

# CAN YOU BELIEVE IT? The Deity of Christ

**The Lord Jesus Christ is the eternal Son of God.**

## **John 1:1-4, 14 (NLT)**

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind.

14 The Word became human and made his home among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

## **Hebrews 1:1-3 (NIV)**

In the past God spoke to our ancestors through the prophets at many times and in various ways, but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, and through whom also he made the universe.

The Son is the radiance of God's glory and the exact representation of his being, sustaining all things by his powerful word. After he had provided purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty in heaven.

## **Colossians 1:13-20 (NLT)**

For he has rescued us from the kingdom of darkness and transferred us into the Kingdom of his dear Son, who purchased our freedom and forgave our sins.

Christ is the visible image of the invisible God. He existed before anything was created and is supreme over all creation, for through him God created everything in the heavenly realms and on earth.

He made the things we can see and the things we can't see—such as thrones, kingdoms, rulers, and authorities in the unseen world. Everything was created through him and for him. He existed before anything else, and he holds all creation together.

18 Christ is also the head of the church, which is his body. He is the beginning, supreme over all who rise from the dead. So he is first in everything.

19 For God in all his fullness was pleased to live in Christ, and through him God reconciled everything to himself. He made peace with everything in heaven and on earth by means of Christ's blood on the cross.

## **Philippians 2:5-11 (NIV)**

5 In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus:

6 Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage; rather, he made himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death—even death on a cross!

9 Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

## The Person of Jesus

- **Seven proofs that Jesus is Fully God:**

1. His Virgin birth.

### Isaiah 7:14 (NIV)

Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign: The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel.

### Luke 1:31-35 (NIV)

You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you are to call him Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over Jacob's descendants forever; his kingdom will never end."

"How will this be," Mary asked the angel, "since I am a virgin?" The angel answered, "The Holy Spirit will come on you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God.

2. His Sinless life.

### Hebrews 7:26 (NLT)

He is the kind of high priest we need because he is holy and blameless, unstained by sin. He has been set apart from sinners and has been given the highest place of honor in heaven.

### 1 Peter 2:22 (NLT)

He never sinned, nor ever deceived anyone.

3. His miracles.

### Acts 2:22 (CEV)

Now, listen to what I have to say about Jesus from Nazareth. God proved he sent Jesus to you by having him work miracles, wonders, and signs. All of you know this.

4. Jesus claimed deity.

### John 10:30-33, 36-38 (NLT)

30 The Father and I are one." 31 Once again the people picked up stones to kill him.

32 Jesus said, "At my Father's direction I have done many good works. For which one are you going to stone me?"

33 They replied, “We’re stoning you not for any good work, but for blasphemy! You, a mere man, claim to be God.”

36 why do you call it blasphemy when I say, ‘I am the Son of God’? After all, the Father set me apart and sent me into the world.

37 Don’t believe me unless I carry out my Father’s work. 38 But if I do his work, believe in the evidence of the miraculous works I have done, even if you don’t believe me. Then you will know and understand that the Father is in me, and I am in the Father.”

**John 14:9b** (NIV)

Jesus answered... “Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father.”

**John 8:56-59** (NLT)

56 Your father Abraham rejoiced as he looked forward to my coming. He saw it and was glad.”

57 The people said, “You aren’t even fifty years old. How can you say you have seen Abraham?”

58 Jesus answered, “I tell you the truth, before Abraham was even born, I am!” 59 At that point they picked up stones to throw at him. But Jesus was hidden from them and left the Temple.

## 5. Jesus accepts worship.

**Matthew 14:32** (NLT)

When they climbed back into the boat, the wind stopped. Then the disciples worshiped him. “You really are the Son of God!” they exclaimed.

**John 9:35b-38** (CEV)

Jesus asked, “Do you have faith in the Son of Man?” The man replied, “Sir, if you will tell me who he is, I will put my faith in him.”

“You have already seen him,” Jesus answered, “and right now he is talking with you.” The man said, “Lord, I put my faith in you!” Then he worshiped Jesus.

## 6. Jesus forgives sins.

**Mark 2:5-7** (NLT)

5 Seeing their faith, Jesus said to the paralyzed man, “My child, your sins are forgiven.”

6 But some of the teachers of religious law who were sitting there thought to themselves,  
7 “What is he saying? This is blasphemy! Only God can forgive sins!”

**Luke 7:48-49** (CEV)

Then Jesus said to the woman, “Your sins are forgiven.”

Some other guests started saying to one another, “Who is this who dares to forgive sins?” But Jesus told the woman, “Because of your faith, you are now saved. May Go in peace!”

## 7. Jesus's disciples recognized Christ's divinity.

### John 20:28-29 (NIV)

Thomas said to him, "My Lord and my God!" Then Jesus told him, "Because you have seen me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed."

### Titus 2:13 (CEV)

We are filled with hope, as we wait for the glorious return of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ.

- **Three proofs that Jesus is Fully Man:**

1. His human birth and development.

### Luke 2:39-40, 52 (NIV)

39 When Joseph and Mary had done everything required by the Law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee to their own town of Nazareth. 40 And the child grew and became strong; he was filled with wisdom, and the grace of God was on him.

52 And Jesus grew in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and man.

2. His human body and limitations.

### John 4:6 (CSB)

Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, worn out from his journey, sat down at the well. It was about noon.

### Mark 14:34 (NLT)

He told them, "My soul is crushed with grief to the point of death. Stay here and keep watch with me."

### 1 Peter 4:1 (NLT)

So then, since Christ suffered physical pain, you must arm yourselves with the same attitude he had, and be ready to suffer, too.

3. His human name.

## The Work of Jesus

- **The main reason Jesus came to earth as a man was to die.**

### Luke 9:22 (NLT)

"The Son of Man must suffer many terrible things," he said. "He will be rejected by the elders, the leading priests, and the teachers of religious law. He will be killed, but on the third day he will be raised from the dead."

### John 12:27 (NIV)

"Now my soul is troubled, and what shall I say? 'Father, save me from this hour'? No, it was for this very reason I came to this hour."

**1 Peter 2:24 (NCV)**

Christ carried our sins in his body on the cross so we would stop living for sin and start living for what is right. And you are healed because of his wounds.

- **Three evidences of Jesus's bodily resurrection are:**

1. The empty tomb.
2. The testimony of many witnesses.

**1 Corinthians 15:3-8 (NLT)**

I passed on to you what was most important and what had also been passed on to me. Christ died for our sins, just as the Scriptures said. He was buried, and he was raised from the dead on the third day, just as the Scriptures said.

5 He was seen by Peter and then by the Twelve. After that, he was seen by more than 500 of his followers at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have died. Then he was seen by James and later by all the apostles. Last of all, as though I had been born at the wrong time, I also saw him.

3. The disciples' changed lives.

- **The importance of Christ's resurrection:**

**1 Corinthians 15:17-18**

If Christ has not been raised, then your faith is useless and you are still guilty of your sins. In that case, all who have died believing in Christ are lost!

1. The resurrection proves that Jesus' death for our sins was effective.

**Romans 4:25 (NIV)**

He was delivered over to death for our sins and was raised to life for our justification.

2. Christ's resurrection guarantees our own future resurrection as believers.

**1 Corinthians 15:22-23 (NLT)**

Just as everyone dies because we all belong to Adam, everyone who belongs to Christ will be given new life. 23 But there is an order to this resurrection: Christ was raised as the first of the harvest; then all who belong to Christ will be raised when he comes back.

- **After his resurrection, Jesus returned to heaven in His humanity and now sits at the right hand of God in the position of power, honor, and glory.**

## Christ's exaltation resulted in three benefits for His people:

### 1. The baptism in the Holy Spirit.

**John 14:16-17** (NIV)

I will ask the Father, and he will give you another advocate to help you and be with you forever—the Spirit of truth.

**Acts 2:32-33** (NLT)

“God raised Jesus from the dead, and we are all witnesses of this. Now he is exalted to the place of highest honor in heaven, at God’s right hand. And the Father, as he had promised, gave him the Holy Spirit to pour out upon us, just as you see and hear today.”

### 2. The assurance that Jesus is preparing a place for us.

**John 14:2-3** (NLT)

“There is more than enough room in my Father’s home. If this were not so, would I have told you that I am going to prepare a place for you? When everything is ready, I will come and get you, so that you will always be with me where I am.”

### 3. The truth that Jesus is now at the Father’s right hand, interceding for us.

**Romans 8:34** (NLT)

Who then will condemn us? No one—for Christ Jesus died for us and was raised to life for us, and he is sitting in the place of honor at God’s right hand, pleading for us.