

Prophet, Great Moral Teacher, or Archangel?

Some people who do not accept Jesus as God will often say that Jesus is just a great moral teacher, a prophet, or perhaps a great archangel.

Jesus can be none of the above, as author and Cambridge University Professor Dr. C.S. Lewis wrote in his book *Mere Christianity*:

“A man who was merely a man and said the sort of things Jesus said would not be a great moral teacher. He would either be a lunatic . . . or else he would have to be the Devil of hell.”

- How could Jesus be a great moral teacher or prophet of **God** if **He deliberately lied about His identity?**
- How could He be a holy man or holy archangel and allow humans to worship Him on earth and in heaven?
- Or how could a godly man or godly angel tell people they **must believe in Him** and God—for salvation?
- How could any man or angel promise that **He alone**—not God—can give them eternal life?
- How could any godly man or holy angel **claim the titles, attributes, and functions of God?**

Everyone has to make a choice about who Jesus is.

From what He said and did and from what the Bible says about Him:
Jesus can only be a liar, lunatic, devil...or Lord!

Who do you say Jesus is?
Choose wisely. Your eternity depends on your choice.
(John 3:16; 3:36; Acts 4:12)

JESUS IS GOD

The Biblical Proof



<http://jesus-is-god-proof.com/>

As an 8-year-old boy in South Philadelphia, I fell in love with God my Heavenly Father.

I never understood why Jesus had to be God since the Father was all the God I needed. I knew Jesus was the Son of God, but I never dreamed that meant He was fully God.

Years later, I read in the Bible that Jesus and the Bible claim full divinity for Jesus! The biblical proof I discovered that Jesus is God is found in this booklet. May it change your life as it did mine.

Pastor Bob

Why Is This So Important?

*... for unless you believe that I Am who I claim to be, **you will die in your sins.** ~ Jesus (John 8:24)*

The full divinity of Jesus is not accepted by any non-Christian religion. Some Christians even doubt it.

The salvation of everyone depends on how they relate to **Jesus**—not merely to His teachings. God the Father and Jesus require **faith in Jesus** for salvation (John 3:16, 3:36, Acts 4:12).

If we do not see **Jesus as God**, we are less likely to trust and obey Him and His words in the Bible.

Given what Jesus claimed for Himself, **Jesus can only be a liar, lunatic, a devil, or God!**

God wants His followers to be able to explain their faith in Jesus to others:

*But in your hearts set apart Christ as Lord. **Always be prepared to give an answer** to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have but do this with gentleness and respect. (1 Peter 3:15)*

Jesus Spoke As If He Was God

Jesus claims oneness with God the Father:

***“I and the Father are one.”** Again the Jews picked up stones to stone him. . . . “We are not stoning you for any of these,” replied the Jews, **“but for blasphemy, because you, a mere man, claim to be God.”** (John 10:30-33)*

The Jews tried to kill Jesus because He *said that God was His Father, **making Himself equal with God.*** (John 5:17-18)

Jesus claims the sacred Name of God:

*“I tell you the truth,” Jesus answered, “before Abraham was born, **I Am!**” At this, they picked up stones to stone him . . . (John 8:58-59)*

“I Am” is the sacred name for God in Exodus 3:14. All Jews knew that, and anyone who used it could be stoned.

Jesus says faith in Himself gives eternal life:

. . . and I give eternal life to them, and they will never perish . . . (John 10:28)

Everyone who . . . believes in Me will never die. (John 11:26)

Believe in God, believe also in Me. (John 14:1)

Jesus taught that *“all should honor the Son just as they honor the Father.”* (John 5:23)

He [the Spirit] . . . will convict the world . . . because they do not believe in Me . . . (John 16:8-9)

. . . for if you do not believe that I AM He, you will die in your sins. (John 8:24)

I AM the way, the truth, and the Life. No one comes to the Father except through Me. (John 14:6-7)

Jesus Has God's Attributes (continued)

God and Jesus take revenge against the wicked:

Never take your own revenge, beloved, but leave room for the wrath of God, for it is written, "VENGEANCE IS MINE, I WILL REPAY," says the Lord. (Rom 12:19)

God's righteous judgment (2 Thess.1:5) is carried out at the end of time:

*. . . when **the Lord Jesus** will be revealed from heaven with **His mighty angels** in flaming fire, **dealing out retribution** to those who do not know God and to those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus . . ." (2 Thess.1:7-8)*

Whose angels???

God and Jesus claim the title of Savior:

*I . . . am the Lord and there is **no Savior besides Me**. (Is. 43:11)*

*Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus according to the commandment of **God our Savior [Father]**, and of Christ Jesus, who is our hope . . . (1Tim. 1:1)*

. . . our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ . . . (2Peter 1:11)

*. . . according to the commandment of **God our Savior**. . . . Grace and peace from **God the Father and Christ Jesus our Savior**. (Titus 1:3-4)*

Note that in these two consecutive verses (Titus 1:3-4), God the Father is called Savior and Jesus is called Savior.

God the Father is called Savior 13 times in the Old Testament. God and Jesus are each called Savior for a total of 24 times in the New Testament. Sometimes the Father is called Savior and at other times, Jesus is called Savior.

Worth Repeating: The Salvation of Everyone Depends on How They Relate to Jesus.

God the Father sent Jesus so that **only whoever believes in Jesus has eternal life**:

For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life. (John 3:16)

Jesus went on to say in that same chapter:

*He who **believes in the Son** has eternal life; but he who does not **obey the Son** will not see life, but the wrath of God abides on him. (Jesus said that in John 3:36)*

No mere human prophet or teacher could or should make such claims. For a human, such claims would be blasphemy against God. Jesus was crucified for making claims like these. (Mark 14:61-65)

Jesus also claimed that faith in Him alone is the only way to the Father:

*I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father but **through Me**. (John 14:6)*

Speaking of Jesus, the Apostle Luke wrote:

*And there is salvation in no one else; for there is **no other name** under heaven that has been given among men by which we must be saved. (Acts 4:12)*

If we do not see Jesus as God, we are less likely to trust and obey Him and His words in the Bible.

*...so that all will honor the Son even as they honor the Father. **He who does not honor the Son does not honor the Father** who sent Him. (John 5:23)*

The Biblical Proof



When all is said and done, the biblical evidence for the divinity of Jesus is overwhelming!

In reality, the divinity of Jesus could be biblically justified just by this first point:

Jesus accepts the worship of Jews on earth and angels in heaven

The Five Biblical Proof Categories are:

1. Jesus Accepts the Worship of People on Earth
2. Jesus Is Worshipped by Angels and Elders in Heaven
3. Jesus Is Actually Called God in the Bible
4. Jesus Claims God the Father's Attributes, Functions, and Titles
5. Jesus Spoke As If He Was God

Jesus Claims God the Father's Attributes, Functions, and Titles

Jesus created everything for Himself:

*For by Him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible . . . **all things were created by Him and for Him.*** (Col.1:16)

Only God creates everything for Himself

Jesus has all authority in heaven:

All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to Me. (Matt. 28:18)

Jesus forgives sin:

He [Jesus] said to the paralytic, "Take heart, son; your sins are forgiven." Some of the teachers of the law said to themselves, "This fellow is blaspheming!" (Matt. 9:1-3)

Only God forgives sin.

Jesus saves people from sin:

She will give birth to a son . . . Jesus, because He will save his people from their sins. (Matt. 1:21)

Only God can do that.

*Therefore **He is able to save completely** those who come to God through Him, because He always lives to intercede for them.* (Heb. 7:25)

Jesus and the Father claim the title of the Alpha and Omega:

"I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, "Who is, and Who was, and Who is to come, the Almighty." (Rev. 1:8)

*"Behold, **I am coming soon** . . . I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last, the Beginning and the End."* (Rev.22:12-13)

Only Jesus is coming soon!

Jesus Is Actually Called God in the Bible

*In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and **the Word was God.*** (John 1:1)

*And **the Word became flesh**, and dwelt among us . . .* (John 1:14)

*Christ Jesus, who, **although He existed in the form of God**, did not regard **equality with God** a thing to be grasped . . .* (Phil. 2:5-7)

*In Christ, **all the fullness of the Deity** lives in bodily form.* (Col.2:9)

Speaking of Jesus in relation to the Father, Heb. 1:3 declares:

*And He is the radiance of His [Father's] glory and **the exact representation of His nature**, and **upholds all things by the word of His power.***

*And of the angels He [the Father] says, "WHO MAKES HIS ANGELS WINDS AND HIS MINISTERS A FLAME OF FIRE," but **of the Son He says, "YOUR THRONE, O GOD, IS FOREVER AND EVER . . ."*** (Heb. 1:7-8)

*For to us a child is born. . . . And He will be called . . . **Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.*** (Isaiah 9:6:)

*The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel, which means "**God with us.**"* (Matt. 1:23)

Worship of Anyone Other Than God Is Wrong

According to the Bible, **only God Almighty is worthy of worship by anyone on earth or in heaven.** The first of the Ten Commandments forbids such idolatry. God destroyed entire nations, including His beloved Israel, for worshiping false gods.

When the Apostle Peter entered Cornelius's house to meet him in Acts 10, Cornelius

*fell at his feet and **worshiped him.** But Peter raised him up, saying, "Stand up; I too am just a man."* (Acts 10:25-26)

When the Apostle John felt overwhelmed with the revelations he was getting in heaven from the angel who guided him, John wrote:

***I fell down to worship** at the feet of the angel who showed me these things. But he said to me, "**Do not do that.** I am a fellow servant of yours and of your brethren the prophets and of those who heed the words of this book. **Worship God.**"* (Rev 22:8-9)

John did the same thing **again** in Rev 19:10 and the angel said essentially the same thing again:

Don't do that! Worship God!

Yet, while on earth and in heaven, Jesus accepts the worship of people and of angels.

Doing so means that Jesus either is God or that He is a very evil person in God's sight.

Let's look at the biblical evidence . . .

Jesus Accepts the Worship of People on Earth

- **By His Apostles:**

*And those who were in the boat **worshiped Him**, saying, “You are certainly God’s Son!” (Matt. 14:33)*

- *And behold, Jesus met them. . . . And they came up and took hold of His feet and **worshiped Him**. (Matt. 28:9)*
- *When they saw Him, **they worshiped Him** . . . (Matt. 28:17)*
- His disciples “**after worshiping Him**, returned to Jerusalem . . .” (Luke 24:52)
- Thomas called Him God:

*Then He said to Thomas . . . “Stop doubting and believe.”
Thomas said to him, “**My Lord and my God!**” (John 20:27-29)*

Remember, these are the very men who lived with Jesus for three years and saw Him die. **If Jesus were just a man, they would know it!**

- **By a man healed:**

*And he said, “Lord, I believe.” And **he worshiped Him**. (John 9:38)*

A good Jew would never allow anyone to worship him. He could be **stoned to death for blasphemy**—claiming to be divine.

- **By pagan scientists:** The Magi saw His star and traveled a long way “*to worship Him*” (Matt. 2:2).

Later, when they found Him

*they fell to the ground and **worshiped Him**. (Matt. 2:11)*

If Jesus is not God and He allows people to worship Him, He has to be a liar or lunatic or devil from hell—or all of the above!

Jesus Is Worshiped by Angels and Elders in Heaven

Speaking of Jesus' Second Coming, Heb. 1:6 announces:

*And when He again brings the firstborn into the world, He says, “**AND LET ALL THE ANGELS OF GOD WORSHIP HIM.**”*

*Then I looked, and I heard the voice of **many angels** around the throne and the living creatures and **the Elders**; and the number of them was myriads of myriads, and thousands of thousands, saying with a loud voice, “**Worthy is the Lamb** that was slain to receive power and riches and wisdom and might and **honor and glory and blessing.**” (Rev. 5:11-12)*

*And **every created thing** which is in heaven and on the earth and under the earth and on the sea, and all things in them, I heard saying, “**To Him who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb**, be blessing and honor and glory and dominion forever and ever.” And the four living creatures kept saying, “Amen.” And the elders **fell down and worshiped**. (Rev 5:13-14)*

Note that there is **no distinction of worship** between what is offered to God the Father or to Jesus the Lamb. **All created things worship the uncreated God—Father and Son.**

*Whenever the unclean spirits saw Him, they would **fall down before Him** and shout, “You are the Son of God!” (Mark 3:11)*

In the Bible, demons are never said to fall down before any person who merely can cast them out.

*“What do you want with us, Son of God?” they shouted. “**Have You come here to torture us before the appointed time?**” (Matthew 8:29)*

Who but God could torture demons at the end of time?