

MAIN POINT

Jesus was no ordinary man, as He was both divine and human. In Him, all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell.

INTRODUCTION

How does having a proper perspective help us view the world around us?

How does our view of Jesus dictate our life, purpose, and mission?

What we believe about Jesus matters, and that belief should be evident in our lives. Paul wrote to the church at Colossae to address their improper views of Jesus. Having a proper view of Jesus is essential because the divinity and sufficiency of Jesus are at the very heart of Christian belief. The moment we begin to lose a proper perspective on Jesus' identity, we are in danger of losing our own identity as followers of Christ.

DISCUSSION

> READ COLOSSIANS 1:15-20.

How did Jesus' divine nature qualify Him to provide redemption and the forgiveness of sins for God's people? What of His human nature qualified Him for this accomplishment?

Where have you neglected to recognize the equal importance of both the divinity and the humanity of Jesus? Why is it so important to hold these two natures together?

In this passage, what phrases clarify Jesus' true identity? Which of these traits communicate aspects of Jesus' divinity? What about His humanity?

When Paul claimed that Jesus was the "firstborn of all creation," what did he mean? What did he not mean? How does this phrase help us more clearly understand who Jesus is?

Read Psalm 89:27. How does this help us understand the biblical idea of the "firstborn"?

How did Paul assert his claim by highlighting Jesus' centrality in and supremacy over all creation?

In what ways is Jesus the image of the invisible God?

What does the church look like when Jesus is the head? What does it look like when He is not?

APPLICATION

What do you think would happen in our community if we reacted to the truth we have looked at today without reservation? What is the first step we should take toward reacting that way?