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“Jesus is God”

[John 10:22-33](#)

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There are a lot of views and opinions in the world about who Jesus is. Many world religions say that He was a prophet, or a great teacher, or an enlightened man—but the best way we can understand the identity of Jesus is to examine His words and His works in the Bible—who He said He was and what He did to prove His identity. Jesus taught us plainly that He is God, but we may not understand it if we don’t know the language and context behind His words and works.

1. [John 10:22-33](#) – *“Now it was the Feast of Dedication in Jerusalem, and it was winter. And Jesus walked in the temple, in Solomon’s porch. Then the Jews surrounded Him and said to Him, ‘How long do You keep us in doubt? If You are the Christ, tell us plainly.’ Jesus answered them, ‘I told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in My Father’s name, they bear witness of Me. But you do not believe, because you are not of My sheep, as I said to you. My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me. And I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; neither shall anyone snatch them out of My hand. My Father, who has given them to Me, is greater than all; and no one is able to snatch them out of My Father’s hand. I and My Father are one.’ Then the Jews took up stones again to stone Him. Jesus answered them, ‘Many good works I have shown you from My Father. For which of those works do you stone Me?’ The Jews answered Him, saying, ‘For a good work we do not stone You, but for blasphemy, and because You, being a Man, make Yourself God.’”*
 - a. Jesus said plainly that He was God, but the Jews did not believe Him
 - b. Jesus stated that they did not listen to Him because they did not belong to Him, and that they did not belong to Him because they did not believe in Him
 - c. They had already dismissed Jesus; they did not have open minds about who He was
 - i. [Hebrews 11:6](#) – *“But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.”*

- d. Faith starts with the premise that God is who He says He is; knowing Christ starts with an open heart
2. Two questions for the skeptic to consider
 - a. Are you at least open to believe that Jesus is who He said He is?
 - b. Who did Jesus say He is?
 - i. Jesus claimed to be God
 - ii. [John 10:25-27](#) - *"Jesus answered them, 'I told you, and you do not believe. **The works** that I do in My Father's name, they bear witness of Me. But you do not believe, because you are not of My sheep, as I said to you. My sheep **hear My voice**, and I know them, and they follow Me.'"* (emphasis added)
 - iii. Jesus asserted that the works He did and the words He spoke prove who He is
3. What do the words and works of Jesus prove about Him? That Jesus is God!
 - a. Jesus' words
 - i. He declared that He is God in plain terms when He said, *"I and My Father are one."*
 1. *One* in the Greek is **hen**, which translates to "one in essence and nature"
 2. [Deuteronomy 6:4](#) - *"Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one!"*
 3. [Zechariah 14:9](#) - *"And the LORD shall be King over all the earth. In that day it shall be—'The LORD is one and His name one.'"*
 - ii. The people of Jesus' day clearly understood that He was professing Himself to be God, which is why they took up stones to stone Him; they believed He had committed blasphemy
 1. [John 10:33](#) - *"The Jews answered Him, saying, 'For a good work we do not stone You, but for blasphemy, and because You, being a Man, make Yourself God.'"*
 2. [John 10:33](#) - *"'We are not stoning you for any of these,' replied the Jews, 'but for blasphemy, because you, a mere man, claim to be God.'"* (1984 NIV)
 3. [John 10:33](#) - *"They replied, 'We're stoning you not for any good work, but for blasphemy! You, a mere man, claim to be God.'"* (NLT)
 - iii. Similar conversations
 1. [John 8:54-59](#) - *"Jesus answered, 'If I honor Myself, My honor is nothing. It is My Father who honors Me, of whom you say that He is your God. Yet you have not known Him, but I know Him. And if I say, 'I do not know Him,' I shall be a liar like you; but I do know Him and keep His word. Your father Abraham rejoiced to*

see My day, and he saw it and was glad.’ Then the Jews said to Him, ‘You are not yet fifty years old, and have You seen Abraham?’ Jesus said to them, ‘Most assuredly, I say to you, before Abraham was, I AM.’ Then they took up stones to throw at Him; but Jesus hid Himself and went out of the temple, going through the midst of them, and so passed by.”

- a. Jesus used the same language as God did when speaking with Moses at the burning bush in Exodus 3 when He referred to Himself as “I AM.”

- 2. **John 14:1-11** – *“Let not your heart be troubled; you believe in God, believe also in Me. In My Father’s house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, there you may be also. And where I go you know, and the way you know.’ Thomas said to Him, ‘Lord, we do not know where You are going, and how can we know the way?’ Jesus said to him, ‘I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me. If you had known Me, you would have known My Father also; and from now on you know Him and have seen Him.’ Philip said to Him, ‘Lord, show us the Father, and it is sufficient for us.’ Jesus said to him, ‘Have I been with you so long, and yet you have not known Me, Philip? He who has seen Me has seen the Father; so how can you say, “Show us the Father?” Do you not believe that I am in the Father, and the Father in Me? The words that I speak to you I do not speak on My own authority; but the Father who dwells in Me does the works. Believe Me that I am in the Father and the Father in Me, or else believe Me for the sake of the works themselves.”*

b. Jesus’ works

- i. Jesus performed miracles and healed people primarily to prove that He is God

- 1. While he was in prison, John the Baptist struggled with doubt regarding Jesus’ divinity
 - a. **Matthew 11:3-5** – *“Are you the Messiah we’ve been expecting, or should we keep looking for someone else?’ Jesus told them, ‘Go back to John and tell him what you have heard and seen—the blind see, the lame walk, the lepers are cured, the deaf hear, the dead are raised to life, and the Good News is being preached to the poor.”* (NLT)
- 2. **Psalms 107:29** – “He calms the storm, so that its waves are still.”

4. The Son of God

- a. [Hebrews 1:3](#) - *"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."* (1984 NIV)
- b. There is one God, but He reveals Himself in three personalities/persons
 - i. As light through a prism refracts itself into different colors, so God refracts Himself into the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit
- c. Divinity wrapped Himself in humanity as the Son of God to die for all humanity, and He rose from the dead
- d. [John 1:12](#) - *"But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name."*

Discussion Questions

1. Read [John 10:22-33](#) to provide a foundation for your Bible study time.
2. Why didn't the people believe that Jesus was God? (See #1b and #1c above)
3. Where does faith start? (See #1d above)
4. Who did Jesus claim to be? (See #2b above)
5. Read [Deuteronomy 6:4](#) and [Zechariah 14:9](#). What is the significance of Jesus' statement, *"I and My Father are one?"* (See #3a-i above)
6. How do we know that the Jews understood that Jesus was claiming to be God? (See #3a-ii above)
7. Read [Matthew 11:3-5](#). Why did Jesus perform miracles? (See #3b-i above)
8. Read [Hebrews 1:3](#). Do you ever find the Trinity difficult to understand? What do the three persons of the Trinity reveal to us about the nature of God? (See #4a and #4b above)
9. Why did Jesus choose to come as a man and die on the cross? (See #4c and #4d above)
10. Close your meeting by allowing the Holy Spirit to lead your time of prayer.

* Unless noted, all Scriptures quoted are from the New King James Version (NKJV)