



JESUS, BEGOTTEN NOT MADE

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NICENE CREED

1975 ECUMENICAL VERSION

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and was made man.

JESUS, BEGOTTEN NOT MADE

Who is Jesus?

- Jesus is the Son of God
- Begotten of the Father
- Born of a Virgin
- For the salvation of mankind

JESUS IS THE SON OF GOD

John 1: 1-3, 14 (NIV)

¹ In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ² He was with God in the beginning. ³ Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made... ¹⁴ The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

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BEGOTTEN OF THE FATHER

- KJV v14 - “only begotten of the Father” translated from the Greek word *monogenes*
- Which is correct: “*only Son*” or “*only begotten Son*”?
- John Piper argues that this debate is missing the point: Jesus is the Son of the Father. A son is someone begotten of the Father

BEGOTTEN OF THE FATHER

C.S. Lewis writes...

When you beget, you beget something of the same kind as yourself. A human begets human babies, a beaver begets little beavers, and a bird begets eggs which turn into little birds. But when you make, you make something of a different kind from yourself. A bird makes a nest, a beaver builds a dam, a man makes a wireless set (*Mere Christianity*, 157)

BEGOTTEN OF THE FATHER

- Jesus is begotten of the Father, irrespective of whether or not *monogenes* means only Son or only begotten Son.
- Jesus has the same divine nature as the Father
- *Consubstantial* to the Father, of the same substance, eternally divine, God from God, true God from true God, begotten not made

BORN OF A VIRGIN

- Isaiah 7:14 (ESV) Therefore, the Lord himself will give you a sign. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel (**God with us**).
- Isaiah 9:6 (ESV) For to us a **child is born**, to us a **son is given**; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

BORN OF A VIRGIN

- Luke 1: 30-35, ³⁰ And the angel said to her, “Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favour with God.³¹ And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus... ³⁴ And Mary said to the angel, “How will this be, since I am a virgin?” ³⁵ And the angel answered her, “The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be called holy—the Son of God.

BORN OF A VIRGIN

- The virgin birth is a miracle
- Not only was Jesus the Son of God, fully divine, God from God, very God from very God he was fully human at the same time.
- But what about DNA, original sin...?
- Hebrews 4:15 (NIV), For we do not have a high priest who is unable to empathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are—yet he did not sin...

FOR THE SALVATION OF MANKIND

- In the beginning all that God created was good. In fact, after he created humankind in his image, he declared it was *very good*.
- Humankind enjoyed unbroken fellowship with the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
- Sin entered the world through disobedience (*if you eat of this tree you will surely die*), and an unpayable debt was created.
- There was no way back to God

FOR THE SALVATION OF MANKIND

- God, fully divine, became flesh, fully human. He crossed the great divide to bring us back to him.
- God himself paid the price of sin by dying on the cross for our sins
- We simply have to believe in Jesus, to receive everlasting life.
- John 1:12-13 Yet to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God—
¹³children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband's will, but born of God.

FOR THE SALVATION OF MANKIND

Colossians 2:13-15 (NIV) says: ¹³ When you were dead in your sins ..., God made you alive with Christ. He forgave us all our sins, ¹⁴ having cancelled the charge of our legal indebtedness, which stood against us and condemned us; he has taken it away, nailing it to the cross. ¹⁵ And having disarmed the powers and authorities, he made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them by the cross.

FOR THE SALVATION OF MANKIND

WHO IS JESUS?

- Matthew 13:16-17 (NIV):“ You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.” ¹⁷ And Jesus answered him, “Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father who is in heaven.
- We have salvation because God himself came down to this earth, became a man through the miraculous virgin birth, and took on the whole weight of the debt of sin upon himself.

COMING UP...

The Creed Part 4 – Dead and Buried

His Name is Jesus:

<https://youtu.be/SKmlw4FIL5s?si=oo-T9jwtz7pQSbZF>

