

- I. How Theology Shapes Marriage Part 4: How does the biblical doctrines of Christology help us have a more godly marriage?
- a. Establish the need: Do you know what are the doctrines related to the person of Christ? And have you ever wonder how does those doctrines helps our marriage?
 - b. Purpose: In this series we will explore how theology shapes marriage and here in our fourth session we shall consider how does the doctrines of Christ helps us have a more godly marriage.
 - c. Biblical Teaching (For the purpose of instruction, we'll cover only three truths):
 - i. Truth #1: Jesus Christ is God
 1. **John 1:1**= *"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God."*
 - a. Note the Word here is referring to Christ as indicated by the context of **John 1:14** that this Word became flesh: *"And the Word became flesh, and [a]dwelt among us, and we saw His glory, glory as of [b]the only begotten from the Father, full of grace and truth."*
 - b. Three clauses of truths stated about the Word, that is, Jesus.
 - i. Jesus was *"In the beginning"* (**v.1a**) which is an echo of the Creation account and thus He existed before Creation. If Jesus is God we would expect Him to exist before Creation.
 - ii. Jesus *"was with God"* (**v.1b**). If He was a member of the Trinity we would expect Him to commune and be with the other member of the Trinity.
 - iii. Jesus *"was God"* (**v.1c**). Here in the Greek the word God as the Predicate is moved up before the Subject, thus done for emphasis: Jesus was GOD!!
 2. **John 20:28**= *"Thomas answered and said to Him, "My Lord and my God!"*"
 - a. Some have tried to say Thomas was just excited and blattered out like what people say today with irreverence: *"my God!"*"
 - b. But this cannot be the case:
 - i. Notice this is *"said to Him,"* that is the Resurrected Lord Jesus Christ.
 - ii. Literally in the Greek *"My Lord and my God!"* can be literally translated *"The Lord of mine and the God of mine!"*" So it's not just a mere *"my God!"*"
 - iii. If this was a blasphemy the Lord Jesus would have corrected Him!
 3. **Acts 20:28**= *"Be on guard for yourselves and for all the flock, among which the Holy Spirit has made you [^a]overseers, to shepherd the church of God which He^[b]purchased [^c]with His own blood."*
 - a. The Church is *"of God"*
 - b. *"which "* refers back to *"God"* with the matching masculine singular and case.

- c. So speaking about God and the church, God
“purchased ^{1e}with His own blood.”
 - d. It is Jesus’ blood that has purchased believers according to
Matthew 26:28, Hebrews 9:14, 9:22.
 - ii. Truth #2: Jesus Christ is a Man
 - 1. Jesus directly called a Man: *“For there is one God, and one mediator also between God and men, the man Christ Jesus,”* (**1 Timothy 2:5**)
 - 2. Jesus had a human body:
 - a. A human body can be tired and we see Jesus was capable of being physically tired: *“Jacob’s well was there, and Jesus, tired as he was from the journey, sat down by the well. It was about noon.”*(**John 4:6**)
 - i. The context John 4 record Jesus talking to the Samaritan woman.
 - 1. Jesus’ journey: *“He left Judea and went away again into Galilee”* (**v.3**)
 - 2. Jesus’ short cut into an area of a different religion, race and country: *“Samaria”* (**v.4**)
 - ii. Note Jesus was tired as recorded in this verse: Distance between Sychar and Jerusalem was 35 miles.¹
 - b. A human body can be thirsty and we see Jesus was capable of being thirsty: *“Later, knowing that everything had now been finished, and so that Scripture would be fulfilled, Jesus said, “I am thirsty.”*(**John 19:28**)
 - 3. Jesus had a human mind:
 - a. *“And Jesus kept increasing in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and men.”* (**Luke 2:52**)
 - i. Note how *“increasing in wisdom”* was stated also in **Luke 2:40**.
 - ii. If Jesus was man, we wouldn’t be surprised to find Jesus’ mind growing.
 - b. *“But of that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but the Father alone.”* (**Matthew 24:36**)
 - i. For some this is a challenging verse when they read it the first time.
 - ii. The context here in **Matthew 24** is Jesus talking about His second coming and therefore saying when the Second Coming will be is not yet known by Himself.
 - iii. Truth #3: Jesus Christ is our Sanctifier: *“For both He who sanctifies and those who are sanctified are all from one Father; for which reason He is not ashamed to call them brethren,”* (**Hebrews 2:11**)
- d. Implications towards marriage

¹ Future reference: <http://ancientsandals.com/overviews/sychar.htm>.

- i. If Christ is our Sanctifier, then husbands who are being Christ like will be cleansing one's wife in sanctification: *"so that He might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word, 27 that He might present to Himself the church [q]in all her glory, having no spot or wrinkle or any such thing; but that she would be holy and blameless"* (Ephesians 5:26:27)
- ii. Godly marriages require humility; how do you cultivate it? Worship and meditate on Christ being God becoming man (Philippians 2:3-7)!
 1. The command: *"Do nothing [c]from [d]selfishness or empty conceit, but with humility of mind regard one another as more important than yourselves; 4 do not merely look out for your own personal interests, but also for the interests of others"* (v.3-4)
 2. This is capable when we meditate upon Christ's model: *"5 Have this attitude [e]in yourselves which was also in Christ Jesus, 6 who, although He existed in the form of God, did not regard equality with God a thing to be [f]grasped, 7 but [g]emptied Himself, taking the form of a bond-servant, and being made in the likeness of men."* (v.5-7)
- iii. Godly marriages require forgiveness; yet how do you cultivate it? Look to Christ! *"Be kind to one another, tender-hearted, forgiving each other, just as God in Christ also has forgiven you."* (Ephesians 4:32)
- iv. The more a marriage behold the glory of Christ, the more sanctified both spouses will be! *"But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as from the Lord, the Spirit."* (2 Corinthians 3:18)!
- v. During trials in your marriage, go to Christ! Don't forget this truth: *"Therefore let us draw near with confidence to the throne of grace, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need."* (Hebrews 4:16)!
 1. This is possible because of Christ being our High Priest! See verses 14-15.
 2. How should you approach Christ's throne of grace through prayer?
 - a. Biblically there's a place for spouses to pray alone: *"Stop depriving one another, except by agreement for a time, so that you may devote yourselves to prayer, and [b]come together again so that Satan will not tempt you because of your lack of self-control."* (1 Corinthians 7:5)
 - b. Also praying together as couples!