

Is Jesus God?

How we answer this question will affect our salvation and hope of eternal life

Introduction

- Jesus' claims controversial when He made them in first century until today
- Jesus not only claimed to be the Messiah (Christ, Anointed One), He also claimed to be the Son of God (equal to the Father)

2

Introduction

- Examples of those who deny Jesus is God
 - Jews
 - Jehovah's Witnesses
 - Muslims
- Wrongly identifying Jesus as either God or not God results in blasphemy
- Our salvation depends on accurately identifying Jesus and obeying Him

3

Misidentifying Jesus As God Results In Condemnation

Joh 8:23 And He was saying to them, "You are from below, I am from above; you are of this world, I am not of this world.

Joh 8:24 "Therefore I said to you that you will die in your sins; for unless you believe that I am *He*, you will die in your sins."

4

Is Jesus God?

1. Some views about Jesus' identity
2. Three persons (are God) possessing one Divine nature
3. Jehovah and Jesus
4. Other proofs that Jesus is God

5

Some Views About Jesus' Identity

1. One person called God who may reveal Himself in different ways
2. Jesus is a created being, an angel or other spirit form
3. Jesus was just a man, nothing more
4. Truth – three persons who have same Divine nature (are God) but have different roles

6

Three Persons (Are God) Possessing One Divine Nature

- This is proven by two words describing God, Elohim (Old Testament) which is plural
- Also, the word Godhead (New Testament) which describes Godhood, Divine nature
- Jesus Himself is said to possess this one Divine nature and is called God
- New Testament shows there are three persons possessing same Divine nature

7

Elohim (Plural) Translated God (Power and Preeminence)

Gen 1:1 In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.

Gen 1:26 Then God said, "Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; and let them rule over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the sky and over the cattle and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth."

8

Elohim (Plural) Translated God (Power and Preeminence)

Gen 1:27 God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them.

Gen 3:22 Then the LORD God said, "Behold, the man has become like one of Us, knowing good and evil; and now, he might stretch out his hand, and take also from the tree of life, and eat, and live forever"—

9

Elohim And Jehovah (Self Existent) Used Together

Deu 6:4 "Hear, O Israel! The LORD is our God, the LORD is one!

Deu 6:5 "You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might.

10

Godhead – Godhood – Divine Nature

Act 17:29 "Being then the children of God, we ought not to think that the Divine Nature is like gold or silver or stone, an image formed by the art and thought of man.

Rom 1:20 For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes, His eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly seen, being understood through what has been made, so that they are without excuse.

11

Jesus Possesses One Divine Nature

Col 2:9 For in Him all the fullness of Deity dwells in bodily form,

12

Jesus Is Called God

Tit 2:13 looking for the blessed hope and the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior, Christ Jesus,

13

Jesus Is Called God

Heb 1:7 And of the angels He says, "WHO MAKES HIS ANGELS WINDS, AND HIS MINISTERS A FLAME OF FIRE."

Heb 1:8 But of the Son *He* says, "YOUR THRONE, O GOD, IS FOREVER AND EVER, AND THE RIGHTEOUS SCEPTER IS THE SCEPTER OF HIS KINGDOM."

14

Jesus Is Called God

Joh 1:1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

Joh 1:2 He was in the beginning with God.

Joh 1:3 All things came into being through Him, and apart from Him nothing came into being that has come into being.

15

Jesus Is Called God

Joh 1:14 And the Word became flesh, and dwelt among us, and we saw His glory, glory as of the only begotten from the Father, full of grace and truth.

16

Three Persons (Are God) Possessing One Dive Nature

Mat 3:16 After being baptized, Jesus came up immediately from the water; and behold, the heavens were opened, and he saw the Spirit of God descending as a dove *and* lighting on Him,

Mat 3:17 and behold, a voice out of the heavens said, "This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well-pleased."

17

Three Persons (Are God) Possessing One Dive Nature

Mat 28:18 And Jesus came up and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth.

Mat 28:19 "Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit,

Mat 28:20 teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age."

18

Three Persons (Are God) Possessing One Divine Nature

1Pe 1:1 Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ,
To those who reside as aliens, scattered
throughout Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia,
Asia, and Bithynia, who are chosen

1Pe 1:2 according to the foreknowledge of
God the Father, by the sanctifying work of
the Spirit, to obey Jesus Christ and be
sprinkled with His blood: May grace and
peace be yours in the fullest measure.

19

Jehovah And Jesus

- Jehovah used over 6,000 times in Old Testament
- Refers to the eternal nature of God, uncreated, self-sustaining
- Jesus is shortened version of Jehovah meaning, "Jehovah the savior"
- Jesus claimed to be equal with Jehovah

20

Jehovah Has Always Existed

Exo 3:13 Then Moses said to God, "Behold, I am going to the sons of Israel, and I will say to them, 'The God of your fathers has sent me to you.' Now they may say to me, 'What is His name?' What shall I say to them?"

Exo 3:14 God said to Moses, "I AM WHO I AM"; and He said, "Thus you shall say to the sons of Israel, 'I AM has sent me to you.'"

21

Jesus Claims To Be Jehovah

Joh 8:56 "Your father Abraham rejoiced to see My day, and he saw *it* and was glad."

Joh 8:57 So the Jews said to Him, "You are not yet fifty years old, and have You seen Abraham?"

Joh 8:58 Jesus said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, before Abraham was born, I am."

Joh 8:59 Therefore they picked up stones to throw at Him, but Jesus hid Himself and went out of the temple.

22

Jehovah Has Always Existed

Isa 44:6 "Thus says the LORD, the King of Israel and his Redeemer, the LORD of hosts: 'I am the first and I am the last, And there is no God besides Me.'

Isa 48:12 "Listen to Me, O Jacob, even Israel whom I called; I am He, I am the first, I am also the last.

23

Jesus Claims To Be Jehovah

Rev 1:8 "I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, "who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty."

24

Jesus Claims To Be Jehovah

Rev 1:17 When I saw Him, I fell at His feet like a dead man. And He placed His right hand on me, saying, "Do not be afraid; I am the first and the last,

Rev 1:18 and the living One; and I was dead, and behold, I am alive forevermore, and I have the keys of death and of Hades.

25

Jesus Claims To Be Jehovah

Rev 22:13 "I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end."

Rev 22:14 Blessed are those who wash their robes, so that they may have the right to the tree of life, and may enter by the gates into the city.

26

Jesus Claims To Be Jehovah

Rev 22:15 Outside are the dogs and the sorcerers and the immoral persons and the murderers and the idolaters, and everyone who loves and practices lying.

Rev 22:16 "I, Jesus, have sent My angel to testify to you these things for the churches. I am the root and the descendant of David, the bright morning star."

27

Is Jesus God?

1. Some views about Jesus' identity
2. Three persons (are God) possessing one Divine nature
3. Jehovah and Jesus
4. Other proofs that Jesus is God

28

Other Proofs That Jesus Is God

- Jesus makes claims that only God would make
- Jesus also confirmed these claims by performing miracles that not even His enemies denied
- Either He is God or a blasphemer, deceiver or insane
- Again, our answer and response to Him affects our eternal salvation

29

Jesus Claimed Equality With God

Joh 5:2 Now there is in Jerusalem by the sheep *gate* a pool, which is called in Hebrew Bethesda, having five porticoes.

Joh 5:5 A man was there who had been ill for thirty-eight years.

Joh 5:8 Jesus *said to him, "Get up, pick up your pallet and walk."

Joh 5:9 Immediately the man became well, and picked up his pallet and *began* to walk.

Now it was the Sabbath on that day.

30

Jesus Claimed Equality With God

Joh 5:14 Afterward Jesus *found him in the temple and said to him, "Behold, you have become well; do not sin anymore, so that nothing worse happens to you."

Joh 5:15 The man went away, and told the Jews that it was Jesus who had made him well.

31

Jesus Claimed Equality With God

Joh 5:16 For this reason the Jews were persecuting Jesus, because He was doing these things on the Sabbath.

Joh 5:17 But He answered them, "My Father is working until now, and I Myself am working."

32

Jesus Claimed Equality With God

Joh 5:18 For this reason therefore the Jews were seeking all the more to kill Him, because He not only was breaking the Sabbath, but also was calling God His own Father, making Himself equal with God.

Joh 5:22 "For not even the Father judges anyone, but He has given all judgment to the Son,

33

Jesus Claimed Equality With God

Joh 5:23 so that all will honor the Son even as they honor the Father. He who does not honor the Son does not honor the Father who sent Him.

34

Paul Claims Jesus Is Equal With God

Php 2:5 Have this attitude in yourselves which was also in Christ Jesus,

Php 2:6 who, although He existed in the form of God, did not regard equality with God a thing to be grasped,

Php 2:7 but emptied Himself, taking the form of a bond-servant, *and* being made in the likeness of men.

35

Paul Claims Jesus Is Equal With God

Php 2:8 Being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.

Php 2:9 For this reason also, God highly exalted Him, and bestowed on Him the name which is above every name,

36

Paul Claims Jesus Is Equal With God

Php 2:10 so that at the name of Jesus EVERY KNEE WILL BOW, of those who are in heaven and on earth and under the earth,
Php 2:11 and that every tongue will confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

37

Jesus Accepted Worship From Men And Angels

- God alone must be worshipped
- Men forbidden to worship men
- Men forbidden to worship angels
- Jesus accepted worship from both men and angels
- Jesus is God

38

God Alone Must Be Worshipped

Mat 4:8 Again, the devil *took Him to a very high mountain and *showed Him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory;

Mat 4:9 and he said to Him, "All these things I will give You, if You fall down and worship me."

Mat 4:10 Then Jesus *said to him, "Go, Satan! For it is written, 'YOU SHALL WORSHIP THE LORD YOUR GOD, AND SERVE HIM ONLY.'"

39

Men Forbidden To Worship Men

Act 10:25 When Peter entered, Cornelius met him, and fell at his feet and worshiped *him*.

Act 10:26 But Peter raised him up, saying, "Stand up; I too am *just* a man."

40

Men Forbidden To Worship Angels

Rev 22:8 I, John, am the one who heard and saw these things. And when I heard and saw, I fell down to worship at the feet of the angel who showed me these things.

Rev 22:9 But he *said to me, "Do not do that. I am a fellow servant of yours and of your brethren the prophets and of those who heed the words of this book. Worship God."

41

Jesus Received Worship From Men

Joh 9:35 Jesus heard that they had put him out, and finding him, He said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?"

Joh 9:36 He answered, "Who is He, Lord, that I may believe in Him?"

Joh 9:37 Jesus said to him, "You have both seen Him, and He is the one who is talking with you."

Joh 9:38 And he said, "Lord, I believe." And he worshiped Him.

42

Jesus Receives Worship From Angels

Heb 1:3 And He is the radiance of His glory and the exact representation of His nature, and upholds all things by the word of His power. When He had made purification of sins, He sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high,

Heb 1:4 having become as much better than the angels, as He has inherited a more excellent name than they.

43

Jesus Receives Worship From Angels

Heb 1:5 For to which of the angels did He ever say, "YOU ARE MY SON, TODAY I HAVE BEGOTTEN YOU"? And again, "I WILL BE A FATHER TO HIM AND HE SHALL BE A SON TO ME"?

Heb 1:6 And when He again brings the firstborn into the world, He says, "AND LET ALL THE ANGELS OF GOD WORSHIP HIM."

44

Jesus Receives Worship From Angels

Rev 5:11 Then I looked, and I heard the voice of many angels around the throne and the living creatures and the elders; and the number of them was myriads of myriads, and thousands of thousands,

Rev 5:12 saying with a loud voice, "Worthy is the Lamb that was slain to receive power and riches and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing."

45

Jesus Receives Worship From Angels

Rev 5:13 And every created thing which is in heaven and on the earth and under the earth and on the sea, and all things in them, I heard saying, "To Him who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb, *be* blessing and honor and glory and dominion forever and ever."

Rev 5:14 And the four living creatures kept saying, "Amen." And the elders fell down and worshiped.

46

Jesus Claimed Authority To Forgive Sins On Earth

Mar 2:1 When He had come back to Capernaum several days afterward, it was heard that He was at home.

Mar 2:2 And many were gathered together, so that there was no longer room, not even near the door; and He was speaking the word to them.

Mar 2:3 And they *came, bringing to Him a paralytic, carried by four men.

47

Jesus Claimed Authority To Forgive Sins On Earth

Mar 2:4 Being unable to get to Him because of the crowd, they removed the roof above Him; and when they had dug an opening, they let down the pallet on which the paralytic was lying.

Mar 2:5 And Jesus seeing their faith *said to the paralytic, "Son, your sins are forgiven."

Mar 2:6 But some of the scribes were sitting there and reasoning in their hearts,

48

Jesus Claimed Authority To Forgive Sins On Earth

Mar 2:7 "Why does this man speak that way? He is blaspheming; who can forgive sins but God alone?"

Mar 2:8 Immediately Jesus, aware in His spirit that they were reasoning that way within themselves, *said to them, "Why are you reasoning about these things in your hearts?"

49

Jesus Claimed Authority To Forgive Sins On Earth

Mar 2:9 "Which is easier, to say to the paralytic, 'Your sins are forgiven'; or to say, 'Get up, and pick up your pallet and walk'?"

Mar 2:10 "But so that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins"--He *said to the paralytic,

50

Jesus Claimed Authority To Forgive Sins On Earth

Mar 2:11 "I say to you, get up, pick up your pallet and go home."

Mar 2:12 And he got up and immediately picked up the pallet and went out in the sight of everyone, so that they were all amazed and were glorifying God, saying, "We have never seen anything like this."

51

Jesus Claimed Authority To Forgive Sins On Earth

- Jesus claimed to forgive paralyzed man's sins
- Scribes accuse Jesus of blasphemy because only God can forgive sins
- Jesus confirms His claim to forgive sins by a visible miracle healing the paralyzed man
- Therefore Jesus is equal with the Father, possesses the same Divine nature

52

Is Jesus God?

1. Some views about Jesus' identity
2. Three persons (are God) possessing one Divine nature
3. Jehovah and Jesus
4. Other proofs that Jesus is God

53