

Christology: The Person and Work of Christ

Lesson 3: The Person of Christ – Divinity

Statement of Belief: Jesus Christ, the Son of God and second person of the Trinity, is fully God, equal in status and nature to the Father and the Spirit.

Question #1: Are there direct scriptural claims that the Son is God?

Christ is called “God” Isa. 9:6; John 1:1, 18; 20:28; Acts 20:28; Col. 2:9; Titus 2:13; Heb. 1:3, 8; 1 Jn. 5:20; Isa. 7:14; Psa. 11:1; Jer. 23:5-6; Matt. 1:23; John 5:18; 8:58; 10:30; 14:9; Acts 16:31-34; Rom. 9:5; 2 Cor. 4:4; Phil. 2:5-8; Col. 1:15a; Heb. 3:4 understood in context; 2 Pet. 1:1; 2:20

Christ is “Lord of the Sabbath” Mark 2:28

Christ performs the works of God

- Christ as creator Gen. 1:26; John 1:3; Col. 1:16; Heb. 1:8a, 10
- Christ as preserver Col. 1:17; Heb. 1:3
- Christ as author of life John 1:4; 5:26; 11:25; 14:6; Acts 3:15; 1 Cor. 15:22
- Christ as judge Matt. 25:31-32; Jn. 5:22; Acts 17:31; 2 Thess. 1:7-8
- Christ as forgiver Lk. 5:20-24; 7:44-49

Christ accepted worship Matt. 4:10; 14:33; Jn. 9:35-38; 20:28

The word “God” (*theos*) used of Christ Jn 1:1, 18; 20:28; Rom. 9:5; Titus 2:13; Heb. 1:8; 2 Pet. 1:1

The word “Lord” (*kyrios*) used of Christ Matt. 3:3; 22:43-44; Lk. 1:43; 2:11; 1 Cor. 8:6; Heb. 1:10-12; Rev. 19:16

Question #2: Did Jesus say, “I am God”?

Jesus calls himself “the Son of Man” 84 times in the Gospels

- Background is Daniel 7:13-14
- Jesus references this passage in Matthew 26:64
- Look at the high priest’s response in Matthew 26:65-66

Jesus says "I AM" seven times in the Gospel of John

- References Exodus 3:14
- Jesus says, "Truly, truly, I say to you, before Abraham was, I am." (John 8:58)
- John 6:35; 8:12; 10:9; 10:11; 11:25-26; 14:6; 15:5

Question #3: Does Jesus demonstrate divinity?

Jesus is Omnipotent Matt. 8:26-27; 14:19-20a; John 2:6-9a, 11 (See also Matt. 28:18; John 17:2; Eph. 1:21; Phil. 3:21; Col. 2:10; Heb. 1:3; Rev. 1:8 cf. 1:17 and 22:13).

Jesus is eternal John 8:58; Rev. 22:13

Jesus is omniscient Mark 2:8; John 2:24-25; 6:64; 16:30; 21:17

Jesus is omnipresent Matt. 28:20 (after earthly ministry); John 14:23; Eph. 1:22-23

Jesus is sovereign Matt. 5:21-22; 11:25-27

Question #4: Why is Jesus' divinity so important?

To Pay the Full Penalty of Sin

- We have sinned against an infinite God
- We bear an infinite penalty for that sin
- Only an infinite God, Jesus, could pay an infinite penalty

Only God Can Save

- Salvation comes from the LORD
- **Psalm 3:8**—"Salvation belongs to the LORD."
- **Jonah 2:9**—"Salvation belongs to the LORD."
- The full witness of scripture is that only God can save people out of their sin. No amount of good deeds could ever pay the price.

Only One Who Is Fully God and Fully Man Can Be a Mediator

- In order to unite God and man, the mediator must be God and man
- **1 Timothy 2:5**—"For there is one God, and there is one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus."
- **John 14:9**—"Whoever has seen me has seen the Father."