

### Introduction

- Matthew 24:36 and Mark 13:32 say Jesus does not know the time of His return.
- What does Jesus not know?
- How can Jesus be fully God and not know something?
- Does this mean God has not decided something?
- Is Jesus less than God?

### Avoiding Heresy

- Common interpretations and explanations of this passage can unintentionally repeat ancient heresies.
- This verse has been used for centuries by heretics to deny Christ's divinity.
- The Arians (2nd-century heretics) repeatedly cited this passage.
- Monophysitism believes Jesus has just one nature, a mix of human and divine.
- If this is true, then Jesus cannot be our mediator because He is not like us.
- Nestorianism believes Jesus' two natures are completely separated from each other.
- If this is true, then Jesus is two people trapped in a single body.

### Humanity and Divinity

- Jesus is both truly man and truly God.
- Jesus has a divine and a human nature.
- As our mediator, Jesus can speak as a man and as God.
- This is why Christ can say "I and the Father are one" (John 10:30) and "The Father is greater than I" (John 14:28).
- Jesus as God knows everything (John 21:17).
- Jesus knows people's thoughts and everyone (John 2:24-25).

### Limitations of Humanity

- Christ willingly condescended to us and accepted the limitations of humanity.
- Christ willingly limits His omnipresence.
- Christ willingly limits His omnipotence (In Mark 6:5, He "can" only heal some).
- Christ willingly limits His divine attributes (Phil 2) but does not lose them.
- Christ accepts the limitations and needs of the human body.

### Clarifications of Limitations

- This does not mean Christ is not divine.
- "The son" refers to both the divine and the human son.
- The divine nature of Christ knows the timing of His return.
- The human nature of Christ does not know the timing of His return.
- The divine and human natures are united in Jesus Christ while being distinct without being mixed together, confused, or turned into a hybrid.

## So, What?

- Christ's main point is not a discussion of natures.
- The main idea is that we do not need to know or worry about when the day will be.
- "The Lord removed the weight of our anxiety by saying that no one knows that day."  
Hilary of Poitiers
- Humanity is not meant to know and Jesus demonstrates this way for us.
- It is a secret hidden even from the angels and heavenly beings.
- The main question for us is will be the faithful servants?

## Application

- Don't attempt to figure out when Christ will return, because God does not want you to know.
- Live faithfully now in preparation for when that day will come.

## Further Study

- Council of Constantinople, Ephesus, and Chalcedon
- A good systematic theology book
- On the Unity of Christ (St. Cyril of Alexandria church father)
- Two Natures in Christ by Martin Chemnitz (Lutheran Reformer)