



Life's Ultimate Questions

A Case for the Deity of Jesus

So, who is this man? Who is this baby in a manger? Is He simply a baby that grew up and lived for a brief period of time on earth like every other human being or was He much more as the Bible says He was? Let's look at the evidence.

A Case for the Deity of Jesus

1. Jesus' impossible fulfillment of specific biblical prophecy.

- Many have objected to this as a claim to the deity of Jesus saying that **He could have orchestrated the fulfillment of the prophecies, they could have been written after the fact and fabricated as being fulfilled, or they could have happened by coincidence.**

- Let's take those one at a time.

- *Objection #1* – Jesus orchestrated the fulfillment of the prophecies.

- *Answer #1* – The orchestrating of certain prophecies would have not only been impossible, but some would have been lunacy, especially orchestrating your own brutal death knowing it was a lie.

Objection #2 – They were written after the fact and fabricated.

Answer #2 – Manuscript evidence proves that what was recorded concerning biblical prophecy was fulfilled long before the NT writers had full copies of the OT to even look at what was written before hand. Secondly, manuscripts of non-biblical writers have been found which corroborate the events of the Bible completely.

Objection #3 – They were fulfilled by coincidence.

Answer #3 – The possibility of these prophecies being fulfilled by coincidence is what we call not a scientific improbability, but a scientific impossibility.

- Here's what I mean, what did we say the chances of 8 biblical prophecies being fulfilled by accident were?

- **Answer:** 1 in 10 to the 17th power according to Dr. Peter Stoner and Robert Newman in their book *Science Speaks*. Anything over one in 10 to the 15th power is said to be a scientific impossibility.

- Here's something else mind-blowing: Josh McDowell writes in his book *More Than a Carpenter* that the chances of 48 biblical prophecies being fulfilled by chance are 1 in 10 to the 157th power. Jesus Himself fulfilled over 100 biblical prophecies.

- By the way, the number of electrons in the entire universe is estimated to be 10 to the 79th power.

- So, **what does this tell you about Jesus** when it comes to the fulfillment of prophecy. **Not that He should buy your next lottery ticket**, but that **He is worthy of following, listening to, and basing your whole life around.**

2. Jesus' extraordinary life showing He was God.

- Both Christian and non-Christian scholars together decided that if one came into the world who was actually God, 8 different things would be expected of Him as God:

- (1) He would have an utterly unique entrance into human history – *the virgin birth*.
- (2) He would be without sin.
- (3) He would perform supernatural miracles.
- (4) He would live more perfectly than any human has ever lived.
- (5) He would speak the greatest words ever spoken.
- (6) He would have an everlasting universal influence.
- (7) He would satisfy spiritual hunger in humanity.
- (8) He would overcome death.

- Each one of these expectations of God in flesh has been met in Jesus Christ and this is backed up by biblical authors such as Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John, Jewish historians such as Josephus, Greek historians such as Tacitus, and Roman rulers such as Pliny the Younger.

- *Objection* – Others have fulfilled the expectations of God as well.

- *Answer* – There is not a single source of historically trustworthy evidence showing that any man ever met even two of the expectations laid out by both Christian and non-Christian scholars alike.

The last of the 8 expectations of God in flesh, that He would overcome death, is perhaps the greatest of all proofs for Jesus' divinity and being the source of all truth.

3. Jesus' resurrection from the dead proves that He is God and flesh and the source of all truth, just like He said He was.

Objection #1 – The disciples stole the body.

Answer #1 – The disciples were too frightened and dismayed to have overcome a posted guard of trained Roman soldiers to have stolen the body and the first place these disciples started preaching the resurrection was in Jerusalem where if they were lying they could have most easily been exposed.

Objection #2 – Jesus' enemies stole the body.

Answer #2 – This means that once the disciples started preaching the resurrection these enemies could have produced the body, but they didn't.

Objection #3 – The women went to the wrong tomb.

Answer #3 – The women knew right where He was buried, the disciples went to check out the story to see if they were wrong, and if both the women and the disciples would have gone to the wrong tomb the Roman and Jewish authorities would have went to the right tomb and produced the body.

Objection #4 – Jesus' followers were hallucinating.

Answer #4 – Hallucinations are a result of something already in the mind. The disciples were not expecting a resurrection, which is why they fought His death so much. Beyond that, it is a psychological fact that no two people will ever have the exact same hallucination, yet Jesus appeared to over 500 at one time and all of them corroborate this account.

Objection #5 – When they placed Jesus in the tomb He wasn't really dead and the coolness and dampness of the tomb revived Him.

Answer #5 – Roman soldiers were trained murderers, so they made sure Jesus was dead. When they pierced His side the water that flowed was the pericardial sac surrounding the heart, which fills up only when a person has died. To top this off, Jesus' tomb was sealed, covered with a 4,000 pound stone, and guarded by Roman soldiers. It's beyond farfetched to think that Jesus – who had been severely beaten and crucified – could wrangle free of His linen wrappings, move the 4,000 pound stone from the inside of the tomb, slip past well trained Roman guards, and then appear to the disciples looking as good as new.

These are but a few of the reasons that Jesus is the only way to heaven and the proofs to back them up.

But what about you? Who do you say that He is?

Conclusion:

If He truly is God and the only source of truth, He demands some action on our part as human beings. The following are a few of the actions on our behalf He is worthy of:

- (1) **He is worthy of our worship.** – This includes praying to Him, being in church, studying the Bible which revolves around Him, etc.
- (2) **He is worthy of our works.** – This includes serving Him by serving others, sharing the Good News of who He is with others, etc.
- (3) **He is worthy of our whole life.** – This means I will place my family, my relationships, my money, my career, my stuff, etc., in the palms of His nailed scarred and glorified hands because He is worthy of being trusted.

PRAY, and give your life to the One who gave up His just for you!