

“God is not a man, that He should lie, nor the son of man, that He should repent”
Numbers 23:19

“I will not execute My fierce anger...for I am God and not man...”
Hosea 11:9

“...For God is greater than man.”
Job 33:12

“Yet for us there is *but* one God, the Father, from whom are all things and we *exist* for Him...”
I Corinthians 8:6

“For there is one God, *and* one mediator also between God and men, *the* man Christ Jesus.”
I Timothy 2:5

“*There is* one body and one spirit, just as also you were called in one hope of your calling;
One Lord [Jesus], one faith,
one baptism,
One God and Father of all who is over all and through all and in all.”
Ephesians 4:4-6

**A man ran up to him and knelt before him and asked him, “Good teacher, what shall I do to inherit life in the age to come?” And Jesus said to him, “Why do you call me good? No one is good except God alone.”
—Mark 10:17-18**



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**DID JESUS
THINK HE
WAS GOD?**



JESUS IS THE SON OF GOD

Did Jesus think he was God? In order to answer this question, let's take a look at the words of Christ to see what he said on the subject. He said, "My Father is greater than all" (John 10:29). "My Father is greater than I" (John 14:28). If the Father is greater than His Son, could Jesus be equal to God? Jesus took it a little farther when he said, "The Son can do nothing of Himself" (John 5:19). The very source of Jesus' authority was from the Father (Matthew 28:18) not his own nature. In fact on one occasion, Jesus denied that he was God: "And Jesus said to him, 'Why do you call me good? No one is good except God alone'" (Mark 10:18). Jesus **never** referred to himself as God or a member of the Trinity. He knows exactly who he is—the **Son** of God.

The traditional view of Christ is that he is God in the flesh—he always existed as God—and one day, without ceasing from being God, also became man. Let's test this idea against the testimony of Scripture. Consider the following:

If Jesus is God then...

- ◆ How could he have a **beginning** (Matthew 1:18, Romans 1:3) when God has always existed (Isaiah 43:13)?
- ◆ How could he keep "**increasing in wisdom**" (Luke 2:52) when God's "understanding is infinite" (Psalms 147:5)?
- ◆ Why did he say, "I can do **nothing** on my own initiative" (John 5:30) while God "can do all things" (Job 42:2)?
- ◆ Why did he spend "the whole night in prayer to God" (Luke 6:12) when there is **never** a time when God prays, but only receives prayer from others?
- ◆ How could he **learn** obedience and **become perfect** (Hebrews 5:8 and 9), when God invented obedience and is already perfect (Matthew 5:48)?

◆ Why **doesn't he know** the day and hour when he will return, and yet his Father, God, does know (Matthew 24:36)?

◆ Why **didn't he know** who touched him (Mark 5:30), when God knows everything (Isaiah 46:10)?

◆ How could he be **tempted** by the devil (Matthew 4:1), when "God cannot be tempted by evil" (James 1:13)?

◆ How could he **die** (Philippians 2:8), if God "alone possesses immortality" (I Timothy 6:16)?

◆ Why should he be in **subjection** to the Father for all eternity (I Corinthians 15:28)?

◆ Why was he asleep on the cushion (Mark 4:38) when **God never sleeps** or slumbers (Psalm 121:4)?

Jesus was very clear on his relationship to God. He said, "He who overcomes, I will make him a pillar in the temple of **my God**, and he will not go out from it anymore; and I will write on him the name of **my God**, and the name of the city of **my God**, the new Jerusalem, which comes down out of heaven from **my God**, and my new name" (Revelation 3:12). Jesus has a God! He said to Mary, "I ascend to **my Father** and **your Father**, and **my God** and your God" (John 20:17). Mary and Jesus had the same God, the Father.

Jesus' own words do not seem to support the belief of most churches. We **must** allow Scripture to be our only source for truth.

Jesus **never** said that he was God or the second member of the Trinity. But if Jesus is not God, then how can you be saved? Salvation depends on believing that Jesus is the **Son** of God, not God the Son! In fact, when Jesus prayed to the Father he said, "This is eternal life, that they may know You, **the only true God**, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent" (John 17:3). Eternal life depends on knowing God the Father and believing Jesus to be the sent Christ.

Jesus is the only begotten Son of God and the greatest man to walk the face of the earth. He is the King, the Messiah, and the Lord that all must follow. He is the highest exalted person in the universe next to his Father. He perfectly submitted to and obeyed his Father's will. He said, "I did not speak on my own initiative, but the Father Himself Who sent me has given me a commandment *as to* what to say and what to speak...therefore the things I speak, **I speak just as the Father has told me**" (John 12:49 and 50). Jesus is our example, the model man for all of humanity.

Jesus came with the purpose of preaching the gospel of God's coming **Kingdom** (Luke 4:43), a future time when all that is wrong with the world will be made right. After completing his ministry of preaching, he died on **the cross** to pay for our sins. God raised him from the dead on the third day, which proved to all that Jesus was indeed the Christ, the Son of God (Romans 1:4). Forty days later he ascended to heaven and now sits at the right hand of God. He will come back and take over the nations of the world and rule on behalf of his Father (Psalms 2:8). God Almighty will exalt His obedient Son to the position of King over the earth forever (Daniel 7:13 and 14). You too can have a part in this bright future. **The followers of Christ will manage the Kingdom of God** (Daniel 7:27; I Corinthians 6:2; Revelation 2:26). Believe the good news about the Kingdom, realize that Jesus died for your sins, and repent of your sins. Today can be the beginning of your new life in Christ. Obey the words of God's man, Jesus, because they serve as the directions to the coming paradise on earth.

