

Welcome To Open Bible Hour

Thank you for joining us on this Lord's Day!

Our desire is that you may grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ as we pursue an in-depth study of the book of Hebrews.

If you have a prayer request, for which you would like us to pray, please fill out a prayer sheet at the back table and give to Lyle.

Our website: OpenBibleHour.net



“FINDING GRACE & MERCY IN OUR TEMPTATIONS”

Heb. 4:14-16

Jan. 27, 2013

Heb 4:14-16

14 Therefore, since we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession.

15 For we do not have a high priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but One who has been tempted in all things as we are, yet without sin.

16 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.

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Our Great High Priest

Alive

Passed through the Heavens

Son of God

O.T. High Priest

Dead

Still in the grave

Man

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Rom 10:9-10

9 that if you confess with your mouth Jesus as Lord,
and believe in your heart that God raised Him from
the dead, you will be saved;

10 for with the heart a person believes, resulting in
righteousness, and with the mouth he confesses,
resulting in salvation.

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Every theological heresy
begins with a
misconception of the
nature of God.

- **Impeccability** = unable to sin, incapable of sinning. As applied to Christ, it means that it was impossible for Christ to have sinned.
- **Peccability** = capable of sinning. As applied to Christ, it means that Christ could have sinned (though He did not sin). The possibility of Christ sinning existed.
- **Hypostatic Union** - Jesus Christ existing as 100% God and 100% Man at the same time.

7 truths that establish the impeccability of Christ:

1. Jesus Christ is God and therefore partakes of the very attributes of God –

Col 2:9

9 For in Him all the fullness of Deity dwells in bodily form,

A. **Holiness** – Jesus Christ was and is fully holy. He is pure, perfect in character, without flaw. There was no weakness in His character that could respond to temptation. He was unable to be less than perfect in character.

Lev 11:44

44 'For I am the Lord your God. Consecrate yourselves therefore, and be holy, for I am holy.

B. **Immutable** – unable to change. Unable to change from perfect to imperfect, from holy to unholy.

Mal 3:6

6 "For I, the Lord, do not change;

Heb 13:8

8 Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.

C. **Omnipotent** – all powerful. Unable to succumb to another power or force. Nothing more powerful than Christ that could force Him to yield to temptation.

D. **Omniscient** – all knowing. Unable to be deceived by any argument, lie, or twisting of the truth. Jesus had infinite knowledge, so he could not be deceived.

E. **Wisdom** – all wise. Unable to make an unwise choice. Jesus had infinite wisdom so He could not make a wrong choice.

2. **Jesus Christ did not have an Old Sin Nature.**

There was nothing within Him that could respond to temptation. There were only three individuals in Scripture who experienced unique temptations—Adam, Eve, and Jesus Christ. They are the only three people who came into this world without a sin nature. Adam's humanity was not **holy** humanity, like Christ's, but simply **innocent** humanity. Therefore the potential to sin was there and Adam did. Jesus Christ was the only one who did not sin.

3. **Jesus Christ was unlike any man that has been born in this world.**

Pre-Fall Man	Post Fall Man	Reborn Man	Glorified Man	Jesus Christ
able to sin	able to sin	able to sin		
able to not sin		able to not sin	able to not sin	able to not sin
	unable to not sin (i.e. he will sin)			
			unable to sin	unable to sin

4. Christ's Human Nature was always governed by His Divine nature.

Divine

Nature

(He was God)

Human

Nature

(He was man)

*Left this way it would imply dualism.

Divine Human Nature

(He was God)

(He was man)

Phil 2:5-7

5 Have this attitude 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 grasped,

7 but emptied Himself, taking the form of a bond-servant, and being made in the likeness of men.

** Christ did not strip Himself of His Divine attributes. He put them under restriction as the Son of Man.

** Some of His attributes became *latent* and *potential* within the confines of his human nature. They are present in Jesus in all their fullness, but no longer in exercise.

Divine

Human

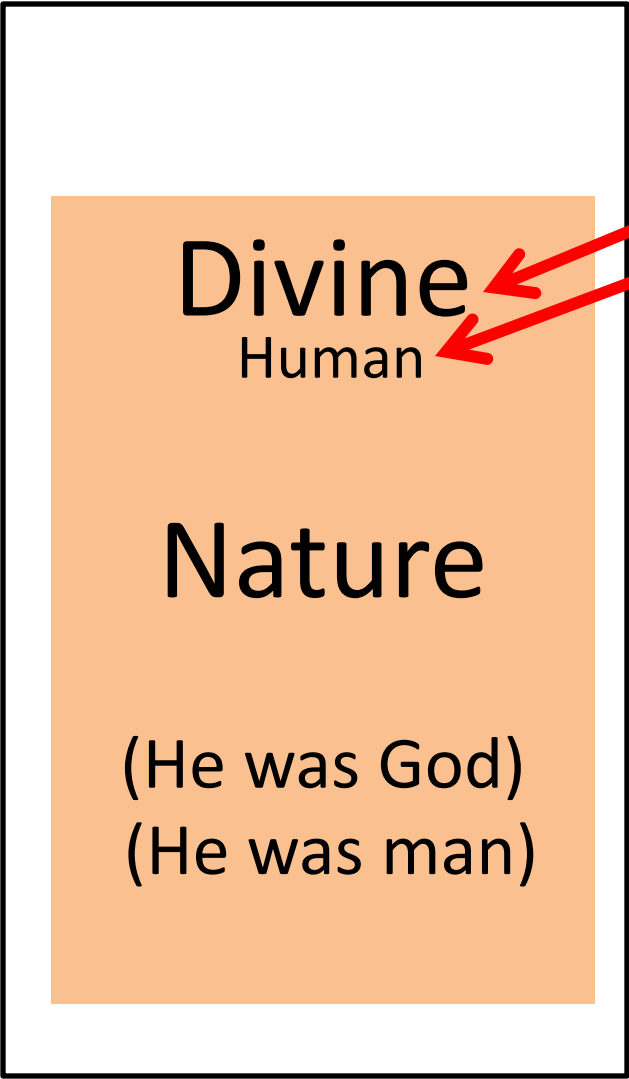
Nature

(He was God)

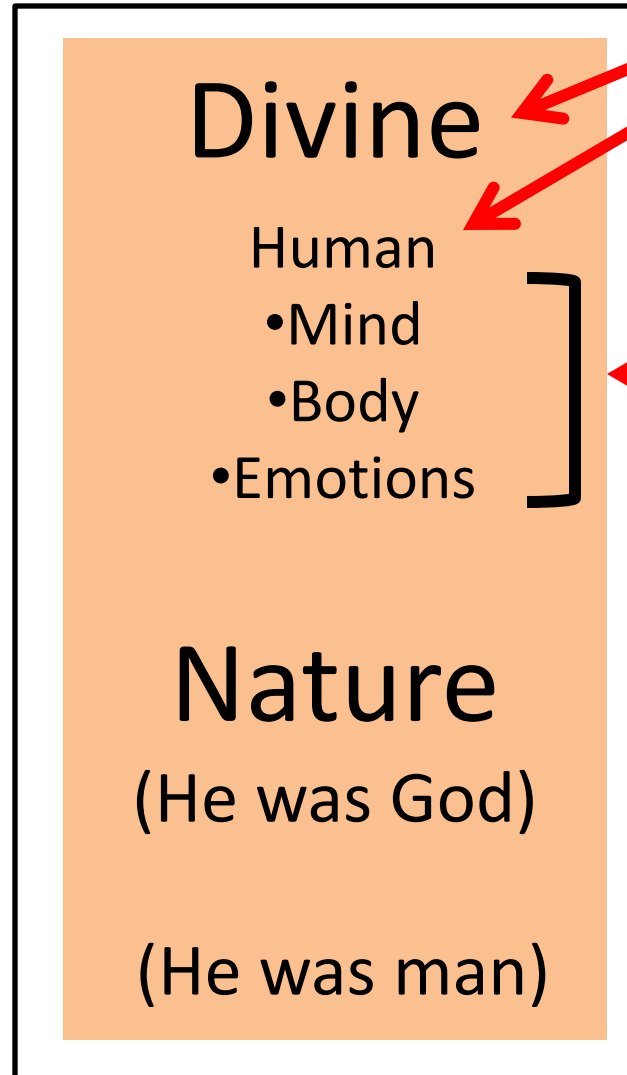
(He was man)

Could not sin.





could not sin.



could not sin.

Satan tempts Jesus in His humanness but fails because it is controlled by His Divine Nature which can not sin. The Lord Jesus has nothing in His nature which could respond to the temptation.

James 1:13 – “ . . . for God cannot be tempted by evil, . . . ”

John 14:30

30 "I will not speak much more with you, for the ruler of the world is coming, and he has nothing in Me;

4. Christ's Human Nature was always governed by His Divine nature.

5. There are 2 spheres of temptation:

Internal – where the OSN responds to the temptation, and if not kept in check will lead to sin.

James 1:13-15

13 Let no one say when he is tempted, "I am being tempted by God"; for God cannot be tempted by evil, and He Himself does not tempt anyone.

14 But each one is tempted when he is carried away and enticed by his own lust.

15 Then when lust has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and when sin is accomplished, it brings forth death.

External – where there is nothing internal to respond to the temptation so it is merely an external attempt to entice to sin. The temptation of Christ was real, it was felt, and it was experienced.

*****Real temptation does not imply the need for the real ability to sin.***

Luke 4:1-13

- 1 Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led around by the Spirit in the wilderness
- 2 for forty days, being tempted by the devil. And He ate nothing during those days, and when they had ended, He became hungry.
- 3 And the devil said to Him, "If You are the Son of God, tell this stone to become bread."
- 4 And Jesus answered him, "It is written, 'MAN SHALL NOT LIVE ON BREAD ALONE.'"
- 5 And he led Him up and showed Him all the kingdoms of the world in a moment of time.
- 6 And the devil said to Him, "I will give You all this domain and its glory; for it has been handed over to me, and I give it to whomever I wish.
- 7 "Therefore if You worship before me, it shall all be Yours."

8 Jesus answered him, "It is written, 'YOU SHALL WORSHIP THE LORD YOUR GOD AND SERVE HIM ONLY.'"

9 And he led Him to Jerusalem and had Him stand on the pinnacle of the temple, and said to Him, "If You are the Son of God, throw Yourself down from here;

10 for it is written,

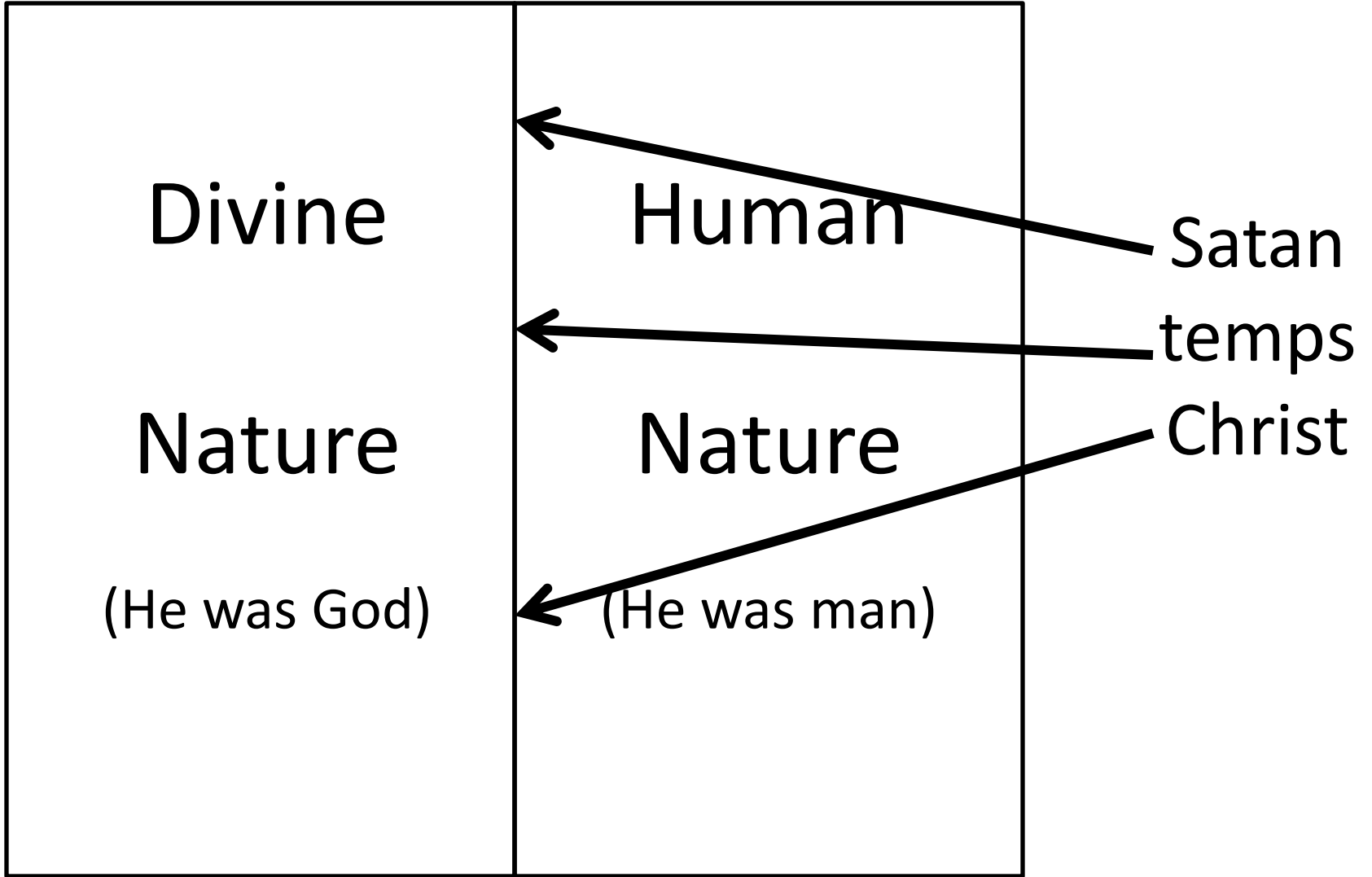
'HE WILL COMMAND HIS ANGELS CONCERNING YOU TO GUARD YOU,'

11 and,

'ON their HANDS THEY WILL BEAR YOU UP, SO THAT YOU WILL NOT STRIKE YOUR FOOT AGAINST A STONE.'"

12 And Jesus answered and said to him, "It is said, 'YOU SHALL NOT PUT THE LORD YOUR GOD TO THE TEST.'"

13 When the devil had finished every temptation, he left Him until an opportune time.



Divine

Human

Satan

Nature

Nature

temps

Christ

(He was God)

(He was man)

The fact that Christ was unable to sin is dependent upon the inseparability of His human and divine natures.

6. God the Father could not sin and therefore God the Son could not sin.

John 5:19

19 "Truly, truly, I say to you, the Son can do nothing of Himself, unless it is something He sees the Father doing; for whatever the Father does, these things the Son also does in like manner.

If Jesus can't do anything that God wouldn't do, then Jesus can't sin. Christ "who knew no sin" (II Cor. 5:21), "who did no sin" (I Pet. 2:22), and in whom "is no sin" (I John 3:5) could not be made a sinner.

7. Temptation, as defined in Strong's Lexicon, means "to try whether a thing can be done, 2) to try, make trial of, test: for the purpose of ascertaining its quality."

**Satan believed in the peccability of Christ. He hoped Christ could sin, wanted Him to sin, and did everything he could to make Him sin.

**A fortress can be built and fortified in such a way that it could not be overthrown. Could people still try to attack it?

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Application

1. Being *exposed* to sinful temptations is not sin. They may even be legitimate needs, goals or possibilities but not the will of God.
2. Which makes more sense - Trusting an airplane that cannot fall or trusting one that can but does not.
3. Never sacrifice who God is in His Person, in order to drive a lesser application. Question your application before you adjust who God is.
4. Just remember every area of temptation you experience, Christ experienced and resisted by the same power that is available to you. His grace and mercy will provide a way of escape.

1 Cor 10:13

13 No temptation has overtaken you but such as is common to man; and God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will provide the way of escape also, so that you will be able to endure it.