

Below are the Questions that were submitted and answered on April 19, 2020 and a brief summary of each answer that Josh gave in His lesson. Thanks to everyone who submitted questions.
You can view the video of this lesson at www.CharlotteHeights.org or on **Facebook**.

"I strongly state that I'm just a humble servant of the Word. I'm not the authority, but God is."

--Josh Barnett

Question 1: If God, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit are all the same level, why does it all come back to God? [Why does it make] it seem like He is superior?

Answer

- A. There is no "if" when it comes to the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.
- B. Monotheism is the doctrine or belief that there is only one God.
This is what makes Judaism and Christianity unique from other religions.
- "Hear, O Israel, The Lord our God, the Lord is one!" (Deuteronomy 6:4)
 - "To you it was shown, that you might know that the Lord Himself is God; there is none other besides Him." (Deut. 4:35)
 - "Now a mediator does not mediate for one only, but God is one." (Galatians 3:20)
 - "You believe that there is one God. You do well. Even the demons believe and tremble!" (James 2:19)
 - What can we conclude from these verses? God is one.
 1. Christianity is a monotheistic (one God) religion.
 2. There are no levels with the oneness of God.
 3. Either you are God or not.
 4. There is nothing superior to our God.
- C. What about the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit?
1. These are three distinct persons or personalities are God.
 - a. The Father is God. (Ephesians 1:3)
 - b. Jesus is God. (Hebrews 1:8)
 - c. The Holy Spirit is God. (Acts 5:3-5)
 2. Each possesses the quality and nature of God.
 3. There is one divine nature of God but three distinct personalities that have the qualities of God.
 4. "In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth." (Genesis 1:1)
 - a. The word for "God" in both Hebrew and Greek is plural.
 - b. It's not Gods but more "personalities of the Godhead".
 - c. See the record of the Godhead's conversation during the creation. (Genesis 1:25-27)
 5. The Divine plurality is seen at the baptism of Jesus. (Matthew 3:16-17)
 6. We are commissioned by Jesus to baptize in the name of "*the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit*" (Matthew 28:19)
 7. Christ did not seek His own will, but the will of His Father. (John 5:30)
 8. Through Christ, we have access in the Spirit to the Father. (Ephesians 2:18)
 9. The Word (Jesus) was with God, and the Word was God. (John 1:1, 14)
 10. The Bible contains much more evidence to prove that the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit are the same person.
 11. God is one but in three distinct persons called "The Trinity".

Question 2: If Jesus knew the "plan" before coming to earth to be human, then why on the cross did He ask God to let this cup pass from Me? He already knew the plan that had to be carried out.

Answer

- A. He didn't ask God to "let this cup pass from Me" while on the cross.
- B. While on the cross, Jesus spoke seven times according to the Gospels.
1. "Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do." (Luke 23:34)
 2. "Verily, I say unto you, today you shall be with Me in Paradise." (Luke 23:43)
 3. "Woman, behold Your Son. Behold your mother." (John 19:26-27)
 4. "My God, My God, why have you forsaken Me?" (Matthew 27:46; Mark 15:34)
 5. "I thirst." (John 19:28)
 6. "It is finished!" (John 19:30)
 7. "Father, into Your hands I commit my spirit." (Luke 23:46)

- C. However, He did ask “*let this cup pass from Me*” before He was arrested in the garden of Gethsemane. (See Luke 22:39-44)
- Jesus knew beforehand what would happen, but that didn’t take away from the tremendous weight of what He had to endure for our sakes.
 - Have you ever had to wait for something to happen? I did when it came to my surgery. I knew and prayed and prepared my mind. It still didn’t take away the suffering and tremendous pain when I awoke from anesthesia.
 - Jesus was God in the flesh.
 - In the flesh, He was tempted in all ways as we are. (Hebrews 4:15)
 - He understands and knows suffering, pain, and death.
 - The Hebrew writer was moved by this moment of Jesus in the garden. (See Hebrews 5:7-10)
 - He both wept out loud like a baby and silently in prayer with what He had to face.
 - There is no one who knows the level or depth our Lord endured for our sakes.
 - He left heaven to come in the form of a bondservant. (Philippians 2:5-11)
 - Think of the humiliation of God being made lower than creation (lower than angels).
 - Think of the rejection of people turning Him away and not believing in Him.
 - Think of the abandonment when His own disciples left Him and one betrayed Him.
 - Think of the amount of suffering of someone being beaten, flogged, nailed to a beam, & suffocating for 6 hours.
 - I take what Jesus thinks in prayer for a moment as source of comforting. Who has not questioned or second guessed something in life? We can relate more to Jesus because of His humanity. I cannot relate to divinity.

**Question 3: How do people say they prayed about certain things and truly felt that God led them to a certain answer?
How do you truly feel that?**

Answer

- A. I think it’s good to feel things but that, alone, is not enough.
- Feelings, alone, can be misleading.
 - We don’t get to follow God by feelings alone.
 - Remember even the demons believe and show emotion. (James 2:19)
 - We must do and act by faith.
 - We must believe in God and in His Word.
 - We must pray in faith.
- B. God hears us.
- “*For the eyes of the Lord are on the righteous, and His ears are open to their prayers; But the face of the Lord is against those who do evil.*” (I Peter 3:12)
 - “*Now this is the confidence that we have in Him, that if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us. And if we know that He hears us, whatever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we have asked of Him.*” (I John 5:14-15)
 - Let me ask you. Which is better 1) Me telling you to pray until you feel, or 2) To pray according to God’s will and have understanding and knowledge that God hears you?
 - God does more than hear us, but if that is all, that is enough.
- C. God answers us. (See I John 5:15; James 5:13-18)
- Has God answered our prayers? How do we know?
 - Do you have daily bread?
 - Has God forgiven you of your sins?
 - Has God helped keep you from temptation?
 - Has God kept you away from the evil one?
 - Jesus told a parable on prayer so that we would not lose heart but always pray. (Luke 18)
 - The helpless widow had an adversary.
 - She wanted justice but the judge would not hear her case.
 - She kept going to him.
 - The judge gave in because of her persistence.
 - Paul reminded us that he prayed three times for his “*thorn in the flesh*” to be removed, but God said, “No.”
 - I know God answers prayer by what I understand and know and feel and see.
 - I feel the comfort and peace that surpasses all understanding in moments when people have asked “how did I get through this or that”.
 - I feel forgiven when I go to God with humility and sorrow in my soul over the sins I’ve committed against Him.
 - I’ve had moments where I’ve accepted, with thankfulness, God’s way of answering, especially with my own health.
 - In conclusion, we can feel through what we see and come to know and understand from God’s Word.