

Jesus - Lord and Saviour (TH212)

Australian College of Theology name: *Christology*

Unit Description

Gain an insight into how people have understood who Jesus is and what he has done for us. See why it matters what we believe and how that impacts on modern understandings of Jesus. Look more comprehensively at the doctrine of Jesus Christ as our Lord and Saviour than is required in the unit 'God and the Person and Work of Christ' (TH210).

Learning Outcomes

On completion of this unit, you will:

A. *Know and understand:*

1. The doctrine of the Incarnation
2. Ancient and modern views of the person of Christ
3. Christological creeds and heresies
4. Theories of the Atonement
5. Christ and eschatology

B. *Be able to:*

1. Use the Bible and creeds theologically
2. Describe the main aspects of:
 - a. The doctrine of the Incarnation
 - b. A selection of ancient and modern views of the person of Christ
 - c. The Christological heresies
 - d. A selection of theories of the Atonement
 - e. The death, resurrection and reign of Christ
3. Present evidence-based perspectives on aspects of Christology

C. *Be in a position to:*

1. Relate Christology to their other theological studies
2. Use Christology for personal understanding and in ministry contexts

Content

1. The Incarnation and virginal conception of Jesus Christ
2. The humanity and deity of Christ in the New Testament: Christ's teaching, miracles and healings; major titles; earthly and cosmic work
3. The development of the doctrine of God in the light of Christ: the Logos and creation; Monarchianism; Origen; Arianism; Nicene faith in Eastern and Western perspective
4. Christological heresies: Ebionitism, Docetism, Adoptionism, Apollinarianism, Nestorianism, Eutychianism
5. The Chalcedonian Formula and its significance; the hypostatic union; the communication of properties (in Cyril, John of Damascus, Luther)
6. Modern views of the person of Christ: kenotic perspectives; the Jesus of history and the Christ of faith; the maleness of Jesus
7. Biblical metaphors undergirding the doctrine of atonement, including the concepts of justification, reconciliation, redemption, propitiation, victory and election
8. Various theories of the Atonement: the patristic period, Anselm, Abelard, the Reformers, Socinius, Aulen
9. Modern issues in the doctrine of the Atonement: the relation of the Incarnation and Atonement; representation and substitution; the insights of liberation, feminist and charismatic perspectives
10. The resurrection, ascension and session of Christ, including contemporary discussion
11. The present and future reign of Christ as Lord; the parousia; Christ as judge; the kingdom of God