

# Righteousness by Faith in the End Time

with Pr Dennis Priebe - Steps to Life, 2015

## The Nature of Christ

### I. Of what did Christ empty Himself?

#### Philippians 2:5-9

##### A. Omnipotence

John 5:30

John 14:10, 12

John 2:19

EGW statements

##### B. Memory

Luke 2:52

EGW statements

##### C. Foreknowledge

Mark 13:32

EGW statements

##### D. Omnipresence

EGW statements

##### E. Glory

Isaiah 53:2

EGW statements

### II. What Nature did Christ take?

#### A. Fallen human nature

Romans 8:3

Philippians 2:7

EGW statements

#### B. No sinful propensities

Luke 1:35

EGW statements

#### C. Reality of temptations

Hebrews 4:15

EGW statements

#### D. Victory through divine power

Hebrews 5:7-9

EGW statements

#### E. Possibilities for man

II Peter 1:4

I John 5:4, 5

EGW statements

## Spirit of Prophecy Statements

- I. A. **DA 336** -- *"He rested not in the possession of almighty power. It was not as the 'Master of earth and sea and sky' that He reposed in quiet. That power He had laid down, and He says, 'I can of Mine own self do nothing.' John 5:30. He trusted in the Father 's might. It was in faith -- faith in God 's love and care -- that Jesus rested, and the power of that word which stilled the storm was the power of God."*
- I. B. **DA 70** -- *"The very words which He Himself had spoken to Moses for Israel He was now taught at His mother's knee . . . He gained knowledge as we may do."*
- DA 70** -- *"He who had made all things studied the lessons which His own hand had written in earth and sea and sky."*
- DA 78** -- *"The mystery of His mission was opening to the Saviour."*
- I. C. **DA 147** -- *"Before He came to earth, the plan lay out before Him, perfect in all its detail. But as He walked among men, He was guided step by step by the Father 's will ."*
- MH 479** -- *"Christ, in His life on earth, made no plans for Himself. He accepted God's plans for Him, and day by day the Father unfolded His plans."*
- DA 753** -- *"The Saviour could not see through the portals of the tomb. Hope did not present to Him His coming forth from the grave a conqueror, or tell Him of the Father 's acceptance of the sacrifice."*
- D. **DA 669** -- *"Cumbered with humanity, Christ could not be in every place personally. Therefore it was for their interest that He should go to the Father, and send the Spirit to be His successor on earth."*

**6BC 1054** -- *"Christ ascended to heaven, bearing a sanctified, holy humanity. He took this humanity with Him into the heavenly courts, and through the eternal ages He will bear it, as the One who has redeemed every human being in the city of God."*

**8T 267** -- *"Christ took with Him to the heavenly courts His glorified humanity."*

**I. E. RH - July 5, 1887** -- *"He laid aside His glory and His majesty. He was God, but the glories of the form of God He for a while relinquished."*

**II. A. DA 49** -- *"It would have been an almost infinite humiliation for the Son of God to take man's nature, even when Adam stood in his innocence in Eden. But Jesus accepted humanity when the race had been weakened by four thousand years of sin. Like every child of Adam He accepted the results of the working of the great law of heredity. What these results were is shown in the history of His earthly ancestors. He came with such a heredity, to share our sorrows and temptations, and to give us the example of a sinless life."*

**PP 561** -- *"Both parents transmit their own characteristics, mental and physical, their dispositions and appetites, to their children."*

**PP 306** -- *"By inheritance and example the sons become partakers of the father's sin. Wrong tendencies, perverted appetites, and debased morals, as well as physical disease and degeneracy, are transmitted as a legacy from father to son, to the third and fourth generation."*

**4T 30, 31** -- *"He transmits irritable tempers, polluted blood, enfeebled intellects, and weak morals to his children."*

**3T 567** -- *"Parents may have transmitted to children tendencies to appetite and passion . . . If appetite for unhealthy food and for stimulants and narcotics has been transmitted to them as a legacy from their parents . . ."*

**5T 419** -- *"Wrong traits of character received by birth."*

**DA 117** -- *"When Adam was assailed by the tempter, none of the effects of sin were upon him. He stood in the strength of perfect manhood, possessing the full vigor of mind and body... It was not thus with Jesus when He entered the wilderness to cope with Satan. For four thousand years the race had been decreasing in physical strength, in mental power, and in moral worth; and Christ took upon Him the infirmities of degenerate humanity. Only thus could He rescue man from the lowest depths of his degradation."*

**1 SM 268** -- *"Since the Fall the race had been decreasing in size and physical strength, and sinking lower in the scale of moral worth, up to the period of Christ's advent to the earth. And in order to elevate fallen man, Christ must reach him where he was. He took human nature, and bore the infirmities and degeneracy of the race."*

**1 SM 267** -- *"His position was not as favorable as Adam's. He took man's nature after 4,000 years' wandering from purity. Sin made its marks on the race for ages. Physical, mental and moral degeneracy prevailed. Christ bore the sins and infirmities of the race as they existed when He came to the earth to help man... with the weaknesses of fallen man upon Him."*

**5BC 1131** -- *"In taking upon Himself man's nature in its fallen condition."*

**4 SGa 115** -- *"It was in the order of God that Christ should take upon Himself the form and nature of fallen man, that He might be made perfect through suffering."*

**RH - December 15, 1896** -- *"He took upon Him our sinful nature."*

**4 BC 1147** -- *Christ "took upon Himself fallen, suffering human nature, degraded and defiled by sin."*

**1 SM 253** -- *"Christ, who knew not the least taint of sin or defilement, took our nature in its deteriorated condition."*

**ST - October 17, 1900** -- *"Adam was tempted by the enemy, and he fell. It was not indwelling sin which caused him to yield; for God made him pure and upright in His own image. He was as faultless as the angels before the throne. There was in him no corrupt principles, no tendencies to evil. But when Christ came to meet the temptations of Satan, He bore 'the likeness of sinful flesh.'"*

**IHP 155** -- *"If heaven is gained by us at last, it will be only through the renunciation of self and in receiving the mind, the spirit, and the will of Christ Jesus... Just as soon as we present our emptied nature to the Lord Jesus and His cause, He will supply the vacuum by His Holy Spirit... Though He had all the strength of passion of humanity, never did He yield to temptation to do one single act which was not pure and elevating and ennobling."*

**MH 71** -- *"He knows by experience what are the weaknesses of humanity, what are our wants, and where lies the strength of our temptations; for He was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin."*

**RH - July 17, 1900** -- *"One with God, He alone was capable of accomplishing the work of redemption, and He consented to an actual union with man. In His sinlessness, He would bear every transgression... Christ did in reality unite the offending nature of man with His own sinless nature, because by this act of condescension He would be enabled to pour out His blessings in behalf of the fallen race. Thus He has made it possible for us to partake of His nature. By making Himself an offering for sin, He opened a way whereby human beings might be made one with Him. He placed Himself in man's position, becoming capable of suffering."*

**Letter 106, 1896** -- *"He was not only made flesh, but He was made in the likeness of sinful flesh."*

**5BC 1128** -- *"He went lower and lower in His humiliation, until there were no lower depths that He could reach, in order to lift man up from his moral defilement. . . Shall pride be harbored after you have seen Deity humbling Himself, and then as man debasing Himself, till there was no lower point to which He could descend? ... He died to make an atonement, and to become a pattern for every one who would be His disciples."*

**DA 122, 123** -- *"In our own strength it is impossible for us to deny the clamors of our fallen nature. Through this channel Satan will bring temptation upon us. Christ knew that the enemy would come to every human being, to take advantage of hereditary weakness, and by his false insinuations to ensnare all whose trust is not in God. And by passing over the ground which man must travel, our Lord has prepared the way for us to overcome. It is not His will that we should be placed at a disadvantage in the conflict with Satan. He would not have us intimidated and discouraged by the assaults of the serpent. 'Be of good cheer,' He says, 'I have overcome the world.'"*

**II. B. YI - September 8, 1898** -- *"No one, looking upon the childlike countenance, shining with animation, could say that Christ was just like other children."*

**5 BC 1128** -- *"Be careful, exceedingly careful as to how you dwell upon the human nature of Christ. Do not set Him before the people as a man with the propensities of sin. He is the second Adam. The first Adam was created a pure, sinless being, without a taint of sin upon him; he was in the image of God... Because of sin his posterity was born with inherent propensities of disobedience. But Jesus Christ was the only begotten Son of God. He took upon Himself human nature, and was tempted in all points as human nature is tempted. He could have sinned; He could have fallen, but not for one moment was there in Him an evil propensity. He was assailed with temptations in the wilderness, as Adam was assailed with temptations in Eden."*

**5BC 1128, 1129** -- *"Never, in any way, leave the slightest impression upon human minds that a taint of, or inclination to, corruption rested upon Christ... Let every human being be warned from the ground of*

*making Christ altogether human, such a one as ourselves; for it cannot be."*

**2T 202** -- *"He is a brother in our infirmities, but not in possessing like passions. As the sinless One His nature recoiled from evil. He endured struggles and torture of soul in world in sin."*

**2T 508** -- *"He was a mighty petitioner, not possessing the passions of our human, fallen natures, but compassed with like infirmities."*

**Ms. 94, 1893** -- *"Christ did not possess the same sinful, corrupt, fallen disloyalty we possess, for then He could not be a perfect offering."*

**SM 256** -- *"In taking upon Himself man's nature in its fallen condition, Christ did not in the least participate in its sin... We should have no misgivings in regard to the perfect sinlessness of the human nature of Christ."*

**II. C. DA 24** -- *"If we had to bear anything which Jesus did not endure, then upon this point Satan would represent the power of God as insufficient for us... He endured every trial to which we are subject."*

**DA 116** -- *"The enticements which Christ resisted were those that we find it so difficult to withstand. They were urged upon Him in as much greater degree as His character is superior to ours."*

**DA 688** -- *In Gethsemane, "Terrible was the temptation to let the human race bear the consequences of its own guilt, while He stood innocent before God."*

**DA 700** -- *Before Annas, "He knew that in a moment, by the flashing forth of His divine power, He could lay His cruel tormentors in the dust... When Christ was treated with contempt, there came to Him a strong temptation to manifest His divine character. By a word, by a look, He could compel His persecutors to confess that He was Lord above Kings and rulers, priests and temple. But it was His difficult task to keep to the position He had chosen as one with humanity."*

**DA 49** -- *"God permitted His Son. . . to meet life's peril in common with every human soul, to fight the battle as every child of humanity must fight it at the risk of failure and eternal loss."*

**II. D. YI April 25, 1901** -- *"His divinity was hidden. He overcame in human nature, relying upon God for power."*

**DA 363** -- *"As one with us, a sharer in our needs and weaknesses, He was wholly dependent upon God, and in the secret place of prayer He sought divine strength, that He might go forth braced for duty and trial... As a man He supplicated the throne of God till His humanity was charged with a heavenly current that would connect humanity with divinity. Through continual communion He received life from God, that He might impart life to the world. His experience is to be ours."*

**ISM 252** -- *"With the same facilities that man may obtain, [He] withstood the temptations of Satan as man must withstand them."*

**DA 24** -- *"He exercised in His own behalf no power that is not freely offered to us. As man, He met temptation, and overcame in the strength given Him from God."*

**DA 130** -- *"Jesus gained the victory through submission and faith in God."*

**DA 756** *"Amid the awful darkness, apparently forsaken of God, Christ had drained the last dregs in the cup of human woe. In those dreadful hours He had relied upon the evidence of His Father's acceptance heretofore given Him. He was acquainted with the character of His Father; He understood His justice, His mercy, and His great love. By faith He rested in Him whom it had ever been His joy to obey. And as in submission He committed Himself to God, the sense of the loss of His Father's favor was withdrawn. By faith, Christ was victor."*

**7BC 929** -- *"In our conclusions, we make many mistakes because of our erroneous views of the human nature of our Lord. When we give to His human nature a power that is not possible for man to have in his conflicts with Satan, we destroy the completeness of His humanity."*

**II. E. 1SM 253** -- *"Man, as God created him, connected with the Father and the Son, could obey every divine requirement."*

**DA 389** -- *"We also are to overcome as Christ overcame."*

**ST - June 17, 1897** -- *"In His humanity, He laid hold of the divinity of God, and this every member of the human family has the privilege of doing. Christ did not do what human nature may not do if it partakes of the divine nature."*

**DA 664** -- *"Jesus revealed no qualities, and exercised no powers, that men may not have through faith in Him. His perfect humanity is that which all His followers may possess, if they will be in subjection to God as He was."*

**Ms. 94, 1893** -- *"Christ came to live the law in His human character in just that way in which all may live the law in human nature if they will do as Christ was doing." "Abundant provision has been made that finite, fallen man may so connect with God that, through the same Source by which Christ overcame in His human nature, he may stand firmly against every temptation, as did Christ."*

**DA 671** -- *"Through the Spirit the believer becomes a partaker of the divine nature."*

**1 SM 409** -- *"It was a solemn reality that Christ came to fight the battles as man, in man's behalf. His temptation and victory tell us that humanity must copy the Pattern; man must become a partaker of the divine nature."*

**1SM 409** -- *Christ "laid hold on the throne of God, and there is not a man or woman who may not have access to the same help through faith in God. Man may become a partaker of the divine nature... Divinity and humanity may be combined in them."*

**7BC 929** -- *"The obedience of Christ to His Father was the same obedience that is required of man. . . He came not to our world to give the obedience of a lesser God to a greater, but as a man to obey God's holy law, and in this way He is our example. The Lord Jesus came to our world, not to reveal what a God could do, but what a man could do, through faith in God's power to help in every emergency."*

**MH 130** -- *"Christ came to this world and lived the law of God, that man might have perfect mastery over the natural inclinations."*