The Communication of Attributes in the Person of Christ

The Divine Nature

- Person of the eternal Logos
- Son of God and Second Person of the Holy Trinity
- Assumed from the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Mother of God

The Human Nature

- The Word became flesh and dwelt among us
- True God and True Man

1. Each nature has its own essential characteristics. They are shared in the same Person.
   - The Son of God is human because He was born, lives, grows, gets tired, must eat and sleep, suffers, and dies.
   - The Son of God is divine because He is eternal, all-powerful, all-knowing, immortal.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Divine Attributes (Characteristics)</th>
<th>Human Attributes (Characteristics)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ETERNAL (always was, always will be)</td>
<td>Was born, grew, lived, and aged</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OMNIPRESENT (present everywhere)</td>
<td>Lived in Judea</td>
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<tr>
<td>OMNIPOTENT (all-powerful)</td>
<td>Became tired, had to eat and sleep</td>
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<tr>
<td>IMMORNING (ever-alive, cannot die)</td>
<td>Mortal, able to suffer and die</td>
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<tr>
<td>OMNISCIENT (all-knowing)</td>
<td>Learned and grew in knowledge</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

2. Divine characteristics are transferred to the human nature by virtue of the Personal Union.
   - We can say Jesus the Man is all-powerful, all-knowing, etc., because He is the God-Man. So He could know people’s thoughts, perform miracles, etc. But the human characteristics are not transferred to the divine nature.

3. All that Jesus is — God and Man — works together for our salvation.

   The Two Natures are truly and inseparably joined in the Personal Union without being mingled, changed:
   - unconfusedly
   - unchangeably
   - indivisibly
   - inseparably

   Neither flesh outside word, nor word outside flesh

A Brief Definition of the Communication of Attributes (Characteristics)

1. The attributes of the human nature and the attributes of the divine nature are shared in the same person but are not essential to both natures. Each nature has its own essential attributes. (Genus Idiomaticum)

2. The Divine attributes are transferred to the human nature by virtue of the Personal Union. But they never become an essential attribute of the human nature. The communication is strictly one way. (Genus Majesticum)

3. The full set of attributes work for our salvation. The redemption of mankind is accomplished by the theanthropic (God-Man) person of Jesus Christ. (Genus Apotelesmaticum)