

COURSE SYLLABUS

CA202: Ten Reasons to Believe God Became a Man

An Our Daily Bread Ministries *Day of Discovery* Study

Course Description

Jesus Christ continues to be one of the most controversial people in history. Few people have much of a problem as long as He is portrayed as a kindly, moral teacher. But His biblical claim to be God is often met with strong opposition and disbelief. This course, *Ten Reasons to Believe God Became a Man*, will examine the evidence, including Jesus' claims, eyewitness accounts, fulfilled prophecy, miraculous signs and other sources.

Course Objectives

- To introduce students to the basic fundamentals of the Christian faith
- To provide scholarly and historical evidence for the validity of Christianity
- To encourage logical thinking in evaluating the authenticity of the teachings of Jesus and of the Bible

Accessibility

If you have particular accessibility needs, please contact the CUGN Registrar at the beginning of the course. This will allow us to work directly with you to make efforts to accommodate your situation and ensure as full as possible accessibility to the course.

Academic Honesty

At CUGN, we believe all we do is “as unto the Lord” and we thus hold to a high academic standard of honesty; we do not tolerate plagiarism and cheating. Students found guilty of any form of academic dishonesty face consequences ranging from interaction with the Academic Dean to expulsion from CUGN.

Quizzes and Exams: Any student found guilty of cheating on a quiz or exam will automatically receive a score of zero for that quiz or exam. A second offense will result in automatic course failure and possible disciplinary action and/or expulsion from CUGN. Please view the [CUGN Academic Catalog](#) for a full definition and examples of cheating.

Plagiarism: If a student's work is found to be plagiarized, consequences will vary depending on the nature of the plagiarism.

If an offense is deemed unintentional, the student will have an opportunity to resubmit the work. A second offense will result in an automatic score of zero for that assignment, which may also result in failure of that course.

More serious plagiarism offenses could result in automatic course failure, disciplinary action, or expulsion from CUGN. Please view the [CUGN Academic Catalog](#) for a full definition and examples of plagiarism. If you have questions about plagiarism, or would like to request resources for learning how to avoid plagiarism, please contact our Registrar's Office at registrar@cugn.org or toll free at (888) 487-5376 ext. 3.

Course Methods

Throughout this course, a number of methods will be used to engage the students in learning and processing information, interacting with other students (when possible), and applying the learning to their lives. These methods include the following:

Media/Materials

The course will include media presentations of lectures and supplementary materials to be viewed and/or read throughout the lessons of the course.

- **Video-based teaching**

If you do not have the bandwidth required to view the video, we provide the option of listening to the lesson or reading the lesson from a transcript.

- **Multisensory learning**

For students who wish to use a medium other than video, we provide the option of reading the lesson from a transcript of the teaching video (found in the Class Time section). Students can choose the medium (or combination of media) that most closely aligns with their individual learning styles.

- **Readings and other media**

Students should have a copy of the Bible available in order to read the sections of the Bible assigned in each lesson. In addition, Scripture passages are linked to online Bible tools for convenience. These online resources also provide an opportunity for students for whom English is a second language to read the Bible passages in one of numerous international translations available.

For all other required reading assignments, CUGN provides the texts for this course in a downloadable Adobe® PDF format.

Interaction

Whether sitting in a traditional classroom or studying from a distance, students benefit from interaction and collaboration with other students. In order to meet this need in distance theological education, CUGN offers structures and resources to encourage effective community interaction in this course.

Response Time

This forum fosters peer-to-peer interaction in a global, threaded discussion. Students are required to respond to relevant questions posted by the instructors; students are also encouraged to read and respond to the posts of fellow students.

Personal Reflection Journal

Students will be asked to record their thoughts in a Personal Reflection Journal. These entries can be viewed only by the student and by the site administrator, and are not graded.

Lesson Objectives

At the end of each lesson, students should be able to accomplish the objectives listed below.

Lesson 1: A Virgin Conceived

- Explain the various meanings of the Hebrew word for virgin and the significance of each
- Describe the roles of Isaiah, Mary, Joseph, Gabriel, and the Holy Spirit as they relate to the virgin birth of Jesus Christ
- Discern why supernatural assumptions are at the center of the virgin-birth controversy
- Provide key biblical arguments for the deity of Christ

Lesson 2: A Star Was Born

- List key theories that have been given to explain the star of Bethlehem
- Cite and discuss select Bible verses related to the star of Bethlehem
- Relate, using Scripture, the significance of the Messiah's birthplace
- Explain the ways in which Jesus Christ ties the Old and New Testaments together

Lesson 3: Angels Appeared

- Recite and explain the various ministries angels performed for Christ during His time on earth
- Explain the significance of the angelic announcement of Jesus' birth to the shepherds
- Compare and contrast the Emperor of Rome and Jesus Christ
- Cite key characteristics of angels giving biblical support for each

Lesson 4: Wise Men Worshipped

- Explain the historical context of the Magi
- Reconcile the apparent contradiction of the Bible's condemnation of astrology and the Magi being astrologers
- Recount the key Messianic prophecies of Daniel and show how they were fulfilled in Jesus

Lesson 5: Jesus Claimed to be One with God

- Explain why Jesus' claim to be equal with God is controversial
- Show the connection between Jesus' miracles and His assertion that He was God
- Cite key biblical passages illustrating Jesus' claim to deity
- Explain the biblical doctrine of the Trinity, using key Scripture references to support the explanation

Lesson 6: Isaiah Saw a God-Man

- Cite key Old Testament passages that prophesied Jesus as the suffering God-Man
- Explain the doctrine of Jesus Christ having two natures
- Articulate key aspects of the Old Testament sacrificial system and its relationship to Jesus Christ
- Explain the significance of Isaiah's names for Messiah

Lesson 7: Jesus' Friends Saw More Than a Man

- Trace the New Testament progression from perceiving Jesus as only a teacher to acknowledging Him as Lord.
- Cite reliable historical evidence for the existence of Jesus Christ
- Show how Christ provides evidence of His deity for the honest skeptic
- Summarize the content and purpose of the Gospel of John

Lesson 8: Jesus' Enemies Accused Him of Blasphemy

- Define the word blasphemy and explain its importance in the context of Jesus' claims
- Explain the significance that Jesus' claim of deity was acknowledged by both His enemies and His disciples
- Tell the meta-narrative of the Bible

Lesson 9: Jesus' Miracles Were Acts of God

- Explain biblically the concept of miracles increasing at the time new revelation is given
- Compare and contrast miracles performed by Moses with those performed by Jesus
- Show the correlation between Jesus' miracles and His claim to be divine
- Provide several specific reasons for the credibility of Christianity

Lesson 10: Jesus' Departure Was Greater Than His Birth

- Explain why the resurrection and ascension of Christ were fitting conclusions to His supernatural life
- List key Bible passages concerning the resurrection, ascension, and return of Jesus Christ
- Use 1 Corinthians 15:1-8 to build a case for the historical resurrection of Jesus Christ

- Understand the theological significance of Jesus' ascension and the promise of His return
- Apply, using scriptural support, the gospel of Christ to personal spiritual condition
- Explain key biblical teachings concerning the return of Christ

Course Requirements

In order to receive credit, the student must complete the course requirements within a 90-day period. Course requirements include:

- Viewing the Class Time lectures for each lesson
- Completing the Reading Assignment for each lesson
- Composing adequate responses to all questions in the Response Time forums (see below for details)
- Reading the material in the Further Study section
- Keeping a Personal Reflection Journal in response to reflection questions
- Taking each lesson quiz and a final examination, scoring a 70% or higher average

Additional information about these requirements is provided below.

CLASS TIME

Each of the lessons in this course contains a lecture of approximately four to ten minutes in length. These instructional videos are required viewing, and can be watched as many times as needed. The same content is available in an audio file and a text file (PDF) for students who can benefit from these alternative media. This course includes the following Class Time lectures:

- A Virgin Conceived
- A Star Was Born
- Angels Appeared
- Wise Men Worshipped
- Jesus Claimed to be One With God
- Isaiah Saw a God-Man
- Jesus' Friends Saw More Than a Man
- Jesus' Enemies Accused Him of Blasphemy
- Jesus' Miracles Were Acts of God
- Jesus' Departure Was Greater Than His Birth

READING ASSIGNMENT

Complete all readings listed in the Reading Assignment section of each lesson.

RESPONSE TIME

Participants will interact with other students worldwide in an ongoing asynchronous threaded forum of several course topics in each lesson.

In order to get the fullest benefit from the Response Time forum, students should complete the assignment after they have completed the Class Time lecture. Then they should return to the Response Time forum after finishing the lesson to see how others respond. The following steps are instructions to the students for completing the assignment:

- Enter Response Time
- Read the instructions and click the Discussion Question you wish to respond to first.
- Read the Discussion Question and share your thoughts with others.
- Repeat for each Discussion Question.
- Take the time to read other students' postings.

CUGN requires that students' discussion forum posts consist of at least 2 to 3 well-developed paragraphs. Think of posts as mini-essays, where you present an idea and support that idea with details, examples, personal experiences, etc.

Objective: to develop critical thinking skills through personal interaction with the content of the course and the responses of others within a diverse community of learners.

FURTHER STUDY

The Bible reading or study assignments covered in the Further Study section should be read completely at least once and responses to questions are to be recorded in the students' Personal Reflection Journals.

QUIZZES AND EXAM

The quizzes and exam will cover the material from the Class Time lectures, Reading Assignment, and Further Study.

Course Grading and Requirements

QUIZZES AND EXAM

Quizzes	40% of Course Grade
Final Exam	60% of Course Grade

OTHER COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Course requirements noted in this syllabus will be validated before credit is awarded to any student.

Notes Regarding This Syllabus

This syllabus is designed to provide learners with an overview of the course. Specific assignments are contained in each lesson.

Individuals taking the class for academic credit are responsible for the syllabus requirements of the specific institution through which the course is offered. Each individual institution has reserved the right to add additional reading requirements and to alter the syllabus to meet their accreditation requirements. Students seeking academic credit should check with their academic institution for details.