



Christ's Deity in the New Testament

Let's begin by looking at what some of the rest of the New Testament says about the deity of the Son. As with the topics we covered last week, we will have to be selective so we will just look at Paul, Peter, and John.

Paul

Romans 1:1–4. The two inner clauses are

1. Who was descended from David according to the flesh.
2. [Who] was declared to be the Son of God in power according to the Spirit of holiness by his resurrection from the dead.

Romans 9:5

To them belong the patriarchs, and of their race, according to the flesh, is the Christ. God who is over all be blessed for ever. Amen. (Romans 9:5 RSV)

Titus 2:11–13

There are five reasons why Titus 2:13 should be understood as referring to one person, Christ, who is God.

1. According to Greek scholars it the most natural way to render the Greek sentence.
2. The two nouns, God and Savior, are preceded by a single definite article. In other words, if Paul meant two different people he could have written "our great God and our Savior Jesus Christ."
3. This verse says there will be an appearing. Appearing never refers to God the Father but only to the return of the Son in glory.
4. In the second and first century B.C. the words "god" and "savior" were used in combination in pagan literature to refer to a single deity. Now Paul is pointing the Gentiles to the true God and Savior, found in Christ.
5. Other Pauline usages of God (*Theos* in Greek) show consistent usage with references to Christ, such as we just saw in Romans 9:5.

Colossians 1:15–20

It is clear that Paul understands that Christ is God. The rest of this passage confirms this.

1. The Son exists before all things.
2. God created all things "in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities" by the Son, through the Son, and for the Son.
3. All things depend upon the Son for their continued existence. Verse 17 says, "in him all things hold together."
4. Jesus is called the "firstborn of all creation." This does not refer to chronology, but in the Hebraic sense of rank.



Colossians 2:9

Peter

The Gospels

Luke 5:4–8

John 6:66–69

Luke 4:33–34

Isaiah 43:10

Matthew 16:14–16

John 6:44–45

Matthew 11:25–27

Pentecost Sermon

Acts 2:36

1. The fact that Jesus ascended to the Father and is seated at the Father’s right hand testifies to his divinity.
2. It was the ascended Jesus who sent the Holy Spirit in power. Acts 2:17, 33
3. Jesus has the authority to apply salvation and judgment by the Spirit to whomever he pleases. Acts 2:38, 21

1 Peter

Peter refers to Jesus as “the Christ.”

1 Peter 1:20 – Christ existed before the foundation of the world and is now manifested in the last times.

1 Peter 1:1–2

1 Peter 1:10–11



Three times Peter refers to Old Testament passages in which Yahweh is the subject and applies those passages to Jesus. 1 Peter 2:2–3; Psalm 34:8

1 Peter 2:6-8; Isaiah 28:16; Psalm 118:22; Isaiah 8:14b.

1 Peter 3:14-15; 8:12-13

1 Peter 2:25; 5:4; Isaiah 40:11; Jeremiah 3:15; Psalm 23:1

2 Peter

Peter refers to Jesus as “Jesus Christ,” “Lord,” “the Lord and Savior,” “our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ,” and “our God and Savior Jesus Christ.” Titus 2:13; John 20:28; Hebrews 1:8

Peter describes Jesus as “our God,” and he is the source, along with the Father, of grace and peace. 2 Peter 1:11, 16; 3:10, 12, 18

John

John 1:1

John 1:18

John 20:28

1 John 5:20

Revelation 5:11-14

Revelation 19:11-16

God as a Title of Christ

1. In John 20:28, one week after the resurrection of Jesus, Thomas worships Jesus with the exclamation, “My Lord and my God!”
2. In Romans 9:5 Paul says Jesus “is the Christ, who is God over all, blessed forever.”
3. Paul speaks of Jesus in Titus 2:13 as “our great God and Savior.”
4. When Paul gave his farewell address to the Ephesians he says in Acts 20:28, “Pay careful attention to yourselves and to all the flock, in which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to care for the church of God, which he obtained with his own blood.”
5. In 2 Peter 1:1 Peter calls Jesus “our God and Savior Jesus Christ.”
6. Hebrews 1:8 refers to the Son as God.



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7. John 1:1 says, “In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God,” and then John 1:14 adds, “And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.”
 8. At the close of his prologue John writes in John 1:18, “No one has ever seen God; the only God, who is at the Father's side, he [Jesus] has made him known.”
 9. In 1 John 5:20 we read that Jesus “is the true God and eternal life.”

Conclusion

Matthew 17:1–8

2 Peter 1:16–21