

Deity of Christ

1. What do the following passages teach concerning Jesus' role as the Creator/Sustainer?

- **John 1:1-4 HCSB** In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. (2) He was with God in the beginning. (3) All things were created through Him, and apart from Him not one thing was created that has been created. (4) Life was in Him, and that life was the light of men.
- **John 1:12 HCSB** But to all who did receive Him, He gave them the right to be children of God, to those who believe in His name,
- **Colossians 1:15-17 HCSB** He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation; (16) because by Him everything was created, in heaven and on earth, the visible and the invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities--all things have been created through Him and for Him. (17) He is before all things, and by Him all things hold together.
- **Hebrews 1:3 HCSB** He is the radiance of His glory, the exact expression of His nature, and He sustains all things by His powerful word. After making purification for sins, He sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high.

Derashot:

- a. He created all things in the universe.*
- b. He created life.*
- c. He continues to grant life to those who believe in Him.*
- d. He created all things in heaven.*
- e. He created all the angels and spiritual beings.*
- f. He continues to support or sustain their existence.*
- g. All this was done "by His powerful Word".*

Compare this to:

- **Genesis 1:3 HCSB** Then God said, "Let there be light," and there was light.

Jesus is our King, and the Teacher had this to say about a king's word.

- **Ecclesiastes 8:4 HCSB** For the king's word is authoritative, and who can say to him, "What are you doing?"

If one cannot countermand the authority of a sovereign king, how much more a divine, omnipotent King?

- **2 Corinthians 4:6-7 HCSB** For God, who said, "Light shall shine out of darkness"--He has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of God's glory in the face of Jesus Christ. (7) Now we have this treasure in clay jars, so that this extraordinary power may be from God and not from us.

As Jesus is God dwelling among us, is the image of the invisible God, is God in flesh, so we (in a very limited sense) can be the embodiment of divine power. As Christ kept directing the gaze of His audience away from Himself and back toward the Father, so we too should use that power to demonstrate the glory of God.

- **Matthew 5:16 HCSB** In the same way, let your light shine before men, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.

2. Jesus demonstrated His deity by the manifestation of His power and attributes. He controlled the elements, diseases, death, etc. (Luke 8:22-25; Matthew 12:22-23; Luke 4:33; John 11:43-44)

How did Jesus control the elements?

He calmed wind and the waves generated by a windstorm (Luke 8:22-25).

How did Jesus control diseases?

He cured blindness and muteness. (Matthew 12:22-23) He cast out demons (Luke 4:33, 38-39)

How did Jesus control death?

He resurrected the dead. (John 11:43) and personally resurrected. (Matthew 28; Mark 16; Luke 24; John 20)

3. How can Jesus Christ meet the needs in your life by knowing these facts?

When we are caught in the storms of life, it's easy to think that God has lost control and that we are at the mercy of our circumstances. The truth of the matter is that God retains His sovereignty. He controls everything both on the large scale and the small. As Jesus calmed the wind and the waves so He can calm our circumstances and bring us safely through them to the other side.

We each must grapple with Jesus' challenge:

- **John 11:25-26 HCSB** Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in Me, even if he dies, will live. (26) Everyone who lives and believes in Me will never die--ever. Do you believe this?"

4. What aspect of God did Jesus show in Matthew 18:20; 28:20?

- **Matthew 18:20 HCSB** For where two or three are gathered together in My name, I am there among them."
- **Matthew 28:20 HCSB** teaching them to observe everything I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

He demonstrated His unique connection to the Trinity. Through the Spirit, Jesus is aware of every conversation we have. When we gather in His name, the Godhead becomes present in a way that somehow is intrinsically different from the usual omnipresence.

What these verses do NOT demonstrate is His personal, physical, corporeal, immanent, omnipresence. That would be a fundamental contradiction by every definition! By every account, every appearance of the Son, whether pre-Nazarene or post-resurrection, depicts a limited, corporeal nature.

- **John 1:14 HCSB** The Word became flesh and took up residence among us. We observed His glory, the glory as the One and Only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.
- **Colossians 2:9 HCSB** For in Him the entire fullness of God's nature dwells bodily,
- **1 Timothy 2:5 HCSB** For there is one God and one mediator between God and man, a man, Christ Jesus,

- **Acts 7:55-56 HCSB** But Stephen, filled by the Holy Spirit, gazed into heaven. He saw God's glory, with Jesus standing at the right hand of God, and he said, (56) "Look! I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!"
- **Revelation 1:10-18 HCSB** I was in the Spirit on the Lord's day, and I heard behind me a loud voice like a trumpet (11) saying, "**Write on a scroll what you see and send it to the seven churches: Ephesus, Smyrna, Pergamum, Thyatira, Sardis, Philadelphia, and Laodicea.**" (12) I turned to see the voice that was speaking to me. When I turned I saw seven gold lampstands, (13) and among the lampstands was One like the Son of Man, dressed in a long robe, and with a gold sash wrapped around His chest. (14) His head and hair were white like wool--white as snow, His eyes like a fiery flame, (15) His feet like fine bronze fired in a furnace, and His voice like the sound of cascading waters. (16) In His right hand He had seven stars; from His mouth came a sharp two-edged sword; and His face was shining like the sun at midday. (17) When I saw Him, I fell at His feet like a dead man. He laid His right hand on me, and said, "**Don't be afraid! I am the First and the Last, (18) and the Living One. I was dead, but look--I am alive forever and ever, and I hold the keys of death and Hades.**"

Jesus' human nature is not omnipresent. But, his divine nature is. However, it is the one person of Christ who shares both natures (communicatio idiomatum) and it is the one person who is omnipresent.

5. What aspect of God did Jesus show in John 16:30; 1:48?

- **John 1:48 HCSB** "How do you know me?" Nathanael asked. "**Before Philip called you, when you were under the fig tree, I saw you,**" Jesus answered.
- **John 2:24-25 HCSB** Jesus, however, would not entrust Himself to them, since He knew them all (25) and because He did not need anyone to testify about man; for He Himself knew what was in man.
- **John 16:30 HCSB** Now we know that You know everything and don't need anyone to question You. By this we believe that You came from God."
- **Luke 5:22 HCSB** But perceiving their thoughts, Jesus replied to them, "**Why are you reasoning this in your hearts?**"

He demonstrated miraculous knowledge and insight. However, once again, due to His humanity, there are some limits. God's omniscience is part and parcel with His omnipresence. God the Father and God the Spirit even know more than God the Son.

- **Matthew 24:36 HCSB** "Now concerning that day and hour no one knows--neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son--except the Father only.
- **1 Corinthians 2:11 HCSB** For who among men knows the concerns of a man except the spirit of the man that is in him? In the same way, no one knows the concerns of God except the Spirit of God.

6. What aspect of God did Jesus show in Matthew 28:18; Colossians 1:16?

- **Matthew 28:18 HCSB** Then Jesus came near and said to them, "**All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth.**"
- **Colossians 1:16 HCSB** because by Him everything was created, in heaven and on earth, the visible and the invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities--all things have been created through Him and for Him.

Authority

- **Philippians 2:9-11 HCSB** For this reason God also highly exalted Him and gave Him the name that is above every name, (10) so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow--of those who are in heaven and on earth and under the earth-- (11) and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.
- **Hebrews 1:8 HCSB** but about the Son: **Your throne, O God, is forever and ever, and the scepter of Your kingdom is a scepter of justice.**
- **Hebrews 1:13 HCSB** Now to which of the angels has He ever said: **Sit at My right hand until I make Your enemies Your footstool?**

7. Examine the following names of God and comment on the light each sheds on Jesus' deity.

- **Matthew 16:16 HCSB** Simon Peter answered, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God!"
Name: *Son of the Living God*
Deity shown:
- **Matthew 22:43-45 HCSB** He asked them, "How is it then that David, inspired by the Spirit, calls Him 'Lord': (44) **The Lord declared to my Lord, 'Sit at My right hand until I put Your enemies under Your feet'?** (45) "If David calls Him 'Lord,' how then can the Messiah be his Son"
- **Acts 2:36 HCSB** "Therefore let all the house of Israel know with certainty that God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Messiah!"
Name: *Lord*
Deity shown:
- **Hebrews 1:8 HCSB** but about the Son: **Your throne, O God, is forever and ever, and the scepter of Your kingdom is a scepter of justice.**
- **Philippians 2:6 HCSB** who, existing in the form of God, did not consider equality with God as something to be used for His own advantage.
- **Matthew 1:22-23 HCSB** Now all this took place to fulfill what was spoken by the Lord through the prophet: (23) **See, the virgin will become pregnant and give birth to a son, and they will name Him Immanuel,** which is translated "God is with us."
Name: *Immanuel, God with us*
Deity shown:
- **Revelation 19:16 HCSB** And on His robe and on His thigh He has a name written: KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS
- **1 Timothy 6:14-15 HCSB** to keep the commandment without spot or blame until the appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ, (15) which God will bring about in His own time. *He is* the blessed and only Sovereign, the King of kings, and the Lord of lords,
Name: *King of kings and Lord of lords*
Deity shown:
- **Revelation 1:8 HCSB** "I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, "the One who is, who was, and who is coming, the Almighty."

- Revelation 22:13 HCSB I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last, the Beginning and the End.
- Revelation 22:16 HCSB "I, Jesus, have sent My angel to attest these things to you for the churches. I am the Root and the Offspring of David, the Bright Morning Star."

Note: *We see who is Alpha and Omega – it is Jesus, the only one who can simultaneously be the root and the offspring of David.*

Name: *Alpha and Omega*

Deity shown:

- Exodus 3:14 HCSB God replied to Moses, "I AM WHO I AM. This is what you are to say to the Israelites: I AM has sent me to you."
- John 8:56-59 HCSB Your father Abraham was overjoyed that he would see My day; he saw it and rejoiced." (57) The Jews replied, "You aren't 50 years old yet, and You've seen Abraham?" (58) Jesus said to them, "I assure you: Before Abraham was, I am." (59) At that, they picked up stones to throw at Him. But Jesus was hidden and went out of the temple complex.

Note: *the notation John 8:24, 10 in the student worksheet is an error. It should read John 8:56-59*

Name: *I AM*

Deity shown: *Not only did Jesus say that he existed before Abraham, he also applied God's holy name I AM to himself. Jesus answers them, "prin abraam genesthai ego eimi." Literally, "Before Abraham was existing, I am." "Ego eimi" is plainly, "I am. Jesus clearly identified his position of his pre-existence in John 8:58. This claim demands a response. It cannot be ignored.*

8. Identify the witnesses to Jesus' deity in the following passages:

- Matthew 4:6-7; 26:63-64; John 4:25-26
Jesus Himself
- John 1:15, 23, 30, 34
John the Baptist
- John 20:28-29; Matthew 16:16; 1 Corinthians 15:3-8
The disciples
- Luke 1:35; 2:11
Angels
- Matthew 3:16-17; 17:5
God the Father and the Spirit

9. Who called Jesus Christ the Son of the Living God? (Matthew 16:16)

Simon Peter

10. Who called Jesus Lord?

Matthew 22:43-45

Jesus

Acts 2:36

Peter

11. Jesus Christ has a throne and is called God in Hebrews 1:8. How long will His throne last?

Forever and ever

12. Jesus, who “existed in the form of ___ *God* ___” (Philippians 2:6)

13. What does the name Immanuel mean? (Matthew 1:22-23)

God with us.

14. Revelation 19:16 and 1 Timothy 6:14-15 says that Jesus Christ is the King of Kings and the Lord of Lords. What is the historical context of such a powerful statement?

- **1 Timothy 6:14-15 HCSB** to keep the commandment without spot or blame until the appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ, **(15)** which God will bring about in His own time. *He is* the blessed and only Sovereign, the King of kings, and the Lord of lords,
- **Revelation 19:11-16 HCSB (11)** Then I saw heaven opened, and there was a white horse! Its rider is called Faithful and True, and in righteousness He judges and makes war. **(12)** His eyes were like a fiery flame, and on His head were many crowns. He had a name written that no one knows except Himself. **(13)** He wore a robe stained with blood, and His name is called the Word of God. **(14)** The armies that were in heaven followed Him on white horses, wearing pure white linen. **(15)** From His mouth came a sharp sword, so that with it He might strike the nations. He will shepherd them with an iron scepter. He will also trample the winepress of the fierce anger of God, the Almighty. **(16)** And on His robe and on His thigh He has a name written: KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS

The second coming of the Lord Jesus as King of the Earth.

15. In the following identify the event where Jesus Christ shows deity:

Matthew 4:6-7 *The Temptation*

Matthew 26:63-64 *The Trial at the house of the High Priest*

John 4:25-26 *The Samaritan woman at the well*

John 1:15, 23, 30, 34 cf. Isaiah 40:3 *John the Baptists first public proclamation concerning Jesus' nature*

John 20:28-29 *His second resurrection appearance*

Matthew 16:16 *Jesus' question to the disciples "Who do YOU say that I am?"*

1 Corinthians 15:3-8 *His post-resurrection appearances to many*

Luke 1:35; 2:11 *His birth*

Matthew 3:16-17 *His baptism*

Matthew 17:5 *His transfiguration*