

PLAIN SPEECH

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“Seeing then that we have such hope, we use great plainness of speech” (2 Cor. 3:12)

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THE DEITY OF JESUS CHRIST

All false teachers deny the Lord somehow (2 Pet. 2:1). Sadly, false teachers **and** those who follow them shall be destroyed (Isa. 9:16; Jer. 14:13-16; Ezek. 14:10; Mt. 15:14; et al). Today, some false teachers and their followers deny the Lord by adhering to the damnable doctrine which states that when the Word (Jn. 1:1) came to earth He surrendered His divinity (Godhood), becoming an ordinary man. Unless said folks repent of their error they’ll be lost eternally (Jn. 8:21). Certainly, I wish all who are confused about the deity of Jesus would come to see the truth (Lk. 15:17; 1 Tim. 2:4; Rom. 10:1-2). Thus, in the spirit of Ezek. 18:31, I put forth this brief article in hopes of helping the honest person.

THE SCRIPTURES SAY THAT JESUS WAS/IS/ALWAYS WILL BE GOD

“...and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, **God with us**” (Mt. 1:23). “And Thomas answered and said unto him, **My Lord and my God**” (Jn. 20:28). “...of whom as concerning the flesh Christ came, who is over all, **God blessed for ever. Amen**” (Rom. 9:5). “But **unto the Son he saith, Thy throne, O God, is for ever and ever... (Heb. 1:8)**. “Jesus Christ **the same yesterday, and to day, and for ever**” (Heb. 13:8). Understanding 1 Cor. 4:6, whatever conclusion one draws about the “humanity” of Jesus must not rob Him of His Deity!!! He was God in the flesh upon the earth (1 Tim. 3:16). End of story. This is really all that needs to be said, but I’ll continue.

SOME PRETTY EXTRAORDINARY FACTS ABOUT JUST AN ORDINARY MAN

Jesus was conceived of the Holy Ghost while His mother was still a virgin (Mt. 1:18-20). Jesus’ birth announcement was with the praise of a multitude of heavenly host (Lk. 2:8-13; cf. Ps. 148:2). Jesus existed before His mother (Jn. 8:56-58). He was involved in the creation of the world (Col. 1:12-16). He came down from heaven (Jn. 6:33-35). He knew perfectly the thoughts of men (Mt. 9:1-4). He erased sins from one’s heavenly bank account (Mt. 9:1-2, 6). I could go on and on. Honestly now, in any of these things was Jesus just an ordinary person like you or me?

IF HE WAS AN ORDINARY MAN, HE SINNED AND WE ARE ALL TOAST!!!

The Bible reads: “And as Peter was coming in, Cornelius met him, and fell down at his feet, and worshipped him. But Peter took him up, saying, Stand up; I myself also am a man” (Ax. 10:25-26). Only God is to be worshipped (Mt. 4:9-10; Ex. 34:12-14). If Jesus accepted worship (which He did – e.g. Mt. 9:18) and He was just a man like you or me, then He sinned, period! If he sinned, He cannot be a sinless Savior and we’re all on our way to hell! Also, if He sinned, then the Bible has a mistake in it (Heb. 9:11-15) and thus none of it is to be trusted. Jesus accepted worship because He was God in the flesh (1 Tim. 3:16).

THOSE WHO WERE JUST ORDINARY MEN (EVEN INSPIRED ONES) WERE FALLABLE

David was inspired at times (2 Sam. 23:1-3), he was not sinless (2 Sam. 12:13). Nathan spoke by inspiration (2 Sam. 12:1-7), but blew it on at least one occasion – which is all it takes not to be sinless (2 Sam. 7:1-7). An unnamed prophet of the Lord also transgressed according to 1 Kgs. 13:1-26. Now some will say Jn. 1:29-34 defeats what I’ve noted above. Okay, what about before this time – when Jesus was about thirty years old (Lk. 3:21-23)? Are we really going to say that if He was a man like you or me, He never even made one single error in judgment, even one done in ignorance? C’mon now, that’s asking a bit much from an ordinary person (Rom. 3:23)! Note: this does not mean we can sin as we wish – Rom. 6:1-4; 2 Cor. 7:1.

IF JESUS WAS NOT DIVINE, THEN WHY SHOULD WE TRUST HIM?

The Bible states: “But Jesus answered them, My Father worketh hitherto, and I work. Therefore the Jews sought the more to kill him, because he not only had broken the sabbath, but said also that God was his Father, **making himself equal with God**” (Jn. 5:17-18). Again, Jesus stated, “I and my Father are one” (Jn. 10:30), thus claiming Godhood (Jn. 10:33). If His claims of deity were not true, wouldn’t that make Jesus more of a mental patient (1 Jn. 2:3-4) than a Savior?

“BUT WHAT ABOUT PHILIPPIANS 2:7-8?”

Many read this text and **assume** (largely because of the modern versions) it is teaching that Jesus emptied Himself of His deity! Hogwash! The text cannot be teaching such per the inspired commentary of Jn. 5:18; 10:30-33. The context of Plp. 2:5-8 tells us what Jesus emptied Himself of (what He did not cling to) and it was His glorified form in heaven. He gave up such to take on the form of a servant (notice that vs. 7 does not say “Jesus became human”). Outwardly He resembled (had the likeness of) a man (vs. 8), but inwardly was God – again, 1 Tim. 3:16. Personhood is independent of bodily form (2 Cor. 5:1-4; 2 Pet. 1:13-14).