DOCTRINE OF CHRIST (Christology) His Deity and Eternity



- What is Christ?
 - Direct statements of the Eternity and Deity of the Son of God
 - Implications that the Son of God is Eternal
- The importance of the Issue
- Some clues to the possibility of the doctrine Myth, Art and Logic
- Arguments for Christ's Divinity

What is Christ?

he Son of Godanointed, the Greek translation



of the Hebrew word rendered "Messiah" (q.v.), the official title of our Lord, occurring five hundred and fourteen times in the New Testament.

 It denotes that he was anointed or consecrated to his great redemptive work as Prophet, Priest, and King of his people.

M.G. Easton M.A., D.D., Illustrated Bible Dictionary, Third Edition, published by Thomas Nelson, 1897.

What is Christ?

he Son of God Ie is Jesus the Christ (Acts



17:3;18:5; Matthew 22:42), the Anointed One.

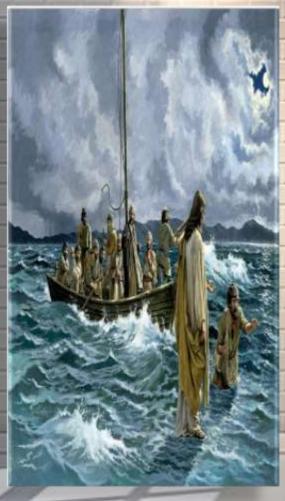
He is thus spoken of by (<u>Isaiah</u> 61:1), and by (<u>Daniel 9:24-26</u>), who styles him "Messiah the Prince."



Look at how Jesus compared Himself to God in the Old Testament:

God in the Old Testament	Jesus Comparison to Himself
I AM (Exodus 3:14-15; Isaiah 48:12)	I AM (John 8:58; John 8:18, 24)
Ruler of all (Isaiah 9:6)	Ruler of all (Matthew 28:18)
God's Word never pass away (Isaiah 40:8)	Jesus" words never pass away (Mk. 13:31)
Judge of all nations (Joel 3:12)	Judge of all (John 5:12)
The Light (Psalm 27:1)	The Light (John 8:12)
The Shepherd (Psalm 23:1)	The Shepherd (John 10:11)
The Bridegroom (Isaiah 62:5; Hosea 2:16)	The Bridegroom (Matthew 25:1)
First and the Last (Isaiah 48:12)	First and the Last (Revelation 1:17-18)





- Other statements made by Christ concerning His deity:
 - "Anyone who has seen Me has seen the Father", John 14:9
 - "I and the Father are one", John 10:30
 - "Father glorify Me in Your presence with the glory I had with You before the world began", John 17:5. —I am the Lord that is My name! I will not give My glory to another ||, Isaiah 42:8





- Other statements made by Christ concerning His deity:
 - "My Father is always at His work to this very day, and I too, am working.", John 5:17
 - "And you will see the Son of Man sitting at the right hand of the Mighty One and coming on the clouds of Heaven", Mark 14:61 (c.f. Daniel 7:13-14) Daniel 7:13

 (NASB95)



The testimony of the New Testament writers:

Witness	Verse	Statement
John	John 1:1-3,14	God became flesh
Thomas	John 20:28	"My Lord and my God!"
Paul	Romans 9:5	Jesus is God over all
Paul	Philippians 2:5-8	Jesus set aside His right as God
Paul	Colossians 1:16-19, 2:9-10	Created all things including angels; all fullness of Deity dwells
Paul	1 Timothy 6:15, Deut 10:17	King of kings, Lord of Lords
Peter	2 Peter 1:1	Jesus our God and Savior
Writer of Hebrews	Hebrews 1:8, 13:8	Has everlasting throne and is immutable

Who is Christ?

Direct statements for eternity of Christ

John 6:62 (NKJV) What then if you should see the Son of Man ascend where He was before?

Pre-Existence

- Matthew 22:41-46
- Revelation 1:4,8,11,17; 5:5; 3:14; 22:13,16
- Micah 5:2;
- Philippians 2:5,6;
- John 1:1-3; 6:32-34; 38,41,58,62; 16:28; 17:5
- Hebrews 1:2; 10-12; 3:3-6; 2:9,14-18; 10:5-7; 13:8
- Genesis 1:26; 3:22; 11:7 ("... us ...

our ... our ...");

- Romans 11:36
- 1 Corinthians 8:6
- Ephesians 3:9
- Colossians 1:15-19;



Matthew 22:43-45 (NKJV)

43 He said to them, "How then does David in the Spirit call Him 'Lord,' saying: 44 'The LORD said to my Lord, "Sit at My right hand, Till I make Your enemies Your footstool" '? 45 "If David then calls Him 'Lord,' how is He his Son?"



Revelation 5:5 (NKJV)

But one of the elders said to me, "Do not weep. Behold, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has prevailed to open the scroll and to loose its seven seals."



Revelation 22:16 (NKJV) "I, Jesus, have sent My angel to testify to you these things in the churches. I am the Root and the Offspring of David, the Bright and Morning Star."

Who is Christ? Direct statements for eternity of Christ

Root - Strong's # <G4491>

Original Word: ὁίζα,

Translitirtion: rhiza

Phonetic: hrid'-zah

Usage Notes: is used

- (a) in the natural sense, Matt. 3:10; Matt. 13:6, 21; Mark 4:6, 17; Mark 11:20; Luke 3:9; Luke 8:13;
- (b) metaphorically
- (1) of "cause, origin, source," said of persons, ancestors, Rom. 11:16-18 (twice); of things, evils, 1 Tim. 6:10, RV, of the love of money as a "root" of all "kinds of evil" (marg., "evils;" AV, "evil"); bitterness, Heb. 12:15;
- (2) of that which springs from a "root," a shoot, said of offspring, Rom. 15:12; Rev. 5:5; Rev. 22:16.

Who is Christ? Direct statements for eternity of Christ

"Son of David" was a title often used when He was ministering on earth (see Matt. 1). But He is also the Root of David, which means He brought David (and David's line) into existence. As far as His humanity is concerned, Jesus had His roots in David (Isa. 11:1, 10); but as far as His deity is concerned, Jesus is the Root of David. This speaks, of course, of our Lord's eternality; He is indeed the "Ancient of Days." How the Messiah could both be David's Lord and David's son was a problem Jesus presented to the Pharisees, and they could not (or would not) answer Him (Matt. 22:41-46).



John 8:56-59 (NKJV)

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."



John 17:5 (NKJV) And now, O Father, glorify Me together with Yourself, with the glory which I had with You before the world was.

Who is Christ? Direct statements for eternity of Christ

Revelation 1:8 (NKJV) "I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End," says the Lord, "who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty."

Revelation 1:8,11,17; 3:14; 22:13,16

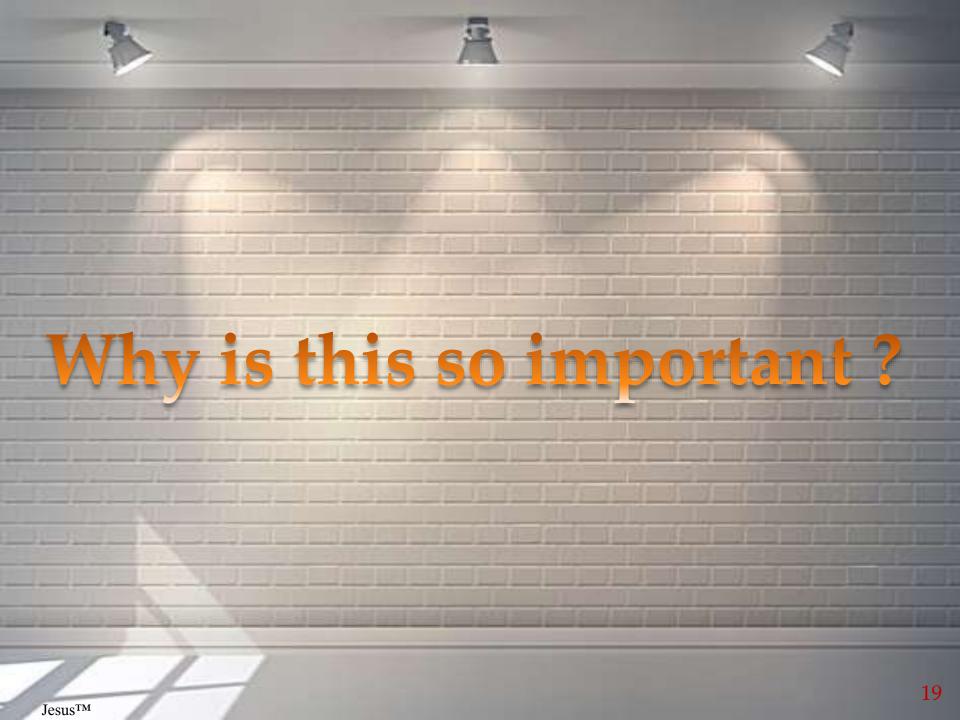
- "I am the first and the last . . .
- Who is, who was, and who is
- · to come,
- the Almighty . . . the beginning
- of the creation of God . . .



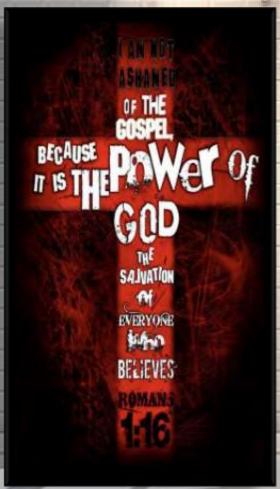
Eternal / Unchanging

- Hebrews 1:12 --- "You are the
- same . . . "
- Hebrews 13:8 --- "same
- yesterday, today, and
- forever." --- (cf. Mal 3:6)
- Revelation 1:4,8 --- Who is,
- who was, and who is to come

Hebrews
13:8 (NKJV)
Jesus Christ
is the same
yesterday,
today, and
forever.



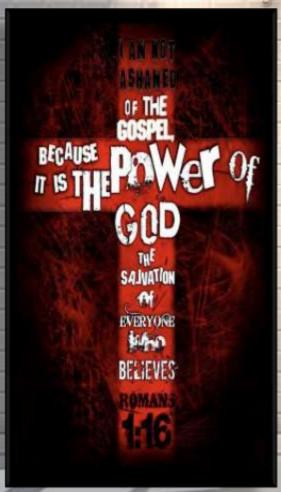




...For unless you believe that I Am who I claim to be, You will die in your sins. – Jesus (John 8:24)

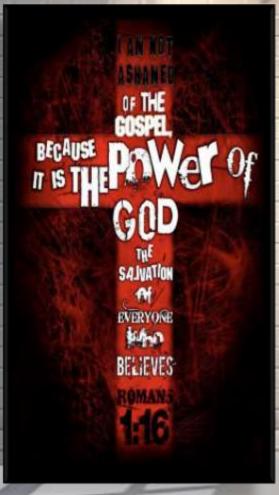
 The full divinity of Jesus is not accepted by any non-Christian religion. Some Christians even doubt it.





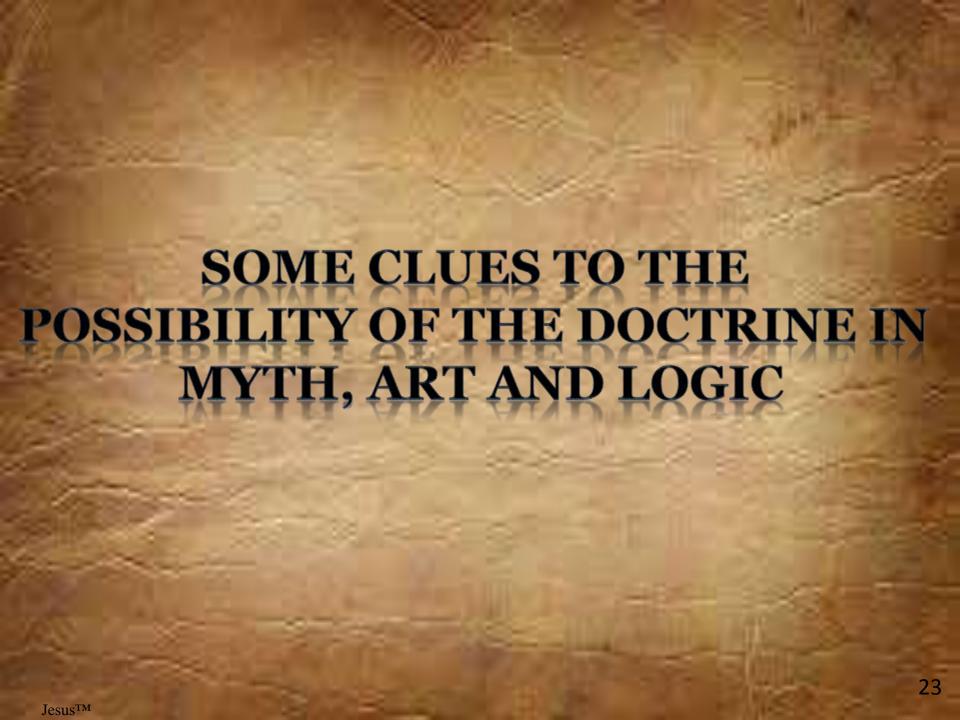
The salvation of everyone depends on how they relate to Jesus – not merely to His teachings. God the father and Jesus require faith in Jesus for salvation (John 3:16, 3:36, Acts 4:12)

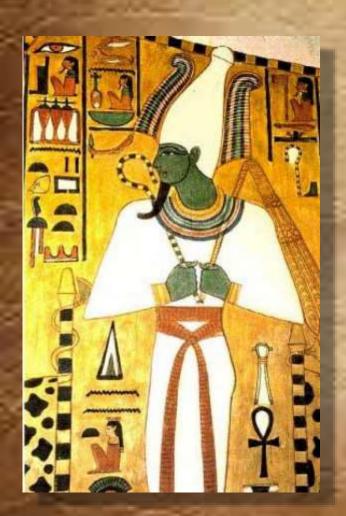




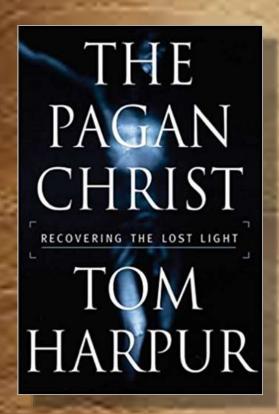
- If we do not see Jesus as God, we are less likely to trust and obey Him and His words in the Bible.
- God wants His followers to be able to explain their faith in Jesus to others:

But in your hearts set apart Christ as Lord, always be prepared to give an answer to every one who ask you to give the reason for the hope that you have but do this with gentleness and respect . (1Peter 3:15)



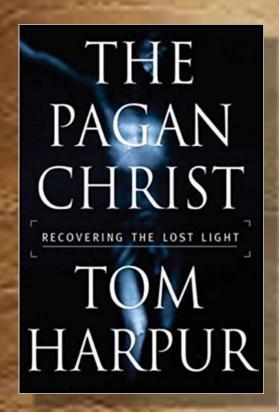


- Osiris is an Egyptian god, usually identified as the god of the afterlife, the underworld and the dead. He is classically depicted as a greenskinned man with a pharaoh's beard. Osiris had a son called Horus, comparing to Jesus Christ.
- Gerald Massey has traced 180
 instances of close similarity or actual
 identity between Horus son of Osiris,
 the Christ of Old Egypt, and the
 Gospel Jesus (The Pagan Christ. p
 77)



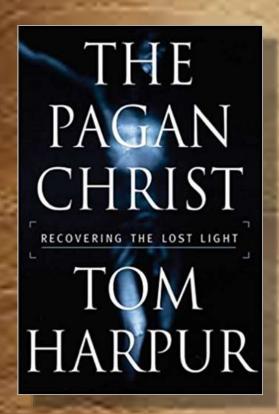
Claims made in support of the Osiris-Isis-Horus theory for Jesus

- Horus was baptized in the River Eridanus (Jordan) by a god figure named Anup the Baptizer (John the Baptist) who was later decaptitated
- Like Jesus, Horus had no history between the ages of 12 and 30
- Horus walked on water, cast out demons, and healed the sick
- Horus was transfigured on a mountain; Jesus took Peter, James and John
- Horus delivered a 'Sermon on the Mount" and his followers faithfully recounted the sayings of lusa



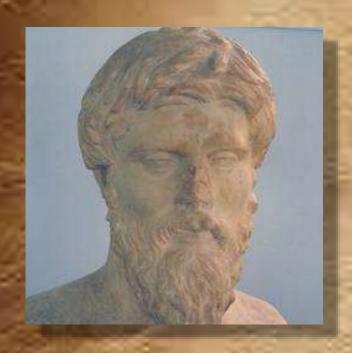
Claims made in support of the Osiris-Isis-Horus theory for Jesus

- Horus was the Good Shepherd, the lamb of God, the bread of life, the son of man, the Word, and the fisher.
- Horus was not just the path to heaven but the way by which the dead travel out of the sepulchre. He was the god whose name was written as the "road to salvation" He was thus the "way, the truth, the life".



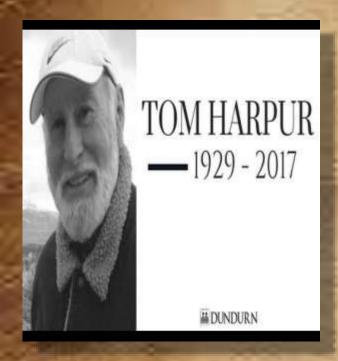
Claims made in support of the Osiris-Isis-Horus theory for Jesus

 Horus was crucified between 2 thieves, buried in a tomb, and resurrected. His personal epithet was lusa or lusu, the "everbecoming son" of Ptah or the Father. Significantly Horus was called the KRST or "Anointed One" from a word that was inscribed or painted on the lid of a mummy's coffin millennia before Christianity duplicated the story.



Pagan Greek testimony about Osiris, Isis and Horus

- Plutarch is the only ancient writer who has passed onto us the account of these gods.
- However, Plutarch is actually an ideal witness for us.
- Plutarch lived from 45 120 AD. Thus he lived in the 2nd half of the first century – the time when the gospels were written.
- He lived at the same time as the apostles. He is thus in an ideal position to report for us the account of these gods.



Plutarch on Osiris-Isis-Horus: Relevant but Ignored

- Absolutely stunning is the fact that though he mentions Plutarch twice in other matters, Harpur(Creator of "Pagan Christ"), never refers to Plutarch's account of Isis-Osiris-Horus.
- Much of what I described about
 Horus comparing to Jesus Christ is
 simply a reflection of the effort of
 atheists to make Horus look as much
 like Jesus as possible.
 - Comment from: http://coldcasechristianity.com/



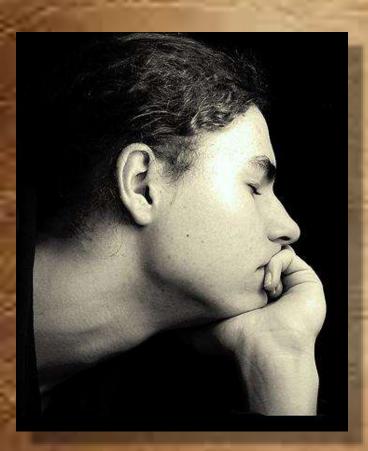
- These are the facts that no one disputes, what they claimed about Horus.
- What 'pagan Christ' proponents are saying is that this mythology was used to create (i.e. make up) the person of Jesus in the gospels.
- And some of us that do not know the truth behind this story, may claim and think it must be true.

An analogy from Art:



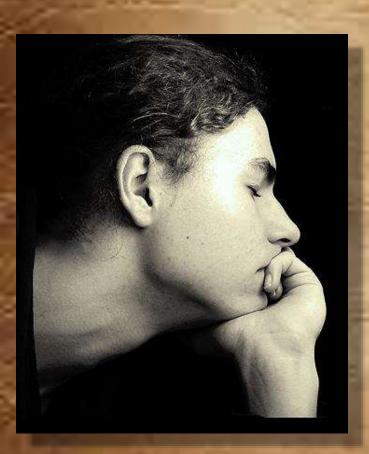
author writes himself into his own movie etc. as a character - the character would have a double nature (that of the author and also of the character they are playing in the movie) - they have come down from the heaven of the authors mind to the earth of the movie. Alfred Hitchkock was famous for doing it - if he can, why can't God?

Possibility of the doctrine in Logic



How does a person who disagrees with the idea of the incarnation, saying it is impossible, tell God what he can or cannot do? It seems the skeptic is more sure of them-self than they are of God.

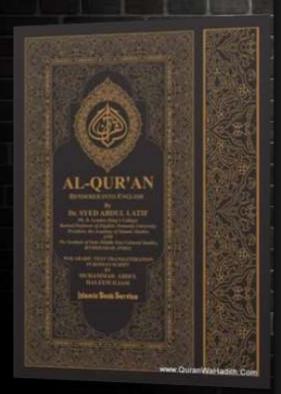
Possibility of the doctrine in Logic



If a being worthy of the name God exists then he would be omnipotent and able to do anything that is meaningful and not self contradictory. Therefore the incarnation is not a contradiction (even though it is a miracle) - it is possible.

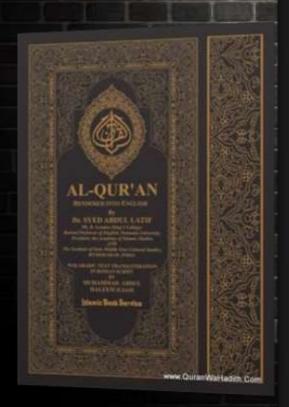
Controversial Arguments Regarding CHRIST's Deity

Arguments for Christ's Divinity Jesus according to Qur'an



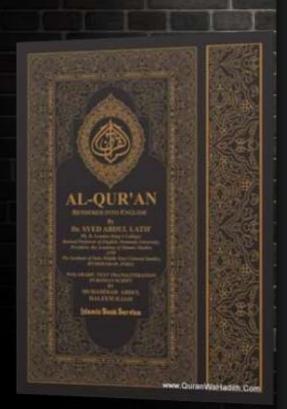
- Jesus was created out of dust (sura 3:59)
- Jesus was not crucified on a cross (sura 4:157)
- Jesus did not die (sura 4:156-159)
- Jesus was not resurrected (implied from prior point)
- Jesus prophesied the coming of Muhammad (sura 61:6)

Arguments for Christ's Divinity Jesus according to Qur'an



- Jesus was just one of the prophets (sura 2:136, 5:75)
- Jesus should not be worshipped (sura 5:116)
- Jesus was not the Son of God (sura 19:35, 4:171)
- Jesus will return, die, and be judged like all other men (Sunan Abu Dawud Book 37, Number 4310)

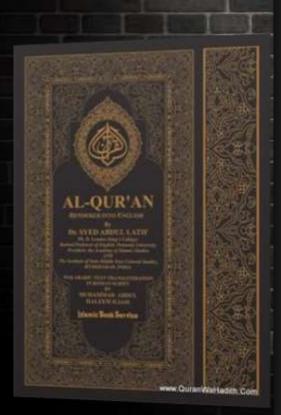
Arguments for Christ's Divinity Jesus according to Qur'an



It is obvious that the Jesus in the Bible and The Jesus in the Qur'an are not the same however the Qur'an tells us that Jesus is:

- Jesus was born of a virgin (sura 3:47, 19:27-28)
- Jesus is proclaimed to be the Christ/Messiah (sura 3:45)
- Jesus is confirmed to be righteous (sura 6:85)
- Jesus was sinless (sura 3:46)
- Jesus performed miracles (sura3:49)

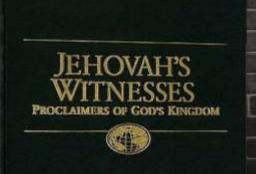
Arguments for Christ's Divinity Jesus according to Qur'an



- Jesus had disciples (sura 3:52-53, 5:111-118)
- Jesus was sent with a gospel (sura 5:46)
- Jesus' words should be believed (sura 4:171)
- Jesus was taken into Heaven by God (sura 4:156-159)
- Jesus will have a second and visible coming to the earth (sura 3:55)

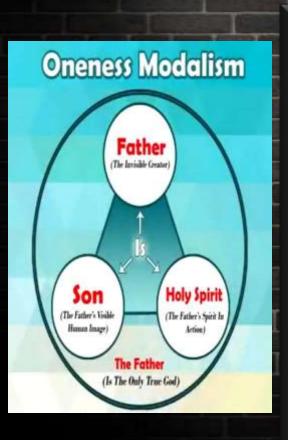
Something that Muhamad himself did not possess any of this attributes.

Arguments for Christ's Divinity Jesus according to Jehovah's Witnesses



- Jesus is a "mighty god" but not God Almighty.
- Jesus is the first and direct creation of God.
- Jesus made "all other things" for God.
- Jesus was/is the chief angel, Michael.
- Jesus was raised a spirit creature, not bodily.
- Jesus invisibly returned to the earth in 1914 and expelled Satan.

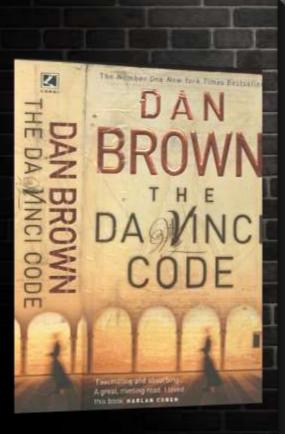
Arguments for Christ's Divinity Jesus according to Jehovah's Witnesses



Unitarianism, Modalism, Arianism

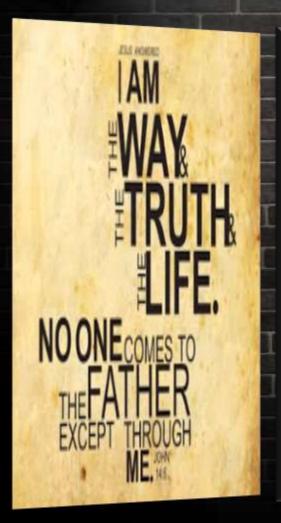
- The concept that "God is one excludes the possibility of the Son being God."

Arguments for Christ's Divinity Jesus according to Dan Brown



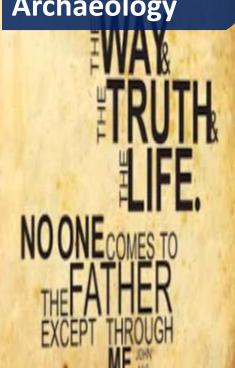
- Jesus no more than a man.
- Jesus Married to Mary Magdalene and was she an "apostle"???
- Jesus had a daughter.

Arguments for Christ's Divinity The real truth behind it



- We saw that, there are several group of people try to express their own speculation about Jesus Deity's
- But what is really the truth.
- What path should we take?

Historical Tests Legal Tests Archaeology

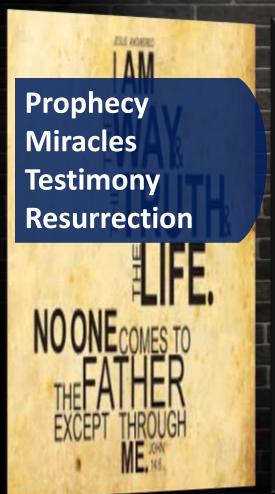


- Is the New Testament Historically Reliable?
- Is Jesus Who He Claimed to Be (God)?



 Did Jesus Claim the Bible is Inerrant and Inspired?





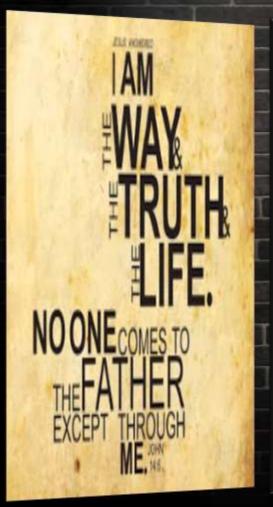
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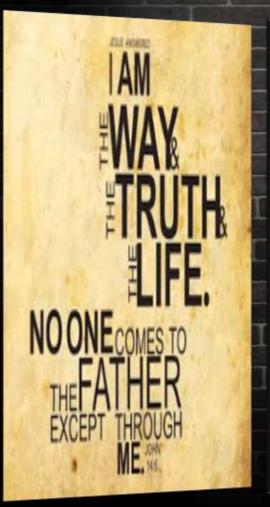
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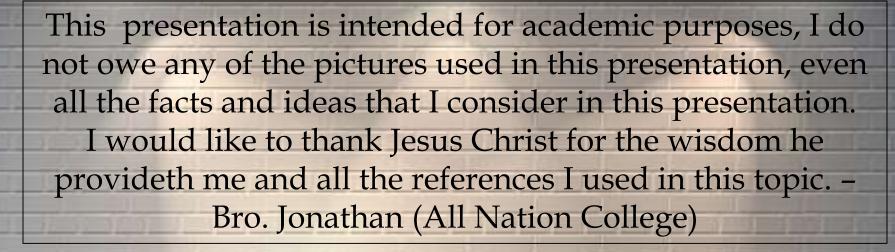
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Did Jesus Claim the Bible is Inerrant and Inspired?





References:

The Case for the Deity of Christ (**Don McClain**)
Confident Christians – <u>www.confidentchristians.org</u>
The Divinity of Christ (Pop Quiz)-Presentation in <u>www.SlideShare.com</u>

http://jesus-is-god-proof.com/
http://coldcasechristianity.com/

http://considerthegospel.org/

Sub-References: (For comparison of information)

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Bible Study Guides(Volume Three The Gospel According to John)-Bertram Lim