

Messenger Of Truth

"Holding forth the Word of Life" (Phil. 2:16).

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Who Is Jesus Called Christ?

When Jesus came into the region of Caesarea Philippi, He asked His disciples, saying, "Who do men say that I, the Son of Man, am?" So they said, "Some say John the Baptist, some Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets." He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" (Matt. 16:13-15, NKJV).

It is astonishing at the level of ignorance of man concerning Christ. Some have thought that Jesus is His first name, and Christ his last name, not knowing that Christ means, "The anointed of God". And there are proclamations made twice a year that He is the Son of God (John 3:16). But when it comes to His deity, they are woefully ignorant.

Even within the body of Christ, our own brethren wrestle with the answer as to the nature of our Lord. If a question were asked, "Is Jesus God?" I fear that too many wouldn't know how to answer.

The apostle John forthrightly proclaims, "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God" (John 1:1). "And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth" (John 1:14). Jesus is openly declared by the apostle John to be God.

In the apostle Paul's letter to the church at Colossae, he gives us a greater understanding of the Christ when he writes, "For in Him dwells all the fullness of the Godhead bodily" (Col. 2:9). If there were any doubt as to His deity, this clearly reveals that He possesses the fullness or completeness of God.

Even the Father Himself speaks of Jesus as deity, "But to the Son He says: "Your throne, O God, is forever and ever; A scepter of righteousness is the scepter of Your kingdom" (Heb. 1:8). This is one of the most profound statements in all of Scripture, as the Father plainly acknowledges Christ to be God.

Jesus shares with the Father, and with the Holy Spirit, the nature or characteristics that clearly define deity, such as, eternal, infallible, patient, loving, pure, holy, all knowing, possessing foreknowledge, all seeing, sovereign in power, unchangeable, merciful, just, etc.

Our Lord even made statements that professed His deity. "Therefore My Father loves Me, because I lay down My life that I may take it again" (John 10:17).

"Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live. And whoever lives and believes in Me shall never die. Do you believe this?" (John 11:25-26).

May we resolve in our teaching and preaching to present the true nature of the Christ.