

## The “Double Nature” of Jesus Christ!

by Robert Schmid

Considering that the most important question man is able to ask is: “Who is God?”, the question must be asked if the “One God” doctrine espoused by “Biblical Unitarians” is indeed biblical?

The basic premise of this doctrine is that there WAS, IS and ALWAYS WILL BE (only) ONE God. In other words what Unitarians are saying is that their Savior, Jesus was (only) a man, was (only) human and not God!

This doctrine is, in part, the result of denying the “Double Nature” of Jesus, as expressed by this quote from their writings (Refuting the Double Nature of Christ): **“Divine and human qualities, as the essence of being, cannot co-exist in the same person.”** Is this a true statement?

For Unitarians, who coined the quote, it is obviously a true statement. After all, if you believe that Jesus was ONLY a man and ONLY possessed “human qualities”, then no “divine qualities”, no “double nature” could exist in the same person at the same time.

However, according to Roman Catholic/Protestant, Church of God and BIBLICAL doctrine: Divine and human qualities, as the essence of being, **not only do, but must, co-exist in the same person**, in order to make salvation from sin possible.

The problem is that Roman Catholicism makes the (false) claim that Jesus was “**fully God**”, and “**fully man**” which is an obvious oxymoron. Where does the idea that Jesus was fully God and fully man come from? It comes from the Trinity mystery doctrine of Roman Catholicism which claims that God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Ghost existed from all eternity, existed throughout Old and New Testament time and will exist into all future.

According to Trinitarian doctrine, the pre-existent God the Son, 2000 years ago, was changed into flesh via an incarnation, remaining **fully God**, and was born through Mary – now **fully man**. It was the Catholic Church Council of Chalcedon (451) who declared that Jesus Christ remained, after the Incarnation, “perfect in Divinity and perfect in humanity...consubstantial with the Father according to His Divinity, consubstantial with us according to His humanity...one and the same Christ, the Son, the Lord, the Only begotten, to be acknowledged in **two natures** not intermingled, not changed, not divisible, not separable.”

The **mystery of the Incarnation**, that is, this union of the two natures in one Person, called a hypostatic union, is a direct consequence of the **mystery of the Trinity**. It is the Trinity doctrine that demands the pre-existence of the Son of God and requires the incarnation to make Him appear as a human being.

If “divine qualities” is defined as “fully God”, as in Catholicism, then Unitarians would be correct, for fully God and fully man **cannot**, as the essence of being, co-exist in the same person.

However, defining “divine qualities” as meaning “fully God”, as in Trinitarian doctrine, is simply NOT biblical. The biblical record never makes the claim that Jesus was “fully God” as God is God. After all, one God Being is the **eternal Father**, who knows all, and the other God Being was (only) the **begotten Son**, who did not know all!

The eternal God, the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, the God of the Old Testament, was and is a divine Being with a “single nature,” a pure God/Spirit nature.

Adam and Eve were created, in the image of God, as human beings with a “single nature,” a pure physical/human nature. Therefore, they had to choose between the two types of trees in the garden, representing two very different and opposite **spiritual natures**. One spiritual nature was represented by the tree of life -- **God**, and the other spiritual nature was represented by the tree of the knowledge of good and evil – **Satan**.

As we know, they chose as their second “spiritual nature” the evil nature of the Spirit Being Satan. Since then, all of their progeny, beginning with Cain and Abel, down to you and me, were human beings with a “double nature.” We are all born with a “double nature” a **physical human nature** and a **spiritual evil nature**. At birth, we are ALL begotten children of our father the Devil. It requires a calling from God, and repentance and baptism to obtain the gift of the Holy Spirit, to change our **spiritual evil nature** into **spiritual godly nature**.

What about Jesus? Let it be known, that Jesus was a human being with a “**double nature**” from the point of conception and birth through Mary, “**his physical human nature**,” and his begetting from the point of conception by God His Father, “**his spiritual divine nature**.”

Jesus was a born, human being with a **double nature** just like you and I. The difference was that He was begotten by God the Father from the point of conception. Humans, by contrast, can become begotten by God the Father only after repentance (denouncing their evil, spiritual nature), after baptism (accepting the death and resurrection of Jesus on their behalf) and after receiving the Holy Spirit (a new godly, spiritual nature).

**Divine and human qualities, as the essence of being, do exist in the same person, even the person of our Savior Jesus Christ.** Jesus Christ, while on this earth, was NOT God, as God is God. Jesus Christ was a son of man by being born of Mary and was the first and only (so) begotten Son of God, who became a “**one nature**” God Being as His Father is, by a resurrection from the dead (born again). We can follow in His footsteps and can also become “**one nature**” God Beings by a resurrection (born again), just as our elder Brother and our heavenly Father are.

Jesus is, after all, our example and forerunner in ALL things.