

A QUESTION OF FAITH

By AJP

No.4 : Jesus Christ

God is three persons with one nature. Jesus is one person with two natures. Jesus means 'God saves' and was a common Jewish name. Christ means 'Anointed one or Messiah'.

We believe that He was more than just a holy person or even a great prophet. He is both God and Man. It took The Church about three centuries to make this absolutely clear and there were many misunderstandings on the way.

There are still religious groups who do not accept Jesus as God or Jesus as truly human.

Humans by their own abilities no matter how good they are, cannot reach heaven and cannot overcome sin. It needs divine intervention. The only way of making this link between us and God is by God Himself becoming one of us. cf *Philippians 2:6-11*. So, Jesus is God but took on our limited nature.

It's a bit like God tying one hand behind His back and still working for us. Jesus is a Priest, Prophet and King.

A PRIEST is one who is set aside to take on some divine power so that he can intercede with God on our behalf. Thus, at the moment of His conception we at last had a perfect link between God and us. He therefore became the perfect Priest.

A PROPHET is one who speaks on behalf of God. As God, He is the perfect prophet. We call Him the WORD of God as He speaks as God and His word is all powerful. He has the message of eternal life.

A KING is one who is anointed to rule over us. Jesus was anointed/appointed to rule over us.

Look up, The Letter to the Hebrews

Naturally, on different occasions, we tend to think of Jesus as either God or as Man and that's fine.

Jesus did not throw His weight about or stand on His dignity. God could have saved us from on high. But instead He wanted to become accessible to us.

Thank your God for your great condescension.

'These reflections are loosely based on 'Catechism of the Catholic Church' 1994 where you can find more.

But please do ask questions or share your knowledge to help us all build our Faith'