



John 1:1-18 – Is Jesus Really God?

ADAMLONG | Week of October 14th, 2018

SERMON OVERVIEW // This week we continued in our seven week series **exploreGod** by taking a look at the fifth question: **Is Jesus Really God?**

INTRODUCTION // A few things distinguish Christianity from other religions. One such thing is that our leader, our messiah claimed to be God. This leaves us, as John Duncan formulated in a “trilemma” meaning Jesus was either a deceiver, Himself descended, or He was Divine.

SERMON TEXT // John 1:1-18 - In the Gospel of John he explicitly claims and proclaims that Jesus is not only the Son of God but is also God. Leading to the question: *How can Jesus be the Son of God and God simultaneously?*

Doctrine of the Trinity: **God is one unique essence**
and three distinct persons = **GOD** the Father **GOD** the Son **GOD** the Holy Spirit

John 1:1 shows that Jesus **existed** with God, that He has had a **relationship** with God, and has **identified** as God from the very beginning. Jesus is the Word (Grk. *Logos*) of God and is God!

In addition to John's testimony of Christ's deity in John 1 the Old Testament confirms this same truth:

- [1] **Genesis 3:15** – God promises to send a Redeemer after the fall in the Garden of Eden. **God's words speaks truth about God's Word.**
- [2] **Isaiah 7:14** – God promises Himself. *Immanuel* means "God with Us".
- [3] **Isaiah 53 (vv.4-6)** - A beautiful picture of a gruesome death. Words that can only be spoken of things God is capable of doing.

On top of John's testimony and the prophecies of the Old Testament - Jesus also made definitive claims of His own divinity:

- “I am the bread of life”** - John 6:35, 48, 51 – nourishing and satisfying
- “I am the light of the world”** - John 8:12; 9:5 – knowledge and purity
- “I am the door of the sheep”** - John 10:7, 9 – entrance and acceptance
- “I am the good shepherd”** - John 10:11, 14 – provision and protection
- “I am the resurrection and the life”** - John 11:25 – earthly and eternal
- “I am the way, the truth, and the life”** - John 14:6 – narrow and gracious
- “I am the true vine”** - John 15:1 – purpose and connection

GOSPEL // The physicality of His humanity, the necessity of His death, and the certainty of His resurrection from the grave are waypoints to the truth that **Jesus really is God**. In sending Jesus God reminds us He will not settle to send anything less than His best to overcome our worst.



Discussion Questions – Is Jesus Really God?

COMMUNITYGROUPS

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Question 1

If you were at church Sunday or were able to catch the sermon online this week - what was something that resonated with you? What was something you wrote down from the sermon?

Question 2

150 years ago Pastor John Duncan presented what he called the "trilemma" which says "Christ either deceived mankind by conscious fraud, or He was Himself deluded and self-deceived, or He was Divine. There is no getting out of this trilemma. It is inexorable." **Who did you say Jesus was before you became a Christ-follower, if you are a believer today?**

Question 3

Read **John 1:1-18** together. John points directly to Jesus being the Son of God as well as God. The Doctrine of the Trinity states **God is one unique essence and three distinct persons**. **Do you personally find it encouraging or discouraging that we may never fully understand the nature of God?** Briefly share with the group.

Question 4

Sunday we looked at three Old Testament prophecies that pointed to Jesus and His divinity. Let's read them together: **Genesis 3:15, Isaiah 7:14, and Isaiah 53:4-6**. **After reading these which one personally impacts your knowledge that Jesus really is God?** Briefly share with the group.

Question 5

We also looked into the words of Christ Himself from John's Gospel in which He clearly identified Himself as God. Using the **Sermon Overview** – let's read through the seven "I am" statements Jesus made together. **Which of these statements resonates with you the most concerning Jesus being God in your own life? And which one is begging you to spend more time thinking about this coming week?** Briefly share your answers with the group.

Question 6

In sending Jesus **God reminds us He will not settle for anything less than sending His best to overcome our worst**. In sending Jesus God sent Himself. We have the undeserved privilege to proclaim **Jesus Really is God** as individual believers, as a community group, and as a church. **Who has God placed in your circle of influence that we can begin praying for as He opens the door for you to share the truth of the gospel with them?**