

Title: Jesus is God Incarnate

Passage: Mark 12:35-37

Context of Passage:

- Last week of Jesus' ministry before His arrest and crucifixion
- Several interactions with various religious leaders that were trying to trap or ensnare Him but He rebuts them expertly.
- Here, Jesus asks them a question.

Passage: Mark 12:35-37

And as Jesus taught in the temple, he said, "How can the scribes say that the Christ is the son of David? David himself, in the Holy Spirit, declared, "'The Lord said to my Lord, 'Sit at my right hand, until I put your enemies under your feet.'"

David himself calls him Lord. So how is he his son?" And the great throng heard him gladly.

EXPOSITION

Point: Jesus confessed that He is the "Son of David" (The Messiah)

The Messiah (The Anointed One)

- The Promised One indicated since Genesis.
- Some thought David would be the Messiah.

2 Samuel 7:12-13 (God's promise to David)

When your days are fulfilled and you lie down with your fathers, I will raise up your offspring after you, who shall come from your body, and I will establish his kingdom. He shall build a house for my name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever.

2 Samuel 7:16

And your house and your kingdom shall be made sure forever before me. Your throne shall be established forever.

- Messiah / Christ - future king who will sit on the throne forever

Isaiah 9:7

Of the increase of his government and of peace there will be no end, on the throne of David and over his kingdom, to establish it and to uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time forth and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

Jeremiah 23:5

"Behold, the days are coming, declares the LORD, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, and he shall reign as king and deal wisely, and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land.

- God's promise = The Messiah would be a descendant of David.

When Jesus arrived, people thought Jesus was the Promised One

Matthew 9:27

And as Jesus passed on from there, two blind men followed him, crying aloud, "Have mercy on us, Son of David."

Matthew 21:9

And the crowds that went before him and that followed him were shouting, "Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!"

"Son of David" also reflected in genealogies of Jesus

Matthew 1:1

The book of the genealogy of Jesus Christ, *the son of David*, the son of Abraham.

Luke 3:31

the son of Melea, the son of Menna, the son of Mattatha, the son of Nathan, the son of David,

- Both pointing to Jesus as son of David (from both sides of his earthly mother and father)

"The Lord said to my Lord, "Sit at my right hand, until I put your enemies under your feet." David himself calls him Lord. So how is he his son?"

- Psalm 110 (Old Testament reference)
 - Messianic psalm
 - Most quoted Psalms in the New Testament

The Lord said to my Lord

- Someone higher than David ("my Lord") with kingly attributes that has the same rank as God. ("The Lord")

Sit at my right hand

- Sit = equal in power and value
- Meaning = Equal attributes of God

Until I put your enemies under your feet

- Complete rulership over all, including enemies

Interpretation:

- The Messiah would not only be fully human but also fully divine.

Reasons Jesus Is Fully Divine:

I. Many titles used in the Old Testament that referred to God are used in the New Testament to refer to Christ.

Lord

Isaiah 6:5

And I said: "Woe is me! For I am lost; for I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips; for my eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts!"

John 12:39-41

Therefore they could not believe. For again Isaiah said, "He has blinded their eyes and hardened their heart, lest they see with their eyes, and understand with their heart, and turn, and I would heal them." Isaiah said these things because he saw his glory and spoke of him.

- Who Isaiah saw was actually Jesus who revealed Himself to them.

Good Shepherd

Psalms 23:1

The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.

Ezekiel 34:15

I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I myself will make them lie down, declares the Lord GOD.

John 10:14

I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me,

Holy One

Isaiah 10:20

In that day the remnant of Israel and the survivors of the house of Jacob will no more lean on him who struck them, but will lean on the LORD, the Holy One of Israel, in truth.

Acts 3:14

But you denied the Holy and Righteous One, and asked for a murderer to be granted to you,

First and Last

Isaiah 44:6

Thus says the LORD, the King of Israel

and his Redeemer, the LORD of hosts: "I am the first and I am the last; besides me there is no god.

Revelation 21:6

And he said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give from the spring of the water of life without payment.

The Light

Psalms 27:1

The LORD is my light and my salvation;

whom shall I fear? The LORD is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

John 8:12

Again Jesus spoke to them, saying, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."

Savior

Isaiah 43:11

I, I am the LORD, and besides me there is no savior.

Acts 4:11-12

This Jesus is the stone that was rejected by you, the builders, which has become the cornerstone. And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.

I Am

Exodus 3:14

God said to Moses, "I AM WHO I AM." And he said, "Say this to the people of Israel: 'I AM has sent me to you.'"

John 8:58

Jesus said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, before Abraham was, I am."

Other titles:

- Pierced One
- Mighty God
- Lord of Lords
- Lord of Glory
- The Redeemer

II. Jesus Christ possessed the incommunicable attributes of God

- Incommunicable = cannot be transferred from God to humans (specific only to God)
- Contrast: communicable attributes are ones given by God such as love (God is loving and we can be loving)

Incommunicable Attributes Only Specific to God that Jesus has:

Eternity

- forever past and future

Isaiah 9:6

For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

Omnipresent

Matthew 28:20

teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

Omniscient (All-knowing)

John 16:30-31

Now we know that you know all things and do not need anyone to question you; this is why we believe that you came from God." Jesus answered them, "Do you now believe?

Omnipotence (all-powerful)

Philippians 3:20b-21

...the Lord Jesus Christ, who will transform our lowly body to be like his glorious body, by the power that enables him even to subject all things to himself.

Never changes

Hebrews 13:8

Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.

Absolute sovereignty (Control over all)

Matthew 28:18

And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.

Absolute Glory

John 17:5

And now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had with you before the world existed.

III. Jesus Christ did the works that only God could do.

Creation

John 1:1-3

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made.

John 1:14

And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.

Giver of Life

John 5:21

For as the Father raises the dead and gives them life, so also the Son gives life to whom he will.

Forgiving sins

Mark 2:7-11

"Why does this man speak like that? He is blaspheming! Who can forgive sins but God alone?" And immediately Jesus, perceiving in his spirit that they thus questioned within themselves, said to them, "Why do you question these things in your hearts? Which is easier, to say to the paralytic, 'Your sins are forgiven,' or to say, 'Rise, take up your bed and walk'? But that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins"—he said to the paralytic—"I say to you, rise, pick up your bed, and go home."

Words stand forever

Isaiah 40:8

The grass withers, the flower fades,
but the word of our God will stand forever.

Matthew 24:35

Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

IV. Jesus Christ accepted worship by others as only God is worthy of worship

Matthew 14:33

And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God."

Matthew 21:15-16

But when the chief priests and the scribes saw the wonderful things that he did, and the children crying out in the temple, "Hosanna to the Son of David!" they were indignant, and they said to him, "Do you hear what these are saying?" And Jesus said to them, "Yes; have you never read, "'Out of the mouth of infants and nursing babies you have prepared praise'?"

Matthew 28:17

And when they saw him they worshiped him, but some doubted.

John 9:35-38

Jesus heard that they had cast him out, and having found him he said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" He answered, "And who is he, sir, that I may believe in him?" Jesus said to him, "You have seen him, and it is he who is speaking to you." He said, "Lord, I believe," and he worshiped him.

John 20:28-29

Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed."

- Jesus received worship and never rebuked or corrected them.

Isaiah 45:23 (God is the only proper recipient of worship)

By myself I have sworn; from my mouth has gone out in righteousness a word that shall not return: To me every knee shall bow, every tongue shall swear allegiance.'

Philippians 2:9-11 (Jesus is lifted up and is to be worshipped)

Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

- Jehovah Witnesses conflicting translations
 - Compare the above verses
 - All will worship Jesus as God - will you do it now or later? It will happen.

IMPLICATIONS

Doctrine: Divinity of Jesus

- Question: Was Jesus God?
 - your answer has great implications for your life and for others.
- Fact: Disciples were willing to die and some were actually killed for this truth.

If Jesus was not divine, then...

- our atonement is at stake
 - How could a mere human bear the divine wrath for our sins?
 - A infinite punishment requires an infinite savior.
 - But Jesus was divine and was the perfect savior!
- our justification is threatened.
 - If Jesus was merely human, then his death had incomplete justification.
 - Need to repeat sacrifices or repeat certain acts for forgiveness (Ex: Catholic mass).
 - But Jesus said "it is finished!"
- we cannot worship or pray to Jesus if a mere human

- Would be committing idolatry if Jesus was merely man.
- But Jesus was God so we can worship and pray to Him!

Doctrine: Holy Trinity

- Lord = "Elohim"
- Same word in Genesis 1:1
- Plural word for God
 - Clarification: there is only one God but three Persons (God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit)
- Worst consequences if do not believe
 - then believe in an imperfect god

APPLICATION

If a Christian,

- study the Scriptures to understand key truths.

James 1:25

But the one who looks into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and perseveres, being no hearer who forgets but a doer who acts, he will be blessed in his doing.

- be prepared to answer the hard questions.
- be ready to give an account for the faith you have in Jesus.

1 Peter 3:15

but in your hearts honor Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and respect,

If not a Christian,

- trust Him with your life.
- If Jesus is God, then you have a problem if you haven't given your life to Him. He is on the throne and one day He will bring you to account in judgment. Are you ready?
- Who is at the throne of your life? Let Jesus be king because He is already king and your life will be transformed.

Romans 10:9

because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.