

## Doctrine 48 [Part 5: Redemption | Doctrine 2]: Jesus' Deity

### From the 99 Essential Doctrines Book

Within the person of Jesus Christ, there are two natures—the divine nature and the human nature. Scripture teaches He is fully divine and fully human. His divinity is on display in passages that describe Him as being equal with God (John 1:1-18; Phil. 2:5-11; Col. 1:15-20; Heb. 1:1-3). The New Testament also points to the deity of Christ by showing how He possesses attributes that God alone possesses (Mic. 5:2; John 1:4), how He performs works that only God performs (Mark 2:5-12; John 10:28; 17:2), and how He Himself claims to be the Son of God (Matt. 26:63-64; John 8:58; 10:30; 17:5).

### From the Bible

#### John 1:1–18 (NKJV)

- 1** In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.
- 2** He was in the beginning with God.
- 3** All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made.
- 4** In Him was life, and the life was the light of men.
- 5** And the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it.
- 6** There was a man sent from God, whose name was John.
- 7** This man came for a witness, to bear witness of the Light, that all through him might believe.
- 8** He was not that Light, but was sent to bear witness of that Light.
- 9** That was the true Light which gives light to every man coming into the world.
- 10** He was in the world, and the world was made through Him, and the world did not know Him.
- 11** He came to His own, and His own did not receive Him.
- 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:
- 13** who were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.
- 14** 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.
- 15** John bore witness of Him and cried out, saying, "This was He of whom I said, 'He who comes after me is preferred before me, for He was before me.' "
- 16** And of His fullness we have all received, and grace for grace.
- 17** For the law was given through Moses, but grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.
- 18** No one has seen God at any time. The only begotten Son, who is in the bosom of the Father, He has declared Him.

**Philippians 2:5–11 (NKJV)**

**5** Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus,  
**6** who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God,  
**7** but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, and coming in the likeness of men.  
**8** And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross.  
**9** Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name,  
**10** that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth,  
**11** and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

**Colossians 1:15–20 (NKJV)**

**15** He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation.  
**16** For by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. All things were created through Him and for Him.  
**17** And He is before all things, and in Him all things consist.  
**18** And He is the head of the body, the church, who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in all things He may have the preeminence.  
**19** For it pleased the Father that in Him all the fullness should dwell,  
**20** and by Him to reconcile all things to Himself, by Him, whether things on earth or things in heaven, having made peace through the blood of His cross.

**Hebrews 1:1–3 (NKJV)**

**1** God, who at various times and in various ways spoke in time past to the fathers by the prophets,  
**2** has in these last days spoken to us by His Son, whom He has appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the worlds;  
**3** who being the brightness of His glory and the express image of His person, and upholding all things by the word of His power, when He had by Himself purged our sins, sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high,

**Micah 5:2 (NKJV)**

**2** "But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, Though you are little among the thousands of Judah, Yet out of you shall come forth to Me The One to be Ruler in Israel, Whose goings forth are from of old, From everlasting."

**John 1:4 (NKJV)**

**4** In Him was life, and the life was the light of men.

**Mark 2:5–12 (NKJV)**

**5** When Jesus saw their faith, He said to the paralytic, "Son, your sins are forgiven you."

**6** And some of the scribes were sitting there and reasoning in their hearts,

**7** "Why does this Man speak blasphemies like this? Who can forgive sins but God alone?"

**8** But immediately, when Jesus perceived in His spirit that they reasoned thus within themselves, He said to them, "Why do you reason about these things in your hearts?"

**9** Which is easier, to say to the paralytic, 'Your sins are forgiven you,' or to say, 'Arise, take up your bed and walk'?

**10** But that you may know that the Son of Man has power on earth to forgive sins"—He said to the paralytic,

**11** "I say to you, arise, take up your bed, and go to your house."

**12** Immediately he arose, took up the bed, and went out in the presence of them all, so that all were amazed and glorified God, saying, "We never saw anything like this!"

**John 10:28 (NKJV)**

**28** And I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; neither shall anyone snatch them out of My hand.

**John 17:2 (NKJV)**

**2** as You have given Him authority over all flesh, that He should give eternal life to as many as You have given Him.

**Matthew 26:63–64 (NKJV)**

**63** But Jesus kept silent. And the high priest answered and said to Him, "I put You under oath by the living God: Tell us if You are the Christ, the Son of God!"

**64** Jesus said to him, "It is as you said. Nevertheless, I say to you, hereafter you will see the Son of Man sitting at the right hand of the Power, and coming on the clouds of heaven."

**John 8:58 (NKJV)**

**58** Jesus said to them, "Most assuredly, I say to you, before Abraham was, I AM."

**John 10:30 (NKJV)**

**30** I and My Father are one."

**John 17:5 (NKJV)**

**5** And now, O Father, glorify Me together with Yourself, with the glory which I had with You before the world was.

### **John 8:54–59 (NKJV)**

**54** 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.

**55** 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.

**56** Your father Abraham rejoiced to see My day, and he saw it and was glad."

**57** Then the Jews said to Him, "You are not yet fifty years old, and have You seen Abraham?"

**58** Jesus said to them, "Most assuredly, I say to you, before Abraham was, I AM."

**59** 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.

### **Exodus 3:14 (NKJV)**

**14** And God said to Moses, "I AM WHO I AM." And He said, "Thus you shall say to the children of Israel, 'I AM has sent me to you.' "

## **Key Thoughts**

It is, generally speaking, easy to see Jesus as human.

It is harder to see Jesus as God

It is hardest to see Jesus as human and divine simultaneously with neither a mixture or a dilution of His natures. But that is who He is and how He is presented in Scripture.

## **Additional Thought**

**Hypostatic Union.** The union of the Divine and human natures in the One Person ('Hypostasis') of Jesus Christ. The doctrine was elaborated by St \*Cyril of Alexandria and formally accepted by the Church in the Definition of \*Chalcedon (451).

Cross, F. L., & Livingstone, E. A., eds. (2005). In *The Oxford dictionary of the Christian Church* (3rd ed. rev., p. 818). Oxford University Press.

The unity of Christ is the doctrine that Jesus, although he possesses two distinct and complete natures—he is simultaneously fully God and fully man—is nevertheless one integral person, God the Son incarnate.

## **Additional Resources**

### **99 in :99 Youtube Video**

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=puCUzRG1x6g&list=PLAGNHMc-\\_AE32AUMCuipgFaxj5il8Lr9X&index=2](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=puCUzRG1x6g&list=PLAGNHMc-_AE32AUMCuipgFaxj5il8Lr9X&index=2)

### **99 Essentials Booklet**

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