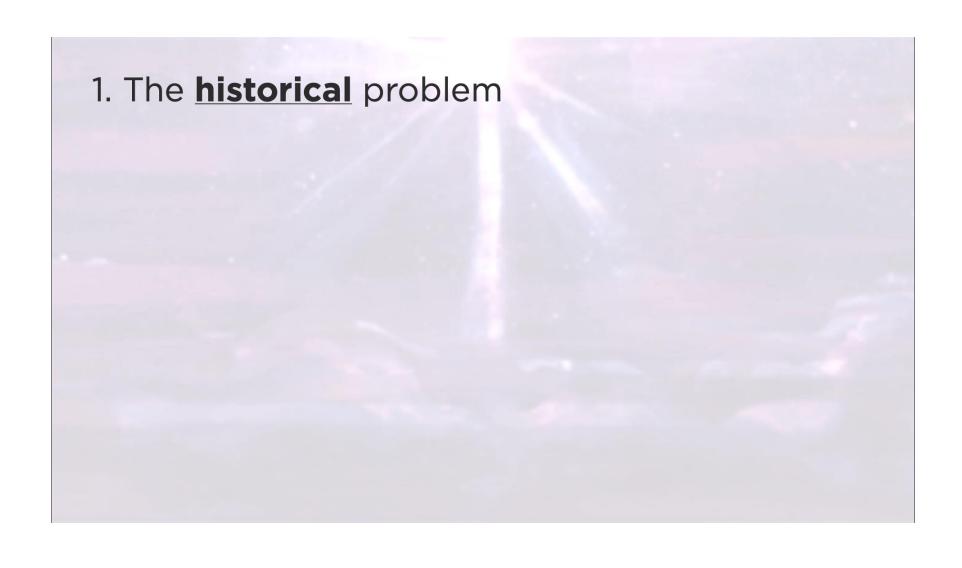
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"For unless you believe that I am he, you will die in your sins."

John 8:24



When?

313 - Edict of Milan - Christianity legalized

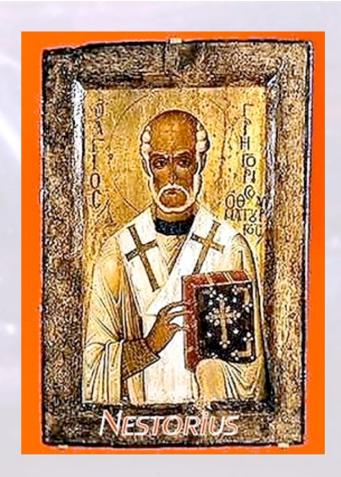
When?

313 - Edict of Milan - Christianity legalized

380 - Edict of Thessalonica - Christianity official religion

Who?

Nestorius (circa 386)



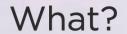


Who?

- Nestorius (circa 386)
- Cyril (412-444)



What? Theotokos - God-bearer



- Theotokos God-bearer
- Anthrotokos man-bearer

What?

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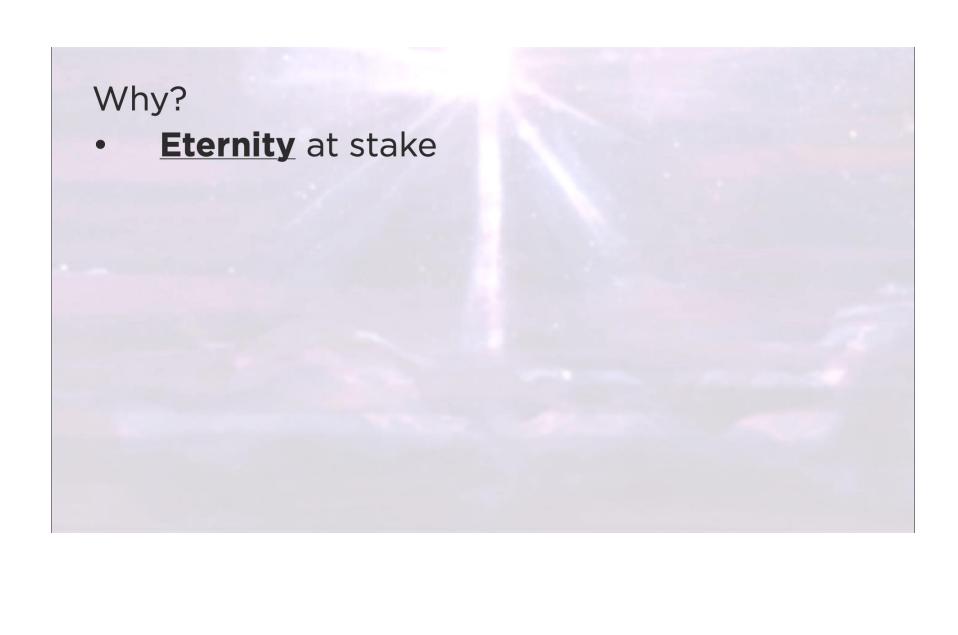
Intention - to guard against an over-emphasis on Jesus' **divinity**

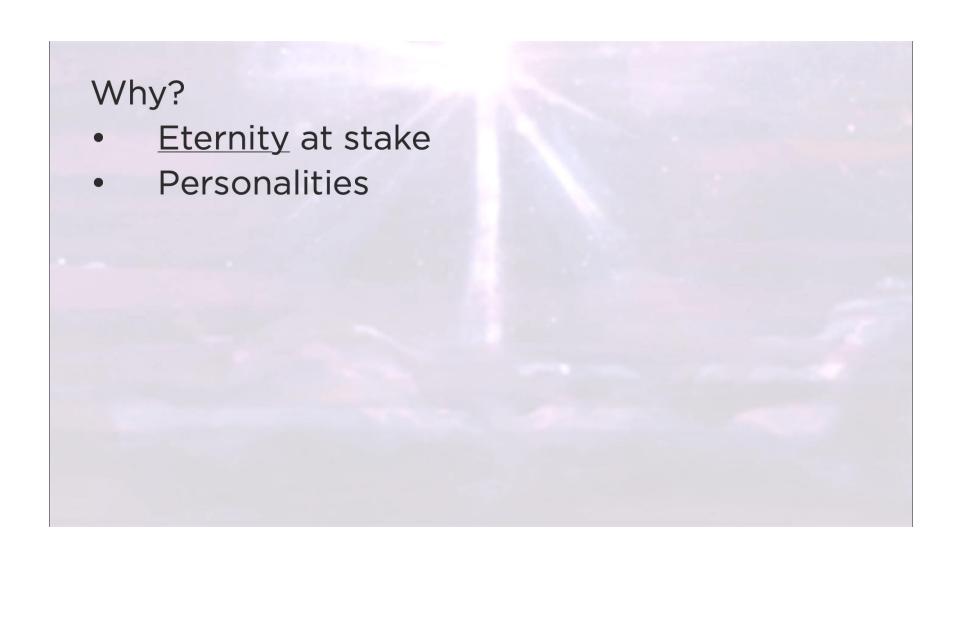
Interpretation -

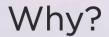
Instead of God becoming human, the human remains the human, and the divine Word remains the Word: two people.











- Eternity at stake
- Personalities
- Politics, power, pride, and jealousy

Why?

- <u>Eternity</u> at stake
- Personalities
- Politics, power, pride, and <u>jealousy</u>

"Never have two theologians more completely misunderstood one another's meaning."

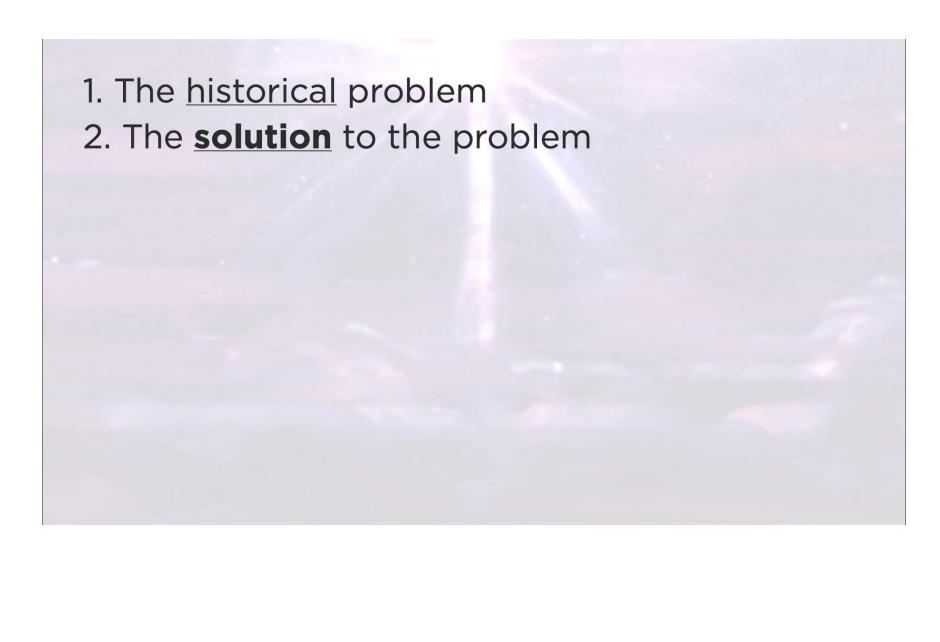
G.L. Prestige

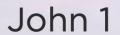
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- Christians must learn to <u>listen</u> as well as we <u>speak</u>.
- 2. Churches sometimes do the right thing the wrong way.
- Our Savior has a different path to power: <u>taking up a cross</u>. Be wary of political power.
- 4. God makes <u>straight</u> lines with <u>crooked</u> sticks.





- Deity
 - 1 The Word was **God**
 - 2 He made all things

John 1

- Deity
 - 1 The Word was God
 - 2 He made all things
- Humanity
 - 14 The Word became flesh
 - 14 Dwelt among us

Philippians 2 Deity 6 - Already existed as **God**

Philippians 2

- Deity
 - 6 Already existed as God
- Humanity
 - 7 Took on the nature of a servant

Colossians 1

- Deity
 - 16 All things created through him
 - 19 All the fullness of **God** dwells in him

Colossians 1

- Deity
 - 16 All things created through him
 - 19 All the fullness of God dwells in him
- Humanity
 - 18 The firstborn from the dead
 - 20 Made peace through his blood

Hebrews 1

- Deity
 - 3 The radiance of [God's] glory

Hebrews 1

- Deity
 - 3 The radiance of [God's] glory
- Humanity
 - 3 Provided purification for sins

We believe and confess
that our Lord Jesus Christ, God's Son,
is both God and human, equally.
He is God from the essence of the Father,
begotten before time;

and he is human from the essence of his mother, born in time; completely God, completely human, with a rational soul and human flesh;

equal to the Father as regards divinity, less than the Father as regards humanity. Although he is God and human, yet Christ is not two, but one.

He is one, however, not by his divinity being turned into flesh, but by God's taking humanity to himself. He is one.

Athanasian Creed



Dorothy Sayers

- 1. The <u>historical</u> problem
- 2. The solution to the problem
- 3. What the **solution** does

 He was the most human <u>human</u> who ever lived.

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"For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin." Heb. 4:15

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- His trials were <u>deeper</u>.
- He knows my sin from the inside.

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"God made him who had no sin to be sin for us."

2 Corinthians 5:21

- He was the most human <u>human</u> who ever lived.
- His trials were <u>deeper</u>.
- He knows <u>my sin</u> from the inside.
- Jesus' bodily sacrifice was <u>accepted</u>.

Bearing shame and scoffing rude, In my place condemned He stood; Sealed my pardon with His blood. Hallelujah! What a Savior! Guilty, vile, and helpless we; Spotless Lamb of God was He; "Full atonement!" can it be? Hallelujah! What a Savior Because Jesus is God ...

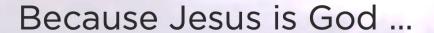
The <u>Bible's story</u> is utterly scandalous

"The other gods were strong; but Thou wast weak;

They rode, but Thou didst stumble to a throne; But to our wounds only God's wounds can speak,

And not a god has wounds, but Thou alone."

Edward Shilito



- The <u>Bible's story</u> is utterly scandalous
- The <u>problem</u> must be serious.

"Our holy God, who told Moses, 'for man shall not see me and live,' became incarnate. People saw him and lived. "Our holy God, who struck down a man for touching the ark ... became the ark, and was struck down himself. "People spit upon him, and lived. Our holy God, whose throne was so magnificent that Ezekiel failed to find words to describe it, became incarnate ... Our holy God, who demanded blood sacrifices to atone for sin, became one.

"He allowed himself to be butchered on a cross. Our holy God, who asked Job, 'Where were you when I laid the foundation of the earth?' became incarnate

"Low views of God destroy the gospel for all who hold them ... Unless the weight of the burden is felt, the gospel can mean nothing to man."

A.W. Tozer

Because Jesus is God ...

- The <u>Bible's story</u> is utterly scandalous
- The <u>problem</u> must be serious.
- We must re-orient our lives around him.

"When you come to Christ, you must drop your conditions. You have to give up the right to say, 'I will obey you if ... I will do this if' As soon as you say, 'I will obey you if,' that is not obedience at all.

"You are saying: 'You are my adviser, not my Lord. I will be happy to take your recommendations. And I might even do some of them.'

"No. If you want Jesus with you, you have to give up the right to self-determination."

Tim Keller