

If Jesus was God ??

1. **Why** would we read that He is on the right Hand of God? (Acts 7:56)
2. **Why** would he say: "my Father is greater than I?" (John 14:28)
3. **Why** would he spend so much time praying to himself? (Luke 6:12)
4. **Why** would he ask his disciples to pray "Our Father which art in Heaven, if he was right there with them?
5. **How** could he have anointed himself with the Holy Spirit? (Acts 10:38)
6. If he was immortal, how could he die on the cross? (1 Tim 6:16, 1 Cor 15:3)
7. **How** could he grow in favor with himself? (Luke 2:52)
8. **Why** would he have to learn obedience? (Heb 5:8)
9. **Why** would he say " Father, I thank thee that thou hast heard me?" (John 11:41)
10. **How** could he have raised himself from the dead? (Col 2:12, 1 Pet 1:21,)
11. **How** could he have been made lower than the angels for the suffering of death? (Heb 2:9)
12. **Why** would he have to ask the Father to glorify him? (John 17:5)
13. Why was his will different than the Father's will? (Luke 22:42)

Many Other Questions

As we read the gospel account, and consider every situation that involves a relationship between Jesus and his father, there are hundreds of questions that arise, but only if we try to make Jesus and God into one single being.



Who was Jesus speaking to when he prayed so often to the Father? Why would he even need to pray, if he was God?

How could he have been born of a woman, and why would he have to grow in wisdom? Why would he have to learn obedience through suffering? How could he have been tempted in all points, even as we are?

How could he suffer and die as a sacrifice for sin? Who would have sustained him while he was in the grave, and raised him from the dead, if he were God?

The questions are without number if we do not accept the clear Bible teaching that Jesus was indeed the son of God, and that he struggled by sweat and tears to fulfill his Father's will and not his own.

We have complete respect for Jesus the Christ as our Lord and savior. We do not in any way dishonor him by placing our emphasis on his position as God's only beloved son.

He is our Lord and master, and God has given unto him all power in heaven and on earth.

Things Concerning

The Kingdom of God and the Name of Jesus Christ

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“ HEAR, O ISRAEL : THE LORD OUR GOD IS ONE

"The Children of Israel were like so many of us are. The concept of a divine creator (that would choose them to be His people) was not easily understood. Who or what was this God that had spoken unto Moses?

From the days of ancient Israel even to our own day, many people just do not know God, nor do they understand His nature and His character.

One Lord

Israel was given one very clear definition of the character of God. They were told "Hear, O Israel: **The LORD our God is one LORD.**" (Deut 6:4)

This concept of the One GOD should not have been unique to the Children of Israel. The same idea is clearly taught in the New Testament.

Christian theology has confused the relationship between Christ and God, and most Christians have consequently adopted the idea of a "triune God" (commonly referred to as the Trinity. This teaching implies that God is three, not one.

One God, One Mediator

Consider some of the teachings of the New Testament on this subject: "For there is **one God**, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus." (1 Tim 2:5)

This verse places a very clear distinction between God and his son Jesus the Christ. Jesus has been exalted to a very high position as our Lord, but he is still not God.

As our mediator, Jesus sits on the right hand of the Father, making

intercession for the saints.

It should be obvious that in this position, (at the right hand of God), there is still a distinction between them. They are not the same person.

One God, the Father

Paul explains it this way : " But to **us there is but one God, the Father, of whom are all things**, and we in him; and one Lord Jesus Christ, by whom are all things, and we by him." (1 Cor 8:6)

There is a distinction then in the terms. **God is the Father**, the Creator and sustainer of the entire universe, of whom we are told : "Who only hath immortality, dwelling in the light which no man can approach unto; whom no man hath seen, nor can see: to whom be honour and power everlasting. Amen." (1 Tim 6:16)

In contrast to this Creator we have as **our Lord, his son Jesus Christ**. We are told that "when the fullness of the time had come, God sent forth **His Son, born of a woman, born under the law.**" (Gal 4:4 NKJV)

This is Life Eternal

Why is it important to know the difference between God and Jesus? It is because the scriptures teach that our hope for life eternal depends on this knowledge.

"This is life eternal, that they might **know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent.**" (John 17:3)

When we use the "Lord's Prayer" in the future, try to remember that Jesus taught us to **pray, as he did**. He was the Lord, and it was his prayer. He also prayed: "Our Father, who art in

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Hope and Comfort from the Scriptures

Immanuel (God with Us)

There are many special prophecies in the scriptures that foretell how that God would reveal himself through His son Jesus. The prophet Isaiah said: "Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel." (Isa 7:14)

Wonderful, Counselor

Another of his famous prophecies is found in Isaiah 9:6-7:

"For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and **his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.** Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even for ever. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will perform this.

The Mighty God

It is obvious that this prophecy is about Jesus, but one of the difficult phrases is that he would be the "mighty God, the Everlasting Father"

The word "mighty" comes from the Hebrew "gibbor", which tells us that he would be a mighty warrior of God.

The term "father" when used in relationship to Jesus should not confuse us.

Abraham, for example, was told that he would be a "father of many nations." (Gen 17:4) Many of the promises that were made concerning Abraham, were to be fulfilled through Jesus, his descendent. (See Galatians 3:16)

Jesus will be a father, or ruler for an "everlasting" period. He already has immortality, and he will reign forever and ever.

Wonderful

His name shall be called "wonderful". This word means literally a "wonderful thing" or a "miracle". The birth of Christ was a very special miracle. He was born



of a virgin through the power of God.

All of the definitions in Isaiah's prophetic description of Jesus are reasonable. There is no justification in these verses to support any notion that Jesus was actually God.

Our Comfort

Our comfort in these prophetic words is found not so much in the names that are applied to him, but in the work that he will do.

PEACE

This child that was to be born would be the "prince of peace." In a world that has never been without war, Jesus will bring real "peace on earth and good will among men."

JUDGMENT

The world longs for righteous judgment. We are told concerning this man that "he shall not judge after the sight of his eyes, neither reprove after the hearing of his ears: But with righteousness shall he judge the poor, and reprove with equity for the meek of the earth: and he shall smite the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips shall he slay the wicked." (Isa 11:3-4)

JUSTICE

Truth and Justice are supposed to be the American way, but we all know how much of a mockery man has made of the justice system. We look forward to real justice from our Lord Jesus Christ, when he comes to rule this earth in righteousness.

"Behold, the days come, saith the LORD, that I will raise unto David a righteous Branch, and a King shall reign and

"There is one God, and one mediator between God and men, -the man Christ Jesus"

"There is **one God**, and one mediator between God and men, **the man Christ Jesus.**" This message from 1 Timothy 2:5 describes the clear distinction between God and His son.

Some will point out however, that there are other verses which imply otherwise. For example, Jesus said: "he that hath seen me hath seen the Father." (John 14:9) What did Jesus mean?

The Mystery of Godliness

To understand both the difference, and the similarity between God and Jesus, we must learn something about the mystery of godliness, or **God manifestation**, which is what godliness is really about.

"And without controversy **great is the mystery of godliness: God was manifest in the flesh,** justified in the Spirit, seen of angels, preached unto the Gentiles, believed on in the world, received up into glory." (1Tim 3:16)

Manifest in the Flesh

We are told then, that God was manifested (or plainly revealed) in the flesh.

Jesus was a manifestation of God. He was always obedient, always doing his Father's business, and always did God's will. Therefore, when people observed him, they saw what God was like.

They saw Jesus glorify God in all of his work. They saw him perform miracles by the power of God. They saw a man that did no sin. They saw **godliness, or God-like-ness** when they looked at Jesus, and that is why they should have seen the Father working in him.

Emmanuel

Jesus was destined to be a living demonstration for God, even before he was born: "Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us.

"(Matt 1:23)

When he was just a boy, he understood that he must be about his Father's business. (Luke 2:49)

He dedicated his life to godliness, so that people would know God through him. Physical appearance was not the issue. It was not important what God looked like, but rather what his characteristics were.

Show me thy Glory

Moses asked to see the glory of God. He was told that he could not see God's face. God did show him a vision that allowed him to understand **His character.** "The LORD passed by before him, and proclaimed, The LORD, The LORD God, merciful and gracious, longsuffering, and abundant in goodness and truth, Keeping mercy for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin, and that will by no means clear the guilty." (Ex 34:6-7)

These are some of the attributes of **godliness.** These are the attributes that Jesus manifested so that we would see the Father in him.

That they may be One

Jesus was "one" in mind and purpose with his Father and it was his desire that we follow his example.

All of the followers of Jesus are encouraged to **develop godliness,** so that they also will manifest and glorify God in their lives.

Jesus prayed for God to help us to be one with them in purpose, even as they were one. "Neither pray I for these alone, but for them also which shall believe on me through their word; **That they all may be one; as thou, Father, art in me, and I in thee, that they also may be one in us: that the world may believe that thou hast sent me.**" (John 17:20-21)

When we think of Jesus and God as one, think of it as a relationship that we also may be privileged to obtain. That we may also be one with them.