

Title: Is Jesus Really God?

Text: John 1:1-14

Will you open your Bibles, please, to the Gospel of John. The Gospel of John chapter 1...We are in a series of messages on WHAT WE BELIEVE. And today, I want to come to the person of Jesus Christ. And I want to ~~share~~<sup>ask</sup> with you the question: IS JESUS REALLY GOD?

I don't know how often you have been confronted with the possibility of Jesus not being God. But, it has been my experience that this is a constant emphases in our world to the point that many people consider you to be some sort of nut, religiously, if you actually believe that Jesus is God Almighty

Dear friends, this is basic christian belief. Not only of this church, but of all church history. And some of the greatest battles of the ages have been fought over the diety of Jesus Christ. For example, in 451 A.D. a great church council was held to discuss the issue of the diety of Jesus Christ. And at that council they ruled that Jesus was God. And yet, there was a tremendous unroar of disapproval over the council's decision.

Now, dear friends, what would you say: IS JESUS REALLY GOD?

Two young men came by my home. And these two young men were very intelligent, very educated. They stood at my door and began to tell me that according to their religion they believed that Jesus was a fine teacher. He was a fine prophet like many of the O.T. prophets. But, he was not God.

There are many folks, today, who are teaching with all the enthusiasm that they can muster that Jesus is not God. A wonderful teacher....YES... But, He is not God.

SO, I ASK YOU...IS JESUS REALLY GOD? And if Jesus is really God, where does it say that in the Bible?

(1B) <sup>SU</sup> Well, I want to take you, this morrowing, to a few of the many passagaes in the Bible which teaches that Jesus is God. I want to show you these passages. And I trust you will take them down for future use.

(10.)

First of all, John chapter 1 verses 1 through 14. Follow along as we share the word of God, together.

(REad John 1:1-14) (Read Vs 1-4; 14)

Prayer

(10.)

O.K....John 1:1, teaches that in the beginning was the Word and the Word was with God and the word was God.

Then down in Vs 14 we learn that the Word became flesh and dwelt amongst us. <sup>to one</sup> Jesus is under discussion. And the Bible says that the Word <sup>Jesus</sup> was God.

Now, those two young men who were out doing house to house calling...., which is a good principle to follow, by the way....~~Oh~~ They were enthusaistically going house to house....I think sometimes we need a little of that enthusaism. But, anyway, ~~they were going house to house.~~ And one of these young men said to me: "I can prove to you that Jesus was not God."

And I said, "Fine, show me"....

And he turned to John 1:1 and read the verse and said"...See, that teaches that Jesus was not God."

I said: "why is that?".....He said, "because ~~the~~ in the Greek language the definite article "THE" is left out before the word God. If it was saying that Jesus was God the article "THE" would be there before the word "God." Therefore, he said, you should read the text "a God."

I said, now wait a minute.....The Greek language teaches, also, that when the definite article "THE" is left out that there is a reason. And ~~the reason is because when it is left out~~ it is referring to essence....to being...to substance... When it is in there it is referring to identity. But when it is left out it is referring to Essence...to being...to substance. *Do you understand?*

So, instead of presenting an argument against the deity of Jesus, that young man was presenting a strong case for the deity of Jesus Christ. It says that the Word was God in being, essence, and in substance. 'Jesus of Nazareth is God.....NO QUESTION ABOUT IT.... Amen

(2c) Turn over to Romans chapter 9, please....Romans chapter 9, verse 5.

I hope you are taking these references down. Because you may have someone stop by your house and try to tell you that the Bible does not teach that Jesus is God..... Romans chapter 9 and verse 5....

Paul in speaking about the Israelites and mentioning all the blessings that they had, ~~Notice~~ Vs 5...."Whose" that is the Jews...are the fathers, and from whom is the Christ according to the flesh, who is over all, God blessed forever.".....How could it be any clearer?

Christ is God blessed forever.....Amen.....

(3c) Now, turn over, please to Hebrews chapter 1 verse 8...Hebrews 1:8...

Notice what it says: " BUT OF THE SON HE SAYS...THY THRONE, O GOD, IS FOREVER AND EVER, AND THE RIGHTEOUS SCEPTER IS THE SCEPTER OF HIS KINGDOM."

It is so clear...THE SON IS CALLED GOD....Jesus is call God. And there is no mistake about it.

(4c) Now, turn back to the little book of Titus...Titus 2:13....This verse is speaking about the second coming of Jesus Christ. Titus 2:13 and again notice ~~what~~ it says: "looking for the blessed hope and the appearing of the glory of our great God and Saviour....who?" Jesus Christ. Tremendous verse.

(5C) Turn over, please, to I John chapter 5. I John chapter 5 and notice Vs. 20. We read: “And we know that the Son of God has come.” NO QUESTION AS TO WHO IT IS TALKING ABOUT. “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.” How can we misunderstand? The bible says that Jesus is the true God and eternal life.

(5C) Now turn to one final reference. Turn to John chapter 20 and notice Vs. 26.. John chapter 20 verse 26. Here is the testimony of a disciple who doubted. A disciple like many of us who wanted to see in order to believe. And the disciples name is Thomas. And this occurs after the resurrection.

(Read John 20:26-29)

Do you see? There was no question in the mind of Thomas as to who the person was standing before him. MY LORD AND MY GOD. Jesus is God. I could refer you to his own claim in John 10:30 where he said: “I and the Father are one.”

Dear friends, Jesus is God. And the Bible clearly teaches that wonderful fact.

(2B) ~~But~~, this brings us, naturally, to a very important question....

WHY DID JESUS BECOME MAN?..WHY?.....

"....I would like to give you 5 reasons why, according to the Bible, Jesus became a man....And I believe that if you get awholed of these reasons they will bless your heart. They will change your life if you will believe them. 5 reasons why Jesus, who was God, became man.

*slowly (1c)* Number one, he became man to save us from our sins. To save us from our sins.....I am sure that you know that the Bible teaches over and over again that Jesus died for our sins. But, why do we say that He became man to save us from our sins?

I think your reasoning must go something like this. The Bible teaches that the wages of sin is death. That the consequence of man's sin is death. *Meaning* Separation from God. Both now, spiritually, and forever if you never receive Him. As well as physical death which is the immediate consequence to eternal death.....The wages of sin is death.....

And the experience of death involves the separation of the body from the spirit of man.....BUT, remember that the eternal God is pure SPIRIT. God is a spirit. And the eternal God could not die. Therefore, God had to become a man in order to die for sin. In order to pay the penalty for our sin, he had to become man. If he had stay Spirit, he could never have done it. Because God can not die. <sup>So</sup> God brought on himself and put on himself, and came to dwell voluntarily in a body. <sup>Human</sup> AND WE CALL IT JESUS OF NAZARENTH. And the Bible teaches that God willingly did this...WHY?....

To die....for all of our sins.....There was no sin in God He was apart from sin. And therefore, as God, he could substitute his life for all human life. Hebrews <sup>(2)</sup> says that He <sup>Became</sup> ~~was~~ a little lower than the angels for the suffering of death.

I Peter 2 says "he bore our sins in his own body on the tree."

~~He~~, God came into the world. <sup>Get</sup> ~~Jesus~~ became man, <sup>to Jesus</sup> So that he could die for our sins. And he died for your sins and he died for mine. <sup>sins</sup>

I don't know what this means to you? But it means everything to me. Christ paid for all of <sup>my</sup> ~~our~~ sins.....

(20) Then, secondly, the Bible teaches us that ~~God~~<sup>Jesus</sup> became man to share with us His eternal life. To share with us His eternal life.

(Slowly) In John chapter 10 verse 10 Jesus said: "I have come that they might have life, and might have it more abundantly."

In that passage we read that the good shepherd lays down His life for the sheep. That He <sup>Lay down</sup> gave his life for the sheep so he could give it <sup>back</sup> to them.

And no person will ever receive eternal life except through Jesus Christ. I believe that I shall live forever, <sup>Why?</sup> because I have accepted <sup>Jesus</sup> Christ into my life. *And He give me eternal life*

Paul says in the book of I Corinthians 15 if only in this life we have hope, we are of all people most miserable." And I agree with that.

If this is all there is...we of all people are the most miserable. ~~But~~ I am thankful that God ~~became man~~ became man in order to share his life with us. To give us eternal life....His life....

And because He arose from the dead, the Bible teaches us, that we too shall arise from the dead. We too shall be transformed and changed in a moment because Christ came to share with us His eternal life. *AND that is what our hope is based upon.*

(30) ~~But~~, there is a third reason why ~~Jesus~~<sup>God</sup> became man. And that is to ~~sympathize~~ sympathize with man, THROUGH PERSONAL EXPERIENCE.

You know, I am glad for this. I would like you to turn to a passage over in Hebrews. Hebrews chapter 2. Hebrews chapter 2 and verse 17..

(Read Hebrews 2:17-18)

Now, look at Hebrews chapter 4 and verse 14 Hebrews 4:14-16 (Read)

(Slightly) *Man,* I am so glad that ~~Jesus~~<sup>God</sup> became man. So that he could sympathize, with us through personal experience. You see, Jesus knows what we go through. And He became man so that he might be a faithful and merciful high priest. And that is a wonderful encouragement, *for* those of us who are bearing up under trials. Those of us who are experiencing testings and the tensions of life. Jesus knows what we are going through. The Bible tells us to cast all of our cares upon him for He careth for us. In all points tested like we are and yet without sin. Jesus knows and He can sympathize with us.

You know, I am glad for that. Especially when the problems and burdens become so great that you ~~don't~~<sup>don't</sup> feel that you can possible go on. Jesus knows all about it. And he cares. Praise the Lord,

(4C) There is a fourth reason why ~~Jesus~~<sup>God</sup> became man. And that is to show us what ~~men~~<sup>we</sup> ought to be like. He came to show us what ~~men~~<sup>we</sup> ought to be like. There are so many passages. Just let me mention a few and you jot them down.

I John 2:6 tells us to walk even as He walked. The example of ~~what men~~<sup>How we</sup> ought to ~~be~~<sup>Live</sup> is Christ. His life...

I John 3:2 says that we should be like him, for we shall see Him as He is. And every man that has this hope in him purifies himself....~~How~~... just as He is pure.....The standard is the life of Jesus Christ.

~~But~~ The verse that I would like you to turn to is found over in 1 Peter. Would you turn there, please. I 1 Peter chapter 2.....~~Here~~<sup>Here</sup> we have a great passage for Christians who are suffering and under trails.....

I Peter chapter 2 and beginning at Vs 19 (Read 19-23) ~~we~~<sup>we</sup> ~~people~~<sup>people</sup> ~~you're~~<sup>Jesus is</sup> ~~Christ~~<sup>Christ</sup> was our example. He came to show us what ~~men~~<sup>we</sup> ought to be like. And what a ~~standard~~<sup>a Tremendous Role model</sup> do we find in this passage. What good is it if we have done something wrong and we bear patiently the rebuke. We deserved it.....What is ~~so~~<sup>so</sup> ~~great~~<sup>great</sup> about that.....Peter says..

But, when you do ~~well~~<sup>right</sup>. And then suffer. But take it patiently. That is well pleasing to God. And that is the life of Christ. That is the standard. That is the example he left us. And we should follow it.

(5C) The final reason I would like to share with you as to why ~~Jesus~~<sup>God</sup> became man is to solve the greatest ~~problem~~<sup>quest</sup> of the ~~ages~~<sup>ages</sup>.....HOW CAN ~~MAN~~<sup>we</sup> SEE AND KNOW GOD.....To solve the greatest ~~problem~~<sup>quest</sup> of the ages....HOW CAN ~~MAN~~<sup>we</sup> SEE AND KNOW GOD?....

You have never seen God. I have never seen God.

But let's share some passages.....Turn to the Gospel of John.... John chapter 14.....John chapter 14.....~~This~~

This is a great passage. It took place the night before Jesus went to the Cross. He is talking with his disciples. And they are very upset at

his announcement that ~~He~~<sup>He</sup> was going to die. And Jesus told them on that occasion not to be troubled in their hearts. You believe in God believe in <sup>also</sup> me. That in my father's house are many dwelling places, and I go to prepare a place for you.

Then Thomas ask<sup>vs</sup>: "Lord, how do we know where you are going?" And Jesus said, "I am the way the truth and the life; and no man comes to the Father but through me."

And then Philip immediately thought of the great question of the ages. Vs 8 ... "Philip said to Him, <sup>u</sup> Lord, show us the Father, and it is enough for us <sup>u</sup> I would think so. I would like to see that <sup>also</sup> ~~too~~. Wouldn't you? Show us the Father.... ~~Put him~~ on display... That would be enough for us... We just want to see him. For once, <sup>Lord</sup> show us the Father. And we will be happy.

*Slowly*  
*Surely*  
You know, I have ~~always~~ always felt that Jesus answered Philip with a broken heart..... Vs 9.... Jesus said to him, 'have I been so long with you, and yet you have not come to know Me, Philip'?"

I wonder if Jesus is saying that to ~~christians~~<sup>you</sup>, ~~tonight~~<sup>Today</sup>? Have you been so long with ~~you~~<sup>me</sup> and yet you don't know who I am. I am the God of the ages. I and the Father are one. You can not separate us. Have I been so long with you, and yet you have not come to know Me, Philip? "HE WHO HAS SEEN ME HAS SEEN THE FATHER: HOW DO YOU SAY, SHOW US THE FATHER?"

Yes, Jesus came to take a human body... to give us an everlasting revelation of who God is..... Jesus... is God

You know, it will be wonderful when we get to heaven. Have you ever stopped to think about that. And you know we will not have any difficulty recognizing Jesus. He will be the one with the nail marks in his hands. The one with the wound in his side..... [Wasn't that wonderful that ~~He~~ decided to keep that Body? What if he decided after the resurrection, "Well, I don't need this body anymore. I will go back to my original state."

But, He is going to have that Body. In the O.T. in ~~Z~~<sup>u</sup> Zachariah chapter 12 it say that the whole world is ~~going~~<sup>going</sup> to look upon Him whom they pierced. Every eye will see and every knee will bow when ~~He~~ returns in power <sup>and glory</sup>

(Phil. 2:10)



But, isn't it wonderful that He is coming in the human body in which He died? And there will be no problem in recognizing Jesus. Man! that is going to be great.

Over in the book of Revelation chapter 22 verse 16 we read, "I, Jesus"--- That is the historical Jesus..."It is I that is coming."

And John in thinking about that says as he concludes the book of Revelation, "COME, LORD JESUS, COME"

We are going to see Jesus. And isn't it great that He solved the greatest problem of the ages? And that is: "WHO IS GOD?...AND CAN I KNOW HIM

Oh, yes..you can know Him. Because Jesus is God.

Dear friends, look to him. Turn your eyes upon Jesus. Look full into His wonderful face. And the things of earth will grow strangely deem, in the light of His wonderful grace."

And the Word became flesh and dwelt amongst us. And we beheld His glory, glory as of the only begotten from the Father, full of grace and truth.

JESUS IS GOD.....IS HE YOUR GOD?

Shall we close in prayer?