I Timothy 3:16

The Incarnation of Jesus Christ

The word incarnation does not occur in the Bible. It is derived from the Latin *in* and *caro* (flesh), meaning clothed in flesh, the act of assuming flesh. By which the Son of God voluntary assumed a human body. John 1:10-14,

The Incarnation of the Son of God is the fact of God becoming Man; the Virgin Birth is the method by which God the Son became man. Galatians 4:4-5

Could Jesus sin?

Rhetorical Question: What would have been the point for the Holy Spirit to bring Him to the desert to be tempted? Why would the devil have bothered tempting Him? Wouldn't it have been a loss of time?

He seemed like He was on the verge of giving in to temptation in the garden of Gethsemane. What is the point of temptation if there is no possibility of sin? <u>Heb. 4:14–16</u>.

If Jesus *could* sin, it would go against His divinity. Because His divine nature never left him, so the answer should be even easier: no,

Satan was acting on His human weakness. Hebrews 4:15

The reason the temptations did not work even in His humanity, He kept obeying God's law and resisting temptation. <u>James 4:7</u>

He was strengthened by the Holy Spirit, knowledge of the Scriptures available, and communion with God the Father in prayer, and the prayers of His disciples (which He asked for). We are supposed to follow His example 1 Peter 2:21.

Jesus Christ is outside the range of human natural comprehension and apprehension. It can be made known only by Divine revelation in the Holy Scriptures, and to those only who are illumined by the Holy Spirit. 1 Corinthians 2:14

God sending His Son implies, that God had a Son. Christ was the Son in His eternal relationship with the Father, not because He was born of Mary. Since a son shares the nature of his father, so our Lord shares the Godhead coequally with His Father. John 1: 1,

God did not send one forth who, in His birth, became His Son, but He sent One who, through all eternity, was His Son. <u>Isaiah 9:6</u>, <u>Philippians 2:6</u>

Before His Incarnation Jesus Christ was "in the form of God" From the beginning He had the nature of God, He existed (or subsisted) as God, and that essential Deity which He once was could never cease to be.

He "thought it not robbery to be equal with God" Equality with God was not something He retained by force or by farce. He possessed it in eternity past and no power could take it from Him.

The seven downward steps of the Savior's giving up of Himself.

- 1) "He made Himself of no reputation." God emptied Himself! He did not lose His Deity when He became Man, for God is immutable and therefore cannot cease to be God. Hebrews 13:8
- 2) "He took upon Him the form of a servant." Instead of expressing Himself as one deserving to be served, He revealed Himself as one desiring to serve others. Matthew 20:28
- 3) "He was made in the likeness of men. This phrase expresses the full reality of His humanity.
- 4) "And being found in fashion as a man." As a Man He was made under the law, yet He never violated the law. As a Man He was tempted in all three points in which we are tempted (I John 2:16)

- 5) "He humbled Himself." He surrendered His will to the will of His Father in heaven. His desire was to do the will of the Father, (John 8:29)
- 6) "He became obedient unto death." Did He die as God, or did He die as Man? He died as the God-Man. Luke 23:46
- (7) "... even the death of the cross." Other men had died on crosses, but this Man, the eternal Son of God, voluntarily and willingly died the kind of death meted out to criminals, even the death upon a cross. Galatians 3:13