

MONTHLY BIBLE STUDY



DID JESUS CLAIM TO BE GOD

Muslims, Jehovah's Witnesses, and even atheists argue "Jesus never claimed to be God." However, the Bible points to seven ways that Jesus does in fact claim deity.

1. FIRST, JESUS CALLS HIMSELF GOD.

Read: John 8:58 and Exodus 3:13-14.

The people of Jesus' day clearly understood His declaration of deity. So should we.

2. SECOND, JESUS CALLS HIMSELF GOD.

Read: John 10:30, 5:18.

Christ's claims of equality really bothered Israel's religious leaders.

Then John 17:5 is revealing, because Isaiah 42:8 and 48:11 make it clear that God does not share His glory with anyone.

More than four dozen times Jesus calls Himself the son of Man, a term that illuminates the Messiah's deity. See Daniel 7:13-14.

3. THIRD, JESUS RECEIVES WORSHIP.

Read: John 20:28.

Jesus commits blasphemy if He receives Thomas' worship unless He really is God.

Read: Matthew 16:13-17.

Noting that Jesus does nothing to correct Peter's declaration that Christ is Messiah, and in fact affirms Peter in the moment.

4. FOURTH, JESUS FORGIVES SINS.

Read and discuss Mark 2:1-12.

5. FIFTH, JESUS TEACHES WITH DIVINE AUTHORITY.

See John 8:13-20.

6. SIXTH, JESUS AFFIRMS THE APOSTLES STATEMENTS CONCERNING HIS DEITY.

Jesus promises the apostles that the Holy Spirit will guide them into all truth and bring to their minds the things He says and does. Examples include the following:

- a. John 1:1-3, 14 – John calls Jesus God and says He is the Creator who took on human flesh.
- b. Paul declares in Colossians 2:9 that in Jesus the fullness of deity dwells bodily. In Philippians 2:5-11 Jesus added to His deity sinless humanity.
- c. Jesus is the creator in Colossians 1:15-16 and the writer of Hebrews records the deity of Jesus (Hebrews 1:1-4).

7. SEVENTH, JESUS FULFILLS THE ATTRIBUTES UNIQUE TO GOD.

In John 16:30 the disciples declare “Now we know that You know everything.”

In religious terms we call that OMNISCIENCE.

In Matthew 28:20 Jesus promises He will be with all His followers forever. OMNIPRESENCE

In Matthew 28:18 Jesus claims all authority over the world. OMNIPOTENCE

In John 1:1 Jesus is ETERNAL.

In Hebrews 13:8 He is IMMUTABLE (unchangeable).

In John 5:22 Jesus is JUDGE of all people.

In Hebrews 1:8 God the Father call Jesus “O God.”

Finally, many of the names used to portray God in the Old Testament – Alpha and Omega, Lord, Savior, King, Judge, Light, Rock, Redeemer, Shepherd, and Creator – are ALL applied to Jesus in the New Testament.

PRAYER: Ask God to reveal Himself as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit to you as well as the people in your life. Give Him Glory for who He is, and praise Him for who you are becoming as you get to know Him more intimately.

Inspired by an article by Rob Phillips, www.oncedelivered.net