



Pastor Tom Kang

pt3: Christology

Icebreaker: It's been about a week since the Presidential Election ... how are we all doing? How can we pray for one another and our neighbors?

1. Consider the following quote often attributed to Saint Augustine, "In essentials, unity; in non-essentials, liberty; in all things, charity." What does it mean for Christians to focus on the "essentials" of the faith rather than "secondary" or "non-essential" issues? Examine the scene described in Romans 14:5-6. Has there ever been a time when you disproportionally focused on a "non-essential" issue? Please share.
2. What does it mean to confess Jesus as "Christ" (*Messiah*) – the Prophet, Priest, and King? How do each of these roles impact our daily lives? (See also Hebrews 1:1-3; 4:14-16; Revelation 19:16)
3. Share your thoughts about the following excerpt from R. Albert Mohler Jr's., *The Apostles' Creed: Discovering Authentic Christianity in an Age of Counterfeits*:
It is not enough to simply say "I love Jesus" or "I follow Jesus." Many who say they love Jesus and follow Jesus do not follow Jesus as he has revealed himself in Scripture. As the confession reminds us, we must confess that we believe in "Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord" ... Some want a Jesus who is a great teacher but not the Son of the Father. Some want Jesus as savior but not Lord
4. Consider the verses below of Jesus' Deity and Humanity. How does understanding the dual nature of Jesus influence how you follow and relate to Him?

Deity of Christ

For this reason they tried all the more to kill him; not only was he breaking the Sabbath, but he was even calling God his own Father, making himself equal with God. - John 5:18

"Very truly I tell you," Jesus answered, "before Abraham was born, I am!" - John 8:58

I and the Father are one. - John 10:30

Thomas said to him, "My Lord and my God!" - John 20:28

Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage. - Philippians 2:6

The Son is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. For in him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things have been created through him and for him. - Colossians 1:15-16

For in Christ all the fullness of the Deity lives in bodily form. - Colossians 2:9

While we wait for the blessed hope—the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ. - Titus 2:13

The Son is the radiance of God's glory and the exact representation of his being, sustaining all things by his powerful word. - Hebrews 1:3

But about the Son he says, "Your throne, O God, will last for ever and ever; a scepter of justice will be the scepter of your kingdom." - Hebrews 1:8

We know also that the Son of God has come and has given us understanding, so that we may know him who is true. And we are in him who is true by being in his Son Jesus Christ. He is the true God and eternal life. - 1 John 5:20

I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last, the Beginning and the End. - Revelation 22:13

5. Why is it important for Christians to understand both the deity and humanity of Jesus, especially in a post-Christian world, and what might be the dangers of focusing on one aspect, to the neglect of the other?

Humanity of Christ

Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign: The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel. - Isaiah 7:14

For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. - Isaiah 9:6

Jesus was hungry. - Matthew 21:18

The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. - John 1:14a

Jesus was tired from his journey. - John 4:6

You will be with child and give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus. - Luke 1:31

And the child grew and became strong; he was filled with wisdom, and the grace of God was on him. - Luke 2:40

And the child grew and became strong; he was filled with wisdom, and the grace of God was on him. - Luke 2:40

And Jesus grew in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and man. - Luke 2:52

But about that day or hour no one knows, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. - Mark 13:32

For there is one God and one mediator between God and mankind, the man Christ Jesus. - 1 Timothy 2:5

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. - Hebrews 4:15

Since the children have flesh and blood, he too shared in their humanity so that by his death he might break the power of him who holds the power of death—that is, the devil. - Hebrews 2:14