

GREAT BIBLE TRUTHS



10. Person of Christ (Part 2)

An Introduction

In our previous study we discovered that Jesus Christ existed from the beginning. We read of this in both the Old and New Testaments. Then we began to look at the nature of Christ, to discover who he really is. We looked at his humanity and the fact that he was sinless. We will continue by looking at his deity and incarnation.

DEITY OF CHRIST

(a) Passages about God applied to Christ

Look at the following passages in the Old Testament and see how they are applied to Christ in the New Testament.

- Compare Psalm 102:25-27 with Hebrews 1:8, 10-12
- Compare Isaiah 6:1-3 with John 12:40
- Compare Isaiah 40:3 with John 1:23
- Compare Malachi 3:1 with Matthew 11:10

(b) Works of God attributed to Christ

The work that God does is attributed to Jesus Christ in the New Testament

- Creation: John 1:3
- Forgiveness of sin: Mark 2:7, 10

(c) Characteristics of God given to Christ

- The fact that he is eternal: John 1:1, Revelation 1:17
- He is unchanging: Hebrews 1:12, 13:8
- He is omniscient: Revelation 2:23
- He is omnipotent: Revelation 1:8
- He is everywhere: John 14:23
- He deserves honour equal to God: John 5:23, Philippians 2:9-10

(d) Names given to Christ show deity

In the Old Testament

- Isaiah 9:6, Jeremiah 23:6, Micah 5:2, Malachi 3:1

In the New Testament

- God: John 1:1, Acts 20:28, Romans 9:5, Philippians 2:6, Hebrews 1:8
- Son of God: John 1:18, Romans 8:3
- Lord: 1 Corinthians 8:5-6 (This is Yahweh in the Old Testament)
- First and Last: Revelation 1:17

(e) His claim to be Messiah

- Mark 14:61-64, Luke 22:66-71, John 4:25-26
- Compare the above verses with: Psalm 2:6-12, Isaiah 9:6
- The Jews recognized these claims: John 10:33

(f) Testimony of God himself

- At Christ's baptism: Mark 1:11
- At his transfiguration: Mark 9:7

(g) Testimony of people

- John the Baptist: John 1:23, 3:27-30
- Herod: Mark 6:14
- Peter: Mark 8:27-29

(h) Testimony of his life

- Supernatural conception and birth, his sinless life and the fact of his resurrection.
- His remarkable insight and knowledge. Luke 22:31, John 2:24-25, 6:70-71
- His unique teaching, and the authority with which he taught. Matthew 7:28-29, John 7:46 Jesus didn't say, 'thus says the Lord', rather he said, 'I say'.
- His miracles. These were never for selfish reasons or to create a spectacle, but were signs of his deity (John 20:30-31), which brought people into the presence of God. (Luke 5:26) The Jewish exorcists did invoke the name of the Lord, but Jesus commanded evil spirits and the wind and sea obeyed him. Mark 1:27

(i) Testimony of Christ's claims

- Claims in the Gospels: He is greater than angels, the temple, the law and King David. (Matthew 13:41, 24:31) He is equal to the Father and the Holy Spirit. Matthew 28:19
- Claims in John: He is unique (John 6:35, 8:12, 10:7, 9, 11, 11:25, 14:6, 15:1), pre-existent (6:62), eternal (8:58, 17:5), from the side of God (8:42, 17:8), one with the Father (10:30). Also Jesus accepted Thomas' declaration, 'My Lord and my God.' John 20:28-29

(j) Testimony of the Apostles

- Peter: 2 Peter 1:16-18
- John: John 1:14, 20:31, 1 John 5:20
- Paul: Acts 9:20, 20:28, Colossians 1:15, 2:9

INCARNATION OF CHRIST

The Son of God, while remaining divine, assumed a human nature. In the history of the Church heresies have resulted from stressing the Lord's humanity or deity, at the expense of the other. Scripture points to a perfect unity of the two natures.

(a) Old Testament Prophecies

- These spoke of Jesus being God and man. Psalm 2, 22, 45, 72, 110, Isaiah 9:6-7, Micah 5:2

(b) New Testament

- John 1:1-3, 14 Christ made man but not ceasing to be God.
- Philippians 2:6-8 God revealed in human form.
- Colossians 2:9 Christ was flesh but the fullness of God was in him.
- 1 John 1:1-3 Christ, as man, was the Son of God.

(c) Virgin birth speaks of deity

- Jesus had no human father (Luke 1:26-27, Galatians 4:4), but became flesh through the conception of the Holy Spirit in Mary's womb (Matthew 1:20, Luke 1:35), so that the child born was the Son of God and holy.



If someone doesn't believe that Jesus Christ was God, how would that affect their doctrine of salvation?

Is it essential for a Christian to believe in the incarnation? Discuss



**The deity of Jesus Christ shows God's love: God himself has redeemed us.
2 Corinthians 5:19**

**The Church is built on the truth of Christ's deity. Matthew 16:17-18 If we believe this,
shouldn't we stand up against the world's low view of Christ!**

Since Christ is the Son of God, he is worthy of our highest praise. Revelation 5:12