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## How Vital Is It For Jesus To Be Deity?

### Introduction

I have chosen the title of this paper very carefully for the deity of our Lord is not just a matter of importance, but a vital truth of eternal verities and eternal destinies. This truth is much more than the Lord being a representative for God or a likeness of God. He is the fulness of every attribute in His essential being. He is all that God is. "For in him dwelleth all the fulness of the Godhead bodily" (Col. 2:9). Another clear declaration of the deity of the Lord is, "Whose are the fathers, and of whom as concerning the flesh Christ came, who is over all, God blessed forever. Amen" (Rom. 9:5).

This is a truth beyond human comprehension and indeed beyond the cognizance of any infernal or celestially created mind. The only One who can comprehend the mystery of His being is God. The Lord said, "All things are delivered to me of my Father: and no man knoweth who the Son is, but the Father; and who the Father is, but the Son, and He to whom the Son will reveal him" (Lk. 10:22).

### Clarification

The English word "Godhead" is a translation of two Greek words.

- a) The word in Acts 17:29 and Rom. 1:20 is "theiotēs" whose root word is "theos". This word indicates man can know about God from an observation of creation. His control of the decaying of the universe, its orderliness, distances and preciseness of timing and His attributes of influence and beauty are seen throughout it. However, man could never know God personally through creation. When speaking of God's divinity, this is the word which is used.
- b) The word in Colossians 2:9 is, "theotēs" whose root word is "theios". This word indicates His deity, teaching the essential personal Godhood of Christ. It indicates the exclusiveness of Christ as being the only true human manifestation of all that God is. It is only He could say, "I and my Father are one" (Jn. 10:30); "He that hath seen me hath seen the Father" (Jn. 14:9); "the only begotten Son, which is in the bosom of the Father, he hath declared him" (Jn. 1:18).

### If Jesus was not deity then:

If the man Jesus was not the fulness of God in the flesh, then He is the greatest confidence trickster of men and usurper against the true God that ever walked this earth. If He is not deity then:

- a) He was an illegitimate child born in sin out of wedlock.
- b) He has no moral right to claim to be the King of righteousness or Peace.
- c) He is a blasphemer when He called God "His Father".
- d) All the claims of His holiness and sinlessness are satanic deceptions.
- e) When He died He did not enter death but died from the natural afflictions of being whipped and crucified.
- f) His body went to corruption.
- g) His sacrifice was and is of no value.
- h) There is no salvation.
- i) There is no overcoming the world.
- g) There was no resurrection, therefore there is no justification and our faith is without foundation.
- h) He never ascended.
- i) There is no High Priest.
- j) There is no ascension into Heaven
- k) He is not a holy Advocate.
- l) There has never been a real manifestation of God.

Since Christ is the way, the truth and the life, without His deity there is no way to God, no truth and no life (Jn. 14:6).

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### But Jesus is deity and therefore:

- a) He was supernaturally conceived (Matt. 1:18)
- b) He has the moral and legal right to the throne of Israel (Matt. 1:1).
- c) He was declaring the truth when He called God “My Father” (Jn. 5:17).
- d) Every scripture that indicates His sinless perfection is a declaration of His impeccability (2 Cor. 5:21; 1 Pet. 2:22; 1 Jn. 3:5).
- e) Since there was no sin in Him death had no claim on Him, therefore His could not be a natural death. His body never went to corruption (Acts 2:27).
- f) His sacrifice was and is of infinite value (1 Jn. 1:7; Isa. 53:6; 1 Jn. 2:2).
- g) There is salvation (Jn. 20:30-31).
- h) There is overcoming the world (1 Jn. 5:4, 5).
- i) There is resurrection, therefore there is justification and our faith has a sure foundation (Rom. 4:24; 1 Cor. 15:17).
- j) He was glorified and ascended in glory into glory (1 Tim. 3:16).
- k) There is the Great High Priest (Heb. 8:1).
- l) He is the faithful and just Advocate (1 Jn. 2:1).
- m) There has been a human manifestation of God (Jn. 14:9).

### Because Jesus Is God and since all God does is perfect (Ecc. 3:14)

- 1) The sacrifice of the Lord is:
  - a) Perfect in its effectiveness. “The Blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin” (1 Jn. 1:7,9).
  - b) Perfect in its duration. It is an eternal salvation (Heb. 5:9).
  - c) Perfect in its method of procuring. All in absolute righteousness (Rom. 3:22).
  - d) Perfect in its scope. That whosoever (Jn. 3:16).
- 2) Because Jesus is God manifest in flesh, the stupendousness of this truth causes one's heart to bow at:
  - a) The wonder of His redeeming love (Eph. 2:4).
  - b) The wonder of divine grace (2 Cor. 8:9).
  - c) The wonder of divine mercy (Eph. 2:4; Titus 3:5).
  - d) The blessedness of Divine Peace (Rom. 5:1; Eph. 2:14).
- 3) Because Jesus is God, He is the Light, the Way, the Truth, the Door in exclusiveness, sufficiency, and finality.

THOU art the everlasting Word, The Father's only Son,  
God manifestly seen and heard, And heaven's beloved One.  
Worthy, O Lamb of God, art Thou,  
That every knee to Thee should bow.

In Thee, most perfectly expressed, The Father's glories shine,  
Of the full Deity possessed, Eternally divine.  
Worthy, O Lamb of God, art Thou,  
That every knee to Thee should bow.

True image of the Infinite, Whose essence is concealed;  
Brightness of uncreated light, the heart of God revealed.  
Worthy, O Lamb of God, art Thou,  
That every knee to Thee should bow.  
*Josiah Conder (1789-1855)*

. . . . Rowan Jennings