JESUS IS GOD!



CLEAR ANSWERS FROM THE BIBLE CONCERNING:

Does the Bible teach the Deity of Jesus? What is the meaning of Jesus' name? Could Jesus sin? And much more...

DENNIS D. HELTON

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BY

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DEDICATION

This work is dedicated to my six daughters Debbie, Donna, Dale, Denise, Deree, and Dena whom I love very much.

"For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: *it is* the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast."

Ephesians 2:8-9

JESUS IS GOD

Clear Answers From The Bible To The Following Questions (And Many More):

- Does the Bible teach the Deity of **Jesus**?
- What is the meaning of **Jesus' name**?
- Why was **Jesus** called **Emmanuel**?
- The Impeccability of Christ! Could Jesus sin?
- Is **Jesus The Only Way** to Heaven?
- Did God call Jesus, "God?"
- Is **Jesus** equal to **God** the Father?
- Did **Jesus** prove that He is **Messiah**?
- Is **Jesus a** created being as Arianism claims?
- Who are they that deny **The Son**?
- Is God "The Word," in John 1:1?
- Is the I AM of the OT the I AM of the NT?

"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life."

John 3:16

PREFACE

Why the Use of "IS" in the Book Title:

The observant reader will notice the use of the present-tense verb "Is" in the title of this writing. Of course, the writer uses the present-tense verb *is* arbitrarily because it best expresses continuance; Jesus is God, Jesus has always been God, and Jesus will always be God.

The inactive verb "was" might suggest non-continuance to the unlearned and Jesus will never cease to be God.

The inactive verbs "will be" are inaccurate because their usage would deny the eternal beginning of Christ.

"Jesus Is God" best expresses Jesus' eternal past Deity with God the Father, His present Deity with His Father, and His everlasting Deity with God the Father that They may be all in one (1 John 5:7). To the unsuspecting and naïve, the verb tenses "was," and "will be" might erroneously suggest that Jesus is not God. Actually, all three verb tenses may accurately express the Deity of Jesus in the proper context: Jesus was God; Jesus is God; Jesus always will be God. The writer will try to extol the glory of God and the Deity of His Son in this writing.

Why This Writing?

There are many religious professors, religious sects, cultists, phony ministers, and even Jews of Jesus' own people that deny the Deity of Christ (the Jews are still anticipating the First Coming of Messiah). Many ignoramus religious unbelievers also boldly make the false claim that the Bible nowhere substantiates the Deity of Christ. Even some students of the Bible state that Jesus nowhere claimed Deity. What have they been reading, "funny" books? The writer is ashamed to admit that he has only read the Bible through about twenty

times (not counting untold hours of studying), but he had no trouble at all finding absolutely overwhelming evidence from Scriptures of Christ's Deity in his first reading. Not only does the Bible teach the Deity of Christ but Jesus Himself claimed to be the Son of God. The deniers of Christ's Deity loudly advertise their gross ignorance of the Scriptures. The Bible (KJV) readily exposes the false claims of the unbelievers.

John 8:24: "I said therefore unto you, that ye shall die in your sins: for if ye believe not that I am he, ye shall die in your sins." (Cf. with I John 2:1-2, 22-23; 3:16; 4:1-3, 14-15; 5:1, 5, 10-11, 20."

Christianity is Valid Only if Jesus is God Manifest in the Flesh

To the **true** Christian, there is no doubt that Jesus is God who came from Heaven to earth to take upon Himself the form of a man. God was manifest in the flesh that He may die as a sacrifice for the sin of the whole world.

John 3:16: "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life."

Amazingly, there are many who claim to be of God and yet reject the Deity of Jesus Christ. The very basis of Christianity rests solely upon whether or not Jesus is God come in human form, incarnate in a body of flesh. If Jesus is anything less than Deity (God) in flesh, the claims of Christianity have no basis.

(<u>True</u> – It is necessary to say "true" Christian because there are multitudes falsely claiming to be Christians who are not genuine. They are Christian in name only.)

"Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life."

John 5:24

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"My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me: And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand. My Father, which gave them me, is greater than all; and no man is able to pluck them out of my Father's hand."

John 10:27-29

CHAPTER 1 GOD BECAME MAN

What do the Scriptures Say About God Condescending to the Form of a Man?

I Timothy 3:16: 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.

Jesus is "God manifest in the flesh" and the only person who ever lived, or ever will live, that fulfills I Timothy 3:16. If Jesus is not God, then no one is saved, all Christians are under strong delusion, and we just die as dogs and cats. However, the Scriptures dogmatically teach that Jesus is God and genuine Christians know "...in whom they have believed..." – (2 Timothy 1:12; Romans 4:21).

Mary's Virgin Born Son is Declared to be God with us

Matthew 1:23: "Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a Son (Jesus), and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us."

This verse may be too hard to grasp for false religionists and some "so-called" deep theologians, but a child can easily understand the meaning (without understanding the "how"). Matthew 1:23 interprets itself.

There are many that say that Jesus was fully man, but not divine. Some say He was fully God but not man. The **Gnostics** wanted to make Him into a divine spirit who was not really connected to the physical world.

Gnosticism

Gnosticism is a system of mystical religious and philosophical doctrines, stressing gnosis (knowledge of spiritual things, especially a secret and superior knowledge limited to an elite few, such as the Gnostics claimed to have) as essential to salvation, viewing matter as evil, and variously combining ideas derived from mythology, ancient Greek philosophy, ancient religions, and eventually Christianity. (Webster's New World College Dictionary, Fourth Edition, © 2004 by Wiley Publishing, Inc., Cleveland, Ohio.)

Jesus was fully man and fully God at the same time. The act of God of taking upon Himself a body of flesh and blood is referred to by theologians as "hypostasis" (pronounced, "hī' pas'tă sĭs"). The hypostatic union of Deity and humanity is also called "incarnation" meaning "enfleshment," the act of assuming bodily form.

What Does "Jesus" and "Christ" Mean?

<u>Jesus</u> is the Greek equivalent of the Hebrew word **Joshua** (Yeshua) meaning **Savior - (Matthew** 1:21). Jesus refers particularly to the Lord's humanity and incarnation by which He became a man in order to die for every man's sins.

<u>Christ</u> is the Greek equivalent of the Hebrew word **Messiah**, meaning **anointed**, and refers to Jesus as the Messiah who was promised in OT Scripture - (**Daniel** 9:25-26; **John** 1:14; 4:25; **Acts**

2:36). Christ refers particularly to the Lord's **eternal** deity as the **Son** of **God**.

JESUS IS GOD Manifest in the Flesh

Again, there is no other person who ever lived in this world that could satisfy the following Scripture than the Lord Jesus Christ Himself:

I Timothy 3:16: "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."

It could not be any clearer than this, "**God** was manifest in the **flesh** (bodily)!" God entered the kingdom of man so that man might enter the kingdom of God. Others express God's grace in another beautiful way, "The Son of God became the Son of man so that the sons of men might become the Sons of God."

Actually, further exposition is not necessary. Enough Scriptures has already been shown to convince any reasonable person that the Bible teaches the Deity of Christ. However, in hope of convincing the slow-witted and the unbelieving proud intellectual, the writer will continue this brief exposition.

In Heaven, Jesus could not die. **The Son of God**, who could not die without an earthly body, became **The Son of Man** on earth so that He could die for sinners.

Hebrews 2:9: "But we see Jesus who was made a little lower than the angels for the suffering of death, crowned with glory and honour; that he by the grace of God should taste death for every man."

Here, as in John 3:16, we have the promise of God, a provision of salvation for "every man." As the Son of God in Heaven, Jesus could not die. Jesus had to become the Son of man in order to die. He had to take upon Himself a body of flesh and become a man. Jesus came to earth to die a perfect sacrifice for whosoever would believe on Him.

Jesus did not begin to exist when He was born of Mary but shared glory with His Father before the world was created.

John 17:5: "And now, O Father, glorify thou me with thine own glory which I had with thee before the world was."

Jesus came forth from the Father (**John** 16:3, 7, 27-28, 30; 17:1, 3, 5, 8, 22, 24). He returned to His Father after purging our sins.

Hebrews 1:3: "Who being the brightness of his glory, and the express image of his person and upholding all things by the word of his power, when he had by himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high."

No one could qualify to sit down at God's throne except he be Deity Himself. Moses could not; neither Elijah, Isaiah, Jeremiah, Daniel, Joseph, Peter, Paul, John, nor Mary. Neither could Angels ascend to such a glorious position even though Lucifer, through his **pride** desired worship as God.

Isaiah 14:13-15: "For thou (King of Babylon; Lucifer; son of the morning; the Assyrian) has said in thine heart, I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God; I will sit also upon the mount of the congregation, in the sides of the north: I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will be like the most High. Yet thou shalt be brought down to hell, to the sides of the pit."

Observe the prideful "I will's." God does not share his throne with any of his creatures.

Actually, there are 21 references in Scriptures to Christ being at the right hand of the Father. The first is in Psalms 16:8. There are five in Hebrews (1:3; 8:1; 10:12; 12:2). Jesus is our "...great high priest, that is passed into the heavens, Jesus the Son of God..." —**Hebrews** 4:14.

What is the Meaning of "this day have I begotten thee" in Hebrews 1:5?

Hebrews 1:5: "For unto which of the angels said he at any time, Thou art my Son, this day have I begotten thee? And again, I will be to him a Father, and he shall be to me a Son."

Some Bible students and theologians alike believe this to be in reference to Christ's birth; however, Jesus has always existed with the Father and was not begotten or begun to exist at His birth. The writer believes that "this day have I begotten thee" is reference to Christ's resurrection from the dead.

Actually, the great means by which Christ is declared to be the Son of God is by His resurrection from the dead. The resurrection of Jesus (not His birth) is also referred to in Psalms, Acts, and Colossians.

Romans 1:4: "And declared to be the Son of God with power, according to the spirit of holiness, by the resurrection form the dead."

Acts 13:33: "God hath fulfilled the same unto us their children, in that he hath raised up Jesus again; as it is also written in the second psalm, Thou art my Son, this day have I begotten thee."

Psalms 2:7: "I will declare the decree: the LORD hath said unto me, Thou art my Son; this day have I Begotten thee."

Colossians 1:18: "And he is the head of the body, the church: who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead; that in all things he might have the preeminence."

NOTE: The writer is not trying to split theological hairs [as the old proverbial argument of how many angels could stand upon the point of a needle]. The writer is simply stating his understanding of the of the meaning of Hebrews 1:5 as to be in reference to the resurrection of Jesus rather than that of His birth.

God sent Gabriel to Explain to Mary That Her Son Would Be His Son

Luke 1:31-35: "And, behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a son, and shalt call his name JESUS. He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Highest: and the Lord God shall give unto him the throne of his father David: And he shall reign over the house of Jacob for ever; and of his kingdom there shall be no end. Then said Mary unto the angel, How shall this be, seeing I know not a man? And the angel answered and said unto her, The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee, and the power of the Highest shall overshadow thee: therefore also that holy thing which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God."

This is plain language and must be received by faith in God's promise of sending forth His Son, the promised Messiah.

Some Claim that Numbers 23:19 Disprove the Deity of Christ:

Numbers 23:19: "God is not a man, that he should lie; neither the son of man that he should repent: hath he said, and shall he not do it? Or hath he spoken, and shall he not make it good?"

Numbers 23:19 does not disprove "The Incarnation" but it does show the necessity of the incarnation. Jesus was not just a man and nothing more. Though Jesus was a man, He never ceased to be God. It was absolutely necessary for God to come to earth as a man and shed His blood for the remission of our sins. That is why He became a man. There is no other person or entity (man; angel; phony god; idol; demon) in the entire universe worthy to pay a ransom for our sin.

Although Jesus set aside His glory and limited Himself upon His First Coming on earth, He never ceased to be God incarnate in flesh and retained the power to do miracles. Neither did He make His path easy by using His creation power. When Jesus had **hungered** after fasting forty days and forty nights, the devil tempted Him to turn stones into **bread**. Jesus refused and told the tempter that "man shall not live by bread alone but by every Word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God" (**Matthew** 4:1-4).

Jesus could have anesthetized Himself to avoid the horrible pain and sufferings but He chose to suffer the **full** brunt of sin that man deserved (God's holiness and righteous judgment demanded **full** payment for sin). Again, Jesus retained His Divine power while in the flesh and was not limited to 'just a great man' and nothing more.

A clever person can twist and put a spin upon Scriptures to prove almost anything they want.

During trial, the high priest asked Jesus if He was the Christ:

Mark 14:61-b, 62: "...Again the high priest asked him, and said unto him, Art thou the Christ, the Son of the Blessed? And Jesus said, I am: and ye shall see the Son of man sitting on the right hand of power, and coming in the clouds of heaven."

Again, in order for lost men to be *reconciled* (bring into harmony) to God, Jesus, being God, had to take upon Himself **a body of flesh** in order to taste death for every man:

Colossians 1:22: "In the body of his flesh through death, to present you holy and unblameable and unreproveable in his sight:"

Hebrews 10:19-20: "Having therefore, brethren, boldness to enter into the holiest by the blood of Jesus. By a new and living way, which he hath consecrated for us, through the veil, that is to say, his flesh."

Since sin entered the world by man, it must be by man that he is to be redeemed:

Romans 5:12: "Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned."

Romans 5:18-19: "Therefore as by the offence of one judgment came upon all men to condemnation; even so by the righteousness of one the free gift came upon all men unto justification of life. For as by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so by the obedience of one shall man be made righteous."

Since angels do not die, Jesus took upon Himself a body of flesh and became a man:

Hebrews 2:14, 16-17: "Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, he also himself likewise took part of the same; that through death he might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil; For verily he took not on him the nature of angels; but he took on him the seed of Abraham. Wherefore in all things it behoved him to be made like unto his brethren, that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in things pertaining to God, to make reconciliation for the sins of the people."

God's Love for Fallen Sinful Man is Wonderfully Expressed in John's Gospel:

John 3:16: "For <u>G</u>od so loved the world, that he gave his <u>O</u>nly begotten <u>S</u>on, that whosoever believeth in him should not <u>P</u>erish, but have <u>E</u>verlasting <u>L</u>ife."

In John 3:16, it is interesting to note the acrostic, "G-O-S-P-E-L." Some refer to John 3:16 as "The Gospel in a Nutshell."

Someone has explained the message of John 3:16 in terms of "The Greatest:"

- ◆ For God "The Greatest lover"
- ♦ So loved "The Greatest degree of love"
- ◆ The World "The Greatest company"
- ◆ That He gave "The Greatest act"
- ♦ His Only Begotten Son "The Greatest gift"
- ♦ That whosoever "The Greatest invitation"
- ◆ Believeth "The Greatest simplicity"
- ♦ In Him "The Greatest attraction"
- ♦ Should not perish "The Greatest promise"
- ♦ But "The Greatest difference"
- ♦ Have "The Greatest assurance"
- ◆ Everlasting Life "The Greatest possession"

"All things are of God, who hath reconciled us to Himself by Jesus Christ "- (II Corinthians 5:14-21. See also Mark 10:45; Romans 5:8-9, 18-21; I Timothy 2:5-6; Hebrews 2:17; 10:4-12; I John 3:5.)

What do People of Phony Religions Falsely Claim Against Jesus Christ?

> The people of the **Jesus Only** sect say that Jesus only is God. This is a denial of the Tri-Unity of God...God the Father,