

DOCTRINE OF CHRIST

Lesson 5

Deity of Christ

The deity of Christ is an eternally significant issue. Your view can mean an eternity in hell or heaven. You must have a correct understanding of Christ's deity in order to be saved. Therefore, the deity of Christ is one of the absolute essential doctrines of salvation. Satan knows this and that is why false teachers have propagated many heresies denying the deity of Christ.

The Arians believed that Jesus was the highest created being but not divine (modern day Jehovah's Witnesses believe and promote the Arian heresy). The Nestorian Heresy denied the unity of Christ's natures as if Jesus was half human and half God. Ebionism denied Jesus divine nature all together teaching He merely received the Holy Spirit after being baptized. Sabellianism taught that there was one God who revealed himself as the Father in the Old Testament, as the Son in the New Testament, and as the Holy Spirit in the present age (also referred to as modalism). Unitarianism or Socinianism denied the deity of Christ claiming that only the Father was God, Jesus was just a man, and the Holy Spirit was an impersonal force.¹

Satan's efforts to deny the deity of Christ have been relentless. He knows that if someone trusts in the wrong Jesus, a Jesus who isn't God, they will perish in hell for eternity. It is for this reason that the deity of Christ is a pillar doctrine of the Christian faith. In this lesson we will discover that the Scriptures definitively teach that Jesus was in fact God in every way and degree.

I. DEFINITION OF THE DEITY OF CHRIST

- A. We then, following the holy Fathers, all with one consent, teach men to confess one and the same Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, the same perfect in Godhead. . . , truly God. . . ; consubstantial with the Father according to the Godhead, . . . ; one and the same Son, the Only-begotten, God the Word, the Lord Jesus Christ. . .²

- B. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, light from light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made.³

¹For a very interesting survey of the consequences of the Socinian Heresy and its destructive beliefs, see the Appendix I in John MacArthur's book, *Ashamed of the Gospel*, where he surveys the Down Grade Controversy that Charles Spurgeon was involved in which eventually destroyed many protestant churches in England.

² From *Documents of the Christian Church*, by Henry Bettenson, quoting the church Fathers at the Council of Chalcedon, 451AD, pgs. 51-52.

³The portion of the Nicean Creed affirming the deity of Jesus Christ.

- C. That we worship one God in trinity and the trinity in unity, neither blending their persons nor dividing their essence. For the person of the Father is a distinct person, the person of the Son is another, and that of the Holy Spirit still another. But the divinity of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit is one, their glory equal, their majesty coeternal. What quality the Father has, the Son has, and the Holy Spirit has. . . And yet there are not three eternal beings; there is but one eternal being. So too there are not three uncreated or immeasurable beings; there is but one uncreated and immeasurable being. . . Thus the Father is God, the Son is God, the Holy Spirit is God. Yet there are not three gods; there is but one God. . . Nothing in this trinity is before or after, nothing is greater or smaller; in their entirety the three persons are coeternal and coequal with each other. That we believe and confess that our Lord Jesus Christ, God's Son, is both God and human, equally. He is God from the essence of the Father, begotten before time; and he is human from the essence of his mother, born in time; completely God, completely human, with a rational soul and human flesh; equal to the Father as regards divinity, less than the Father as regards humanity. Although he is God and human, yet Christ is not two, but one. He is one, however, not by his divinity being turned into flesh, but by God's taking humanity to himself. He is one, certainly not by the blending of his essence, but by the unity of his person. For just as one human is both rational soul and flesh, so too the one Christ is both God and human.⁴

II. THOUGHTS TO PONDER

- A. Since the Council of Nicaea in 325 AD there has been no denial of the deity and eternity of Christ which did not also deny the infallibility of Scripture.⁵
- B. Popularly, opponents of [Jesus'] deity assert that Jesus of Nazareth never claimed to be God. It was His followers, they say, who made that claim for Him, and, of course, they were mistaken. This is simply not so, for He did claim to be God. . . Obviously opponents of Christ's deity do not consider the Bible as authoritative but feel perfectly free to question statements of Scripture as to their reliability. Although denying the infallibility of the Bible does not always result in denying the deity of Christ, denying the deity of Christ must be accompanied by a denial of the accuracy of Scripture, for there is simply too much evidence in Scripture for His deity to do otherwise.⁶

⁴Part of the Athanasian Creed.

⁵ John Walvoord, *Our Lord Jesus Christ*, pg. 27.

⁶Charles Caldwell Ryrie, *A Survey of Bible Doctrine* (Chicago: Moody Press, 1995, c1972).

III. APPARENT PARADOX'S CONCERNING THE DEITY OF CHRIST

- A. How could Christ be fully God and fully man?
- B. How could Christ, the Father, and the Holy Spirit all be God and yet there be only one God?
- C. How could God, who is spirit, take on the form of man who is flesh?
- D. How could Christ be born of a sinful woman and not have a sin nature?
- E. How could Christ, being God, die on the cross without God dying?
- F. How could Christ lay aside the independent exercise of divine attributes such as omnipresence, omniscience, or transcendence? How does one possess those qualities and yet not exercise them?
- G. If Jesus is God, then did Jesus pray to Himself?
- H. When Jesus is speaking of God in the gospels is He talking about Himself since He Himself is God?
- I. Questions like the ones listed above have been raised by students of the Bible and sceptics throughout the church's history. Some questions are certainly difficult to answer and remain shrouded in the unexplained mysteries of the Trinity. Yet most can be answered with clear biblical authority. Questions like those listed above have also been and continue to be used by various sects and cults which deny the deity of Christ. A standard tactic is to ask the average Christian questions that they can't answer. This causes the Christian to begin to doubt what they believe. Of course the cult member is there to reinforce the heresy they promote and to offer proof texts which, when taken out of context, seem to affirm that Jesus was just a man, a great prophet or a "god" but not God Almighty. But as Peter reminds us in **I Pet. 3:15**, every believer must, "*sanctify Christ as Lord in your hearts, always being ready to make a defense to everyone who asks you to give an account for the hope that is in you. . .*"

IV. SCRIPTURAL PROOF OF THE DEITY OF CHRIST

A. Divine Acknowledgments Prove Jesus Is God

1. Only God can be worshiped and Jesus received worship (**Deut. 6:13**)
 - a. **Mt. 14:33** And those who were in the boat worshiped Him, saying, "You are certainly God's Son!"
 - b. **Jn. 9:35-38** Jesus heard that they had put him out, and finding him, He said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" 36 He answered, "Who is He, Lord, that I may believe in Him?" 37 Jesus said to him, "You have both seen Him, and He is the one who is talking with you." 38 And he said, "Lord, I believe." And he worshiped Him.
2. Jews acknowledged Jesus claimed to be God (**Lev. 24:16** stoning was the penalty for blasphemy)
 - a. **Jn. 5:17-18** But He answered them, "My Father is working until now, and I Myself am working." 18 For this reason therefore the Jews were seeking all the more to kill Him, because He not only was breaking the Sabbath, but also was calling God His own Father, making Himself equal with God.
 - b. **Jn. 8:58-59** Jesus said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, before Abraham was born, I am." Therefore they picked up stones to throw at Him, but Jesus hid Himself and went out of the temple.
 - c. **Jn. 10:30-33** "I and the Father are one." 31 The Jews picked up stones again to stone Him. 32 Jesus answered them, "I showed you many good works from the Father; for which of them are you stoning Me?" 33 The Jews answered Him, "For a good work we do not stone You, but for blasphemy; and because You, being a man, make Yourself out to be God."

B. Jesus Is the Creator And God is The Creator (**Gen. 1:1; Ex. 20:11**)

1. **Jn. 1:3** All things came into being through Him, and apart from Him nothing came into being that has come into being.

2. **Col. 1:16** For by Him all things were created, both in the heavens and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things have been created through Him and for Him.
3. **Heb. 1:2** in these last days has spoken to us in His Son, whom He appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the world.

C. Only God can Forgive Sin and Jesus Forgives Sin (Isa. 43:25)

1. **Mt. 9:5-6** “Which is easier, to say, ‘Your sins are forgiven,’ or to say, ‘Get up, and walk’? 6 “But so that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins”—then He said to the paralytic, “Get up, pick up your bed and go home.”
2. **Lk. 1:77** To give to His people the knowledge of salvation By the forgiveness of their sins,

D. Only God Gives Life and Jesus Gives Life (Deut. 32:39; Neh. 9:6; Job 33:4)

1. **Jn. 5:21** “For just as the Father raises the dead and gives them life, even so the Son also gives life to whom He wishes.
2. **Jn. 10:28** I give eternal life to them, and they will never perish; and no one will snatch them out of My hand.
3. **Jn. 11:24-26** Martha said to Him, “I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day.” 25 Jesus said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life; he who believes in Me will live even if he dies, 26 and everyone who lives and believes in Me will never die. Do you believe this?”

E. Only God Can Miraculously Heal All Infirmities, Jesus Healed All Infirmities

1. **Mt. 4:23** Jesus was going throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every kind of disease and every kind of sickness among the people.

2. **Mt. 9:35** Jesus was going through all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every kind of disease and every kind of sickness.
3. **Luke 6:19** And all the people were trying to touch Him, for power was coming from Him and healing them all.

F. God is the Judge of the Living and the Dead and so is Jesus (Gen. 18:25; I Sam. 2:10; Psa. 98:9; 94:1-3; Psa. 135:14; Rom. 3:6, Heb 10:30)

1. **Jn. 5:22, 25-29** “For not even the Father judges anyone, but He has given all judgment to the Son, . . . 25 “Truly, truly, I say to you, an hour is coming and now is, when the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God, and those who hear will live. 26 “For just as the Father has life in Himself, even so He gave to the Son also to have life in Himself; 27 and He gave Him authority to execute judgment, because He is the Son of Man. 28 “Do not marvel at this; for an hour is coming, in which all who are in the tombs will hear His voice, 29 and will come forth; those who did the good deeds to a resurrection of life, those who committed the evil deeds to a resurrection of judgment.
2. **Acts 17:31** because He has fixed a day in which He will judge the world in righteousness through a Man whom He has appointed, having furnished proof to all men by raising Him from the dead.”
3. **II Cor. 5:10** For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may be recompensed for his deeds in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad.

G. God Alone is the Redeemer and Jesus is the Redeemer (Isa. 41:14; 43:14; 44:6, 24; 49:26; 54:5, 8; 60:16)

1. **Rom. 3:24** being justified as a gift by His grace through the redemption which is in Christ Jesus;
2. **I Pet. 1:18** knowing that you were not redeemed with perishable things like silver or gold from your futile way of life inherited from your forefathers,
3. **Eph. 1:7** In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of His grace

H. **God Alone Is the Savior and Jesus Is the Savior (Isa. 43:11; 45:21; Jude 1:25)**

1. **Lk. 2:11** for today in the city of David there has been born for you a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.
2. **Titus 2:13** looking for the blessed hope and the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior, Christ Jesus,
3. **I Jn. 4:14-15** We have seen and testify that the Father has sent the Son to be the Savior of the world. 15 Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in him, and he in God.

I. **God Has Unique Divine Attributes and Jesus Has Those Same Divine Attributes (Ex. 3:14; Psa. 90:2; 102:12)**

1. **Isa. 9:6** For a child will be born to us, a son will be given to us; And the government will rest on His shoulders; And His name will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Eternal Father, Prince of Peace.
2. **Micah 5:2** “But as for you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, Too little to be among the clans of Judah, From you One will go forth for Me to be ruler in Israel. His goings forth are from long ago, From the days of eternity.”
3. **Jn. 8:24** “Therefore I said to you that you will die in your sins; for unless you believe that I am He, you will die in your sins.”
4. **I Jn. 5:20** And we know that the Son of God has come, and has given us understanding so that we may 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.

J. **God Has Perfect Faithfulness and Jesus Who Is God Has Perfect Faithfulness (Deut. 7:9-10; Psa. 89)**

1. **Jn. 14:6** Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father but through Me.
2. **Rev. 19:11** And I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse, and He who sat on it is called Faithful and True, and in righteousness He judges and wages war.

K. Both God and Jesus Are Glorious and the Lord of Glory (Exod. 33:18-23; Isa. 42:8)

1. **I Cor. 2:8** the wisdom which none of the rulers of this age has understood; for if they had understood it they would not have crucified the Lord of glory;
2. **II Thess. 2:14** It was for this He called you through our gospel, that you may gain the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.
3. **II Pet. 3:18** but grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To Him be the glory, both now and to the day of eternity. Amen.

L. God Alone Is Perfectly Holy and Jesus Who Is God Is Perfectly Holy (Psa. 16:10; Isa. 48:17; Hos. 11:9)

1. **Luke 1:35** The angel answered and said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; and for that reason the holy Child shall be called the Son of God.
2. **Acts 3:14** "But you disowned the Holy and Righteous One and asked for a murderer to be granted to you,

M. God Alone Is Immutable and Jesus Who Is God Is Immutable (Mal. 3:6; Rom. 1:23; Jam. 1:17)

1. **Heb. 1:8-12** But of the Son He says, "Your throne, O God, is forever and ever, And the righteous scepter is the scepter of His kingdom. 9 "You have loved righteousness and hated lawlessness; Therefore God, Your God, has anointed You With the oil of gladness above Your companions." 10 And, "You, Lord, in the beginning laid the foundation of the earth, And the heavens are the works of Your hands; 11 They will perish, but You remain; And they all will become old like a garment, 12 And like a mantle You will roll them up; Like a garment they will also be changed. But You are the same, And Your years will not come to an end."
2. **Heb 13:8** Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.

N. God Is Love and Jesus Who Is God Is Love (I Jn. 4:8, 16)

1. **Jn. 13:1** Now before the Feast of the Passover, Jesus knowing that His hour had come that He would depart out of this world to the Father, having loved His own who were in the world, He loved them to the end.
2. **Rom. 8:35-39** Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? 36 Just as it is written, "For Your sake we are being put to death all day long; We were considered as sheep to be slaughtered." 37 But in all these things we overwhelmingly conquer through Him who loved us. 38 For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, 39 nor height, nor depth, nor any other created thing, will be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.
3. **I Jn. 3:16** We know love by this, that He laid down His life for us; and we ought to lay down our lives for the brethren.

O. God Is Merciful and Jesus Who Is God Is Merciful (Lam. 3:22-23; Lk. 6:36; II Cor. 1:3)

1. **Matt. 20:30** And two blind men sitting by the road, hearing that Jesus was passing by, cried out, "Lord, have mercy on us, Son of David!"
2. **Jude 21** keep yourselves in the love of God, waiting anxiously for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ to eternal life.

P. Old Testament Christophanies (Pre-incarnate Appearances of Christ) as the Angel of the Lord⁷

CHRIST IS THE ANGEL OF THE LORD

Reference to the Angel of the Lord	Common Activity or Attribute	Reference to Christ
Gen. 16:7, 13	Called "Lord"	John 20:28
Gen. 48:15-16	Called "God"	Heb. 1:8
Exodus 3:2, 5, 6, 14	Claimed to Be "I AM"	John 8:58

⁷For a more complete treatment see the previous lesson on "The Angel of the Lord"

Reference to the Angel of the Lord	Common Activity or Attribute	Reference to Christ
Judges 13:15, 18	His Name Was "Wonderful"	Isa. 9:6
Exodus 23:20	Sent From God	John 5:30; 6:38
Exodus 14:19	Guides God's People	Matt. 28:20
Isa. 63:9	Loved and Redeemed His Own	Eph. 5:25
Joshua 5:13-15	Commander of the Lord's Army	Rev. 19:11-14

Q. God Is Omnipresent and Jesus Who Is God Is Omnipresent (Jer. 23:23-24; Psa. 139:7-12; Acts 17:27)

1. **Mt. 18:20** "For where two or three have gathered together in My name, I am there in their midst."
2. **Mt. 28:20** teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age."
3. **Acts 18:10** for I am with you, and no man will attack you in order to harm you, for I have many people in this city."

R. God Is Omnipotent and Jesus Who Is God Is Omnipotent (Gen. 17:1; Job 19:25-27; 42:2)

1. **Jn. 5:19** Therefore Jesus answered and was saying to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, the Son can do nothing of Himself, unless it is something He sees the Father doing; for whatever the Father does, these things the Son also does in like manner.
2. **Phil. 3:21** who will transform the body of our humble state into conformity with the body of His glory, by the exertion of the power that He has even to subject all things to Himself.
3. **Rev. 1:8** "I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, "who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty."

S. God Is Omniscient and Jesus Who Is God Is Omniscient (I Sam. 16:7; Job 38-39; Psa. 145:5)

1. **Jn. 2:24-25** But Jesus, on His part, was not entrusting Himself to them, for He knew all men, 25 and because He did not need anyone to testify concerning man, for He Himself knew what was in man.

2. **Jn. 16:30** “Now we know that You know all things, and have no need for anyone to question You; by this we believe that You came from God.”
3. **Col. 2:3** in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge.

T. God Is Perfect in Being and Jesus Who Is God Is Perfect in Being (Mt. 5:48)

1. **Col. 1:19** For it was the Father’s good pleasure for all the fullness to dwell in Him,
2. **Col. 2:9-10** For in Him all the fullness of Deity dwells in bodily form, 10 and in Him you have been made complete, and He is the head over all rule and authority;
3. **Heb. 1:3** And He is the radiance of His glory and the exact representation of His nature, and upholds all things by the word of His power. When He had made purification of sins, He sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high,

U. God Is Righteous and Jesus Who Is God Is Righteous (Psa. 11:7; 116:5 119:37)

1. **Jer. 23:5-6** “Behold, the days are coming,” declares the Lord, “When I will raise up for David a righteous Branch; And He will reign as king and act wisely And do justice and righteousness in the land. 6 “In His days Judah will be saved, And Israel will dwell securely; And this is His name by which He will be called, ‘The Lord our righteousness.’
2. **II Tim. 4:8** in the future there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day; and not only to me, but also to all who have loved His appearing.
3. **I Jn. 2:1** My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. And if anyone sins, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous;

V. **God Is Sinless and Jesus Who Is God Is Sinless (Psa. 99:9; Isa. 6:3; Rev. 4:8)**

1. **II Cor. 5:21** He made Him who knew no sin to be sin on our behalf, so that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.
2. **Heb. 4:15** For we do not have a high priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but One who has been tempted in all things as we are, yet without sin.
3. **Heb. 7:26** For it was fitting for us to have such a high priest, holy, innocent, undefiled, separated from sinners and exalted above the heavens;

W. **God Is Sovereign and Jesus Who Is God Is Sovereign (Isa. 40:9-27; Dan. 4:17, 25, 32)**

1. Mt. 28:18 And Jesus came up and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth.
2. Lk. 1:33 and He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and His kingdom will have no end."
3. Rev. 11:15 Then the seventh angel sounded; and there were loud voices in heaven, saying, "The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of His Christ; and He will reign forever and ever."

V. **JESUS HIMSELF CLAIMED THAT HE WAS GOD**

A. **Jesus Claims to Be God**

1. **John 5:18** For this reason therefore the Jews were seeking all the more to kill Him, because He not only was breaking the Sabbath, but also was calling God His own Father, making Himself equal with God.
2. **Jn. 10:36** do you say of Him, whom the Father sanctified and sent into the world, 'You are blaspheming,' because I said, 'I am the Son of God'?
3. **Mt. 12:6** "But I say to you that something greater than the temple is here.

B. Claimed to Be Lord of the Sabbath (Ex. 20:2, 8)

Mt. 12:8 “For the Son of Man is Lord of the Sabbath.”

VI. JESUS HAS DIVINE NAMES USED IN REFERENCE TO GOD

A. Adonai

1. **Psa. 110:1** The LORD says to my Lord: “Sit at My right hand Until I make Your enemies a footstool for Your feet.”
2. **Mt. 22:43-46** He said to them, “Then how does David in the Spirit call Him ‘Lord,’ saying, ‘The Lord said to my Lord, “Sit at My right hand, Until I put Your enemies beneath Your feet” ’? 45 “If David then calls Him ‘Lord,’ how is He his son?” 46 No one was able to answer Him a word, nor did anyone dare from that day on to ask Him another question.
3. **Heb. 1:13** But to which of the angels has He ever said, “Sit at My right hand, Until I make Your enemies A footstool for Your feet”?

B. Elohim

1. **Isa. 40:8** The grass withers, the flower fades, But the word of our God [Elohim] stands forever.
2. **I Pet. 1:25** But the word of the Lord endures forever.” And this is the word which was preached to you.

C. Emanuel

1. **Isa. 7:14** “Therefore the Lord Himself will give you a sign: Behold, a virgin will be with child and bear a son, and she will call His name Immanuel.
2. **Matt. 1:23** “Behold, the virgin shall be with child and shall bear a Son, and they shall call His name Immanuel,” which translated means, “God with us.”

D. God

1. **Jn. 20:28** Thomas answered and said to Him, “My Lord and my God!”
2. **Tit. 2:13** looking for the blessed hope and the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior, Christ Jesus
3. **Heb. 1:8** But of the Son He says, “Your throne, O God, is forever and ever, And the righteous scepter is the scepter of His kingdom.

E. I AM (Ex. 3:14)

1. **Jn. 8:24, 28, 58-59** (Jesus claims to be the great I AM. “He” added in most English versions is not in the Greek text) 24 “Therefore I said to you that you will die in your sins; for unless you believe that I am He, you will die in your sins.” . . . 28 So Jesus said, “When you lift up the Son of Man, then you will know that I am He, and I do nothing on My own initiative, but I speak these things as the Father taught Me. . . . 58 Jesus said to them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, before Abraham was born, I am.” 59 Therefore they picked up stones to throw at Him, but Jesus hid Himself and went out of the temple.
2. **Jn. 13:19** “From now on I am telling you before it comes to pass, so that when it does occur, you may believe that I am He.

F. Lord (Greek equivalent of Yahweh, the memorial name of God Ex. 3:14)

1. **Acts 2:36** “Therefore let all the house of Israel know for certain that God has made Him both Lord and Christ—this Jesus whom you crucified.”
2. **Rom. 10:9** that if you confess with your mouth Jesus as Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved;
3. **Phil 2:10-11** so that at the name of Jesus every knee will bow, of those who are in heaven and on earth and under the earth, 11 and that every tongue will confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Old Testament Ref.	New Testament Ref.
<p>Deut. 10:17 “For the Lord your God is the God of gods and the Lord of lords, the great, the mighty, and the awesome God who does not show partiality nor take a bribe.</p>	<p>Rev. 17:14 “These will wage war against the Lamb, and the Lamb will overcome them, because He is Lord of lords and King of kings, and those who are with Him are the called and chosen and faithful.”</p>
<p>Psa. 136:3 Give thanks to the Lord of lords, For His lovingkindness is everlasting.</p>	<p>Rev. 19:16 And on His robe and on His thigh He has a name written, “KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS.”</p>

4. It is clear that the New Testament teaches the divinity of Christ. Christ being God is the Lord and since the Lord is God and Christ is the Lord then it is also true that Jesus is the Lord God. In Acts 2:36 Peter tells us that God has made Jesus both Lord and Christ. In Rev. 17:14 and 19:16 Jesus is called the "Lord of lords" which tells us that He is not only Lord but the greatest Lord which is God. There is no "Lord" higher than Christ.

There are many New Testament quotations from the Hebrew Scriptures which use the word "Lord" (Greek *kurios*) in reference to the God of the Old Testament. Acts 4:26, quoting from Psalm 2:2, says, *"The kings of the earth took their stand, And the rulers were gathered together against the Lord, and against His Christ."* Psalm 2:2 uses the ineffable tetragrammaton (the unutterable four letter name) usually translated LORD (Hebrew *Yahweh* יהוה see Ex. 3:14 literally "I AM") to speak of Christ (see Matt. 4:7 and compare with Deut 6:16; see Rom. 9:28 and compare with Isa. 10:23; see Rom. 11:13 and compare with I Kings 19:10, 14; see James 5:11 and compare with Job 1:6ff etc.).⁸

These Scriptures definitively prove that Christ is *Yahweh* of the Old Testament. In addition to that, the Jews translated the Hebrew Scriptures into Greek (known as the Septuagint or LXX), they usually chose to use the word *kurios* as a substitute for *Yahweh*. So it is easily proven that the term "Lord" or *kurios*, which appears hundreds of times in reference to Jesus Christ in the New Testament, is a direct reference to the one and only God. Herbert Lockyer commenting on the use of "Lord" in the New Testament said: *"That the whole of the*

⁸ *Vine's Expository Dictionary of the New Testament*, in Logos Bible Software, under "Lord, Lordship."

New Testament breathes the air of Christ's Lordship can be gathered from the fact that Lord is used of Him about 650 times, 170 of which are to be found in the gospels with nearly 160 occurrences of this divine, august title being clearly identified with God.⁹

John Stott has written, "If Thomas could fall down before Jesus confessing "my Lord and my God!" and Paul could write of "the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord," we have no reason to be ashamed of using similar language ourselves or of emphasizing the importance of the personal lordship of Jesus in every individual Christian life. . . I keep returning to this simple question: Is Jesus Christ the Lord of the church, so that it submits to His teaching however unpalatable, or is the church the lord of Jesus Christ so that it manipulates His teaching in order to make it palatable."¹⁰

G. Messiah/Christ is God (Psa. 2:2; Isa. 9:6; 11:2; Mic. 5:2)

1. Jn. 4:25-26 The woman said to Him, "I know that Messiah is coming (He who is called Christ); when that One comes, He will declare all things to us." 26 Jesus said to her, "I who speak to you am He."
2. Acts 2:36 "Therefore let all the house of Israel know for certain that God has made Him both Lord and Christ—this Jesus whom you crucified."

H. Son of God is God

1. **Luke 1:35** The angel answered and said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; and for that reason the holy Child shall be called the Son of God.
2. **Heb. 1:5** For to which of the angels did He ever say, "You are My Son, Today I have begotten You"? And again, "I will be a Father to Him And He shall be a Son to Me"?
3. **I Jn. 5:10-12, 20** The one who believes in the Son of God has the testimony in himself; the one who does not believe God has made Him a liar, because he has not believed in the testimony that God has given concerning His Son. 11 And the testimony is this, that God has

⁹ Herbert Lockyer, *All the Divine Names in the Bible*, pg. 191.

¹⁰ John Stott, *Understanding Christ*, pgs. 82-83.

given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son. 12 He who has the Son has the life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have the life. . . 20 And we know that the Son of God has come, and has given us understanding so that we may 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.

I. **Son of Man is God (Psa. 145:10-13)**

1. **Dan. 7:13-14** “I kept looking in the night visions, And behold, with the clouds of heaven One like a Son of Man was coming, And He came up to the Ancient of Days And was presented before Him. 14 “And to Him was given dominion, Glory and a kingdom, That all the peoples, nations and men of every language Might serve Him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion Which will not pass away; And His kingdom is one Which will not be destroyed.
2. **Mt. 24:30** “And then the sign of the Son of Man will appear in the sky, and then all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and they will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of the sky with power and great glory.

J. **God and Jesus are the Alpha and Omega, the First and The Last (Isa. 44:6; 48:12-16)**

1. **Rev. 1:8, 17-18** “I am the Alpha and the Omega,” says the Lord God, “who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.” . . 17 When I saw Him, I fell at His feet like a dead man. And He placed His right hand on me, saying, “Do not be afraid; I am the first and the last, 18 and the living One; and I was dead, and behold, I am alive forevermore, and I have the keys of death and of Hades.
2. **Rev. 22:13, 16** “I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end.” . . 16 “I, Jesus, have sent My angel to testify to you these things for the churches. I am the root and the descendant of David, the bright morning star.”

3. Old Testament Parallels Between God and Jesus Christ

Jesus Christ is the Great "I AM"

OLD TESTAMENT REFERENCE ABOUT CHRIST	NAME OR ATTRIBUTE	NEW TESTAMENT REFERENCE ABOUT CHRIST
Psa. 106:21; Hos. 13:4; Isa. 43:3, 11; 45:21	⇐ SAVIOR ⇒	Acts 2:21; 4:12; Rom. 10:9; Jude 1:25
Ex. 17:6; Deut. 32:39; II Sam. 22:32; Isa. 17:10	⇐ ROCK ⇒	I Cor. 10:4; Isa. 8:14; I Pet. 2:6
Isa. 41:4; 44:6; 48:12	⇐ THE FIRST AND THE LAST ⇒	Rev. 1:17; 2:8; 22:13
Ex. 3:14; Deut. 32:39; Isa. 43:10	⇐ I AM ⇒	John 8:24, 58; 13:19; 18:5
Jer. 32:18; Isa. 43:10; 44:24; 45:22; Gen. 18:1, 14; (Phil. 2:10 O.T. quote)	⇐ GOD - ADONAI ⇒	Isa. 9:6; Jer. 23:6; Jn. 1:1; 20:28; II Pet. 1:1; Titus 2:13; Heb. 1:8
Deut. 10:17	LORD OF LORDS AND KING OF ⇐ KINGS ⇒	I Tim. 6:14-16; Rev. 17:14; 19:16;
Gen. 1:1; Job. 33:4; Isa. 40:28	⇐ CREATOR ⇒	Jn. 1:3; Col. 1:15-17; Heb. 1:10
Psa. 27:1; Isa. 60:20; Micah 7:8	⇐ LIGHT ⇒	Luke 2:32; Jn. 1:9; 8:12;
Gen. 18:25; Job 3:12	⇐ JUDGE ⇒	Rom. 14:10; II Cor. 5:10; II Tim. 4:1

VII. ERRORS CONCERNING THE DEITY OF CHRIST

There have been many errors concerning the deity of Christ throughout the centuries. The classic heresies will be dealt with in the lesson concerning the hypostatic union and the two natures of Christ. The errors listed below are general errors.

- A. Jesus is not God.
- B. Jesus is a lesser god, but not God almighty.

- C. Jesus is only half God.
- D. Jesus was a man who became God.
- E. Jesus had a divine Spirit, but wasn't God.
- F. Jesus is the same person as God the Father and/or the Holy Spirit.

VIII. APPLICATION OF THE DEITY OF CHRIST

- A. We must believe that Jesus is God in order to be saved (Jn. 8:24).
- B. The incarnation is one of the greatest proofs of God's love for you.
- C. Jesus Christ loves you unconditionally as God, Savior, Redeemer, Lord, and Judge.
- D. Jesus is able to fulfill all He promised you because He is God who cannot lie.
- E. Jesus, being omnipresent, is always with you, sees all you are going through, and is always there to help you.
- F. All the attributes of God are Christ's and all their practical implications apply to the one who loved you so much that He gave His life for you.