The Nature Of Jesus Christ

Intro. When Jesus Christ came into this world as the promised Messiah what nature did He have. Was He just a man as the modernist claims. Was He just God as the gnostics of old claim. Exactly what nature did Christ have.

I. PASSAGES THAT DEAL WITH CHRIST DUEL NATURE
   A. When Christ came into this world.
      1. Mat. 1:23 “Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us.”
      2. John 1:1, 14 “In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God… 14And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth.”
   B. Phi. 2:6-8 “Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God: 6But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men: 7And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross.”
   C. 1 Tim. 3:16 “And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: God was manifest in the flesh, justified in the Spirit, seen of angels, preached unto the Gentiles, believed on in the world, received up into glory.”

II. HE HAD THE NATURE OF MAN.
   A. God in the flesh.
      1. Mat. 1:23 “Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us.”
      2. John 1:14 “And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth.”
      3. 1 Tim. 3:16 “And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: God was manifest in the flesh, justified in the Spirit, seen of angels, preached unto the Gentiles, believed on in the world, received up into glory.”
   B. Prophecy of Moses.
      1. Deu. 18:15, 18 “The LORD thy God will raise up unto thee a Prophet from the midst of thee, of thy brethren, like unto me; unto him ye shall hearken;...18I will raise them up a Prophet from among their brethren, like unto thee, and will put my words in his mouth; and he shall speak unto them all that I shall command him.”
      2. Quoted by Peter; Acts 3:22-23 “For Moses truly said unto the fathers, A prophet shall the Lord your God raise up unto you of your brethren, like unto me; him shall ye hear in all things whatsoever he shall say unto you. 22And it shall come to pass, that every soul, which will not hear that prophet, shall be destroyed from among the people.”
      3. “Of your brethren” has a two-fold meaning.
         a. That this prophet would be a Jew.
         b. That this prophet would be man.
   C. Phi. 2:7-8 “But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men: 7And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross.”
      1. “Likeness of men”
         a. Likeness is the Greek ὁμοίωμα (homoiooma).
         b. Denotes that which is made like something else, a resemblance.
      2. “Fashion as a man”
         a. Fashion is the Greek σχήμα (schema).
         b. Means a figure or fashion.
c. Vine writes, “Here it signifies what He was in the eyes of men, the entire outwardly perceptible mode and shape of His existence. Men saw in Christ a human form, bearing, language, action, mode of life... in general the state and relations of a human being, so that in the entire mode of His appearance He made Himself known and was recognized as a man.”

III. **HE HAD THE NATURE OF GOD.**

A. **God In The Flesh.**

1. Mat. 1:23 “Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us.”

2. 1 Tim. 3:16 “And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: God was manifest in the flesh, justified in the Spirit, seen of angels, preached unto the Gentiles, believed on in the world, received up into glory.”

B. **Tit. 2:13** “Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ;”

1. We are to look for the appearing of the great God.
2. Paul tells us it is Jesus Christ.
3. Christ is the one coming back.
   a. Acts 1:11 “Which also said, Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? this same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven.”
   b. Rev. 1:7 “Behold, he cometh with clouds; and every eye shall see him, and they which pierced him: and all kindreds of the earth shall wail because of him. Even so, Amen.”

C. **Heb. 1:8** “But unto the Son he saith, Thy throne, O God, is for ever and ever: a sceptre of righteousness is the sceptre of thy kingdom.”

D. **John 1:1** “In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.”

1. “In the beginning” (Greek is’ Ev ἐν αἰρχῃ—en arche) has reference to the period of eternity before time began.
2. Before creation Christ existed with God and existed in the nature of God.
3. Dana and Mantley write, “θεός occurs without the article... (2) when the essential attributes of Deity are spoke of... The use of θεός in Jn. 1:1 is a good example. Πρὸς τὸν θεόν points to Christ fellowship with the person of the Father; ἡ ὄψιν ὁλοκληρωμένη emphasizes Christ participation in the essence of the divine nature. The former clearly applies to personality, while the latter applies to character.” (A Manuel Grammar Of The Greek New Testament p.140)

E. **Phi. 2:6** “Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God:”

1. Form is the Greek μορφή (morphē).
2. This word has reference to having the inner nature of, and expressing that nature outwardly as.
3. Jesus had the inner nature of God and expressed it outwardly as God.

F. **As a result of His Deity He is Lord and Master.**

1. John 20:28 “And Thomas answered and said unto him, My Lord and my God.”
2. Acts 2:36 “Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly, that God hath made that same Jesus, whom ye have crucified, both Lord and Christ.”
3. Acts 10:36 “The word which God sent unto the children of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ: (he is Lord of all)”
IV. RESULTS OF THE DUEL NATURE OF CHRIST.

A. 1 Tim. 2:5 “For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus;”
   1. Mediator
   2. A mediator is one who goes between with a view of making peace.

B. Heb. 2:17-18 “Wherefore in all things it behoved him to be made like unto his brethren, that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in things pertaining to God, to make reconciliation for the sins of the people. 18For in that he himself hath suffered being tempted, he is able to succour them that are tempted.”
   1. He is High Priest.
   2. In relation to God:
      a. Makes reconciliation for our sins.
      b. He is our Savior.
   3. In relation to man:
      a. One who shows mercy.
      b. He is able to succour us (He runs to the cry of those in danger and brings them aid).

Conclusion: What a wonderful nature Jesus has, both God and man, thus having the ability to save us and aid us if we will but allow Him to do it.