

## The Deity of Christ

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### Introduction: Do You Believe That Jesus is God?

- A. Critical to having a faith in Christ that saves is the *full* acceptance and *deep* conviction that Jesus was and is truly God.
- B. Jesus was not a *mere* man or merely a prophet as atheists and Muslims teach.
- C. Jesus was in truth God with us: Immanuel, our Savior, Christ the Lord!
- D. Events before His birth, at his birth, during his childhood, and throughout His life demonstrated His Divinity, that Jesus was indeed God in the flesh.

### I. Even Before His Birth, Jesus Was Declared to Be Savior and God.

- A. The conception of Jesus told to Mary (**Luke 1:26-33**).
  - 1. Gabriel declared that Mary would bring forth a Son who was to be named *Jesus* (i.e., Jehovah is Salvation or Savior).
    - a. The greatness of Jesus (His glory and power) is described and called “*the Son of the Highest*” (**Isa. 9:6**).
    - b. His rule on the throne of David would be over the “*House of Jacob*” (Israel) (i.e., the New Israel, **cf. Heb. 8:8**).
    - c. “*His kingdom will have no end*” (**cf. Dan. 2:44; Heb. 12:28**).
- B. The conception of Jesus told to Joseph.
  - 1. The Messiah would not be from mere human origin, but would come forth from Divinity, the Holy Spirit (**Mat. 1:18-20**).
  - 2. An angel of the Lord declares that His name would be *Jesus* (**v. 21**); only the Son of God would be able to save people of their sins.
  - 3. The birth of Jesus or Savior was according to prophecy (**Isa. 7:14**) and His name directly corresponds to His identity to God (**vs. 22-23**).
    - a. When Jesus was born, it was *God* in bodily form (**Col. 2:9**).
    - b. His name is also Immanuel meaning “God with us.” (**Mat. 1:23**)

### II. At Birth, and Soon Afterwards, Jesus Was Exalted As the Lord.

- A. An angel announces the birth of the “*Savior, Christ the Lord*” (**Luke 2:9-11**).
  - 1. Jesus is declared to be “Savior”, “Christ” (or Messiah) and “**the Lord**” - titles given only to God who is supreme in authority (**v. 11**).
  - 2. *The multitude of the heavenly host praise God for the newborn “Prince of Peace”* (**Luke 2:13-14; cf. Isa. 9:7**).
  - 3. Christ would achieve our peace by offering Himself for the atonement of our sin making reconciliation to God possible (**2 Cor. 5:19**).
- B. Shortly after His birth, Jesus is honored at the temple.
  - 1. Simeon referred to Him as “the salvation of God” (**Luke 2:25-32**).
  - 2. Anna, after witnessing the Christ, committed herself to tell everyone who sought “the redemption of Jerusalem” about Jesus (**Luke 2:36-38**).

### III. From the Start, Jesus Was Worshipped As the Lord.

- A. Only being a child, magi sought to worship Jesus (**Mat. 2:1-2, 9-11**).
  - 1. The Lord God prohibited the worship of anyone other than Himself: (**Exod. 34:14; Deut. 6:13**).
  - 2. Yet, wise men fell down or bowed before the child Jesus and worshipped Him! Why? Because He was *God* in the flesh!

B. Even as a child, Jesus had brilliant knowledge and understanding of God's will (**Luke 2:39-52**).

1. Jesus was continually filled with wisdom, no matter His age, never lacking necessary wisdom (**Luke 2:39-40**).
2. Jesus continually progressed or proved His holiness to those around Him by His wisdom, maturity, and good will.

#### **IV. During His Ministry, Jesus Declared Himself to Be God.**

A. Jesus claimed equality with God as One who deserved honor (**John 5:18, 23**).

B. Jesus contended that He and the Father were One so as to imply that He was God (**John 10:30-33**).

C. Jesus allowed others to worship Him (**John 9:35-38**).

1. Even His apostles worshipped Jesus (**Mat. 14:33**).
2. Again, *only God* was to be worshipped (**Deut. 6:13; Exod. 34:14**).
3. Yet, Jesus permitted people to worship Him!
4. It would have been wrong to worship just a man (e.g., **Acts 10:25**).

D. Jesus even claimed to have an Eternal nature, of which only God possesses.

1. God told Moses that His name was the "I AM" (**Exod. 3:14**).
2. Jesus referred to Himself as the "I AM" who is able to save people of their sins (**Jn. 8:23-24**) knowing that "I AM" referred to Deity (**vs. 58-59**).

E. The exercise of His divine power was proof of His divinity.

1. His miracles manifested His glory (**John 2:11**) and gave cause for all to believe in Jesus as the Christ, the Son of God (**John 20:31**).
2. The very words and works of Jesus was evidence of His deity and His special connection with God the Father (**John 14:7-12**).
3. He knew the thoughts of others as He taught, debated with enemies, or escaped their deadly grasp (e.g. **Luke 6:7-11; cf. John 6:64**).
4. He exercised divine power as He granted forgiveness of sins (**Mk. 2:5**).

#### **V. Even when arrested and Put to Death on the Cross Jesus was Still "God with Us."**

A. Jesus, being God, was in *total control* of His life and death (**John 10:17-18**).

1. Jesus could have rescued Himself from His accusers (**Mat. 26:50-54**).
2. Even while being crucified, Jesus the Lord could have come down from the cross and delivered Himself (**Mat. 27:38-44**).

#### **VI. The Resurrection Declared Jesus to be "God with us"!**

A. On the day of Jesus' resurrection, His disciples worshipped Him (**Mat. 28:1-9, 16-18**).

B. Jesus' resurrection is proof to the world that He is God just as He said He was (**Rom. 1:4**).

1. The exaltation of Christ gives every person reason to worship Him and confess Him as Lord (**Phil. 2:8-11**).

#### **Conclusion: Jesus Christ Is Indeed the True God, the Source of Eternal Life!**

*"And we know that the Son of God has come, and has given us understanding, in order that we might know Him who is true, and we are in Him who is true, in His Son Jesus Christ. This is the true God and eternal life." -- 1 John 5:20, NASB*