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Did Jesus Christ Himself Claim to be God While on this Earth?

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Did Jesus Christ Himself claim to be God while on this earth?

Often the charge is made that the one who formulated the deity status of Jesus was the apostle Paul and that the Savior never claimed to be God. Is this true? In a word, NO! In fact, to the contrary, Jesus made the following twenty-one bold claims that only God Himself could make.

- That He was omnipresent (Matt. 18:20; 28:20; John 3:13).
“For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them” (Matt. 18:20).
- That He was omnipotent (Matt. 28:18; John 5:24, 28, 29; 17:2).
“And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth” (Matt. 28:18).
- That He was omniscient (Matt. 9:3, 4; 12:25; Luke 9:46, 47; John 1:48; 2:23-25).
“Now when he was in Jerusalem at the passover, in the feast day, many believed in his name, when they saw the miracles which he did. But Jesus did not commit himself unto them, because he knew all men, And needed not that any should testify of man: for he knew what was in man” (John 2:23-25).
- That He had power over both physical and spiritual death.
 - A. Physical death:
“Marvel not at this: for the hour is coming, in the which all that are in the graves shall hear his voice, And shall come forth; they that have done good, unto the resurrection of life; and they that have done evil, unto the resurrection of damnation” (John 5:28, 29).
 - B. Spiritual death:
“Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life” (John 5:24).
- That He had power over His own death (John 10:17, 18; Rev. 1:18).
“Therefore doth my Father love me, because I lay down my life, that I might take it again. No man taketh it from me, but I lay it down of myself. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it again. This commandment have I received of my Father” (John 10:17, 18).
- That He could forgive sin (Matt. 26:28; Mark 2:5; Luke 7:48; John 8:11).
“When Jesus saw their faith, he said unto the sick of the palsy, Son, thy sins be forgiven thee” (Mark 2:5).
- That He was the source of all life (John 5:26; 10:10; 11:25).

“The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly” (John 10:10).

- That He was the only way to the Father (John 10:7-9; 14:6).

“Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me” (John 14:6).

- That He was worthy to be worshipped (Matt. 14:33; 28:17; Luke 24:52).

“Then the eleven disciples went away into Galilee, into a mountain where Jesus had appointed them. And when they saw him, they worshipped him: but some doubted” (Matt. 28:16, 17).

- That prayer should be made in His name (John 14:13, 14; 15:7).

“And whatsoever ye shall ask in my name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If ye shall ask any thing in my name, I will do it” (John 14:13, 14).

- That He was the one with the Father (Matt. 10:40; John 5:23; 10:30; 14:1, 7-9).

“I and my Father are one” (John 10:30).

- That He was sinless (John 8:46; 14:30).

“Which of you convinceth me of sin? And if I say the truth, why do ye not believe me?” (John 8:46).

- That He was eternal (John 8:58).

“I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the ending, saith the Lord, which is, and which was, and which is to come, the Almighty” (Rev. 1:8).

- That His words were equal in authority with those in the Old Testament (Matt. 5:21, 22, 27, 28, 33, 34, 38, 39, 43, 44). In fact, during His sermon on the Mount Jesus added to certain Old Testament commands on at least five occasions!

“Ye have heard that it was said by them of old time, Thou shalt not commit adultery: But I say unto you, That whosoever looketh on a woman to lust after her hath committed adultery with her already in his heart” (Matt. 5:27, 28).

- That He came to fulfill the precepts and promises of the Old Testament.

“Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets: I am not come to destroy, but to fulfil” (Matt. 5:17).

- That to accept Him would lead to salvation but to deny Him meant damnation (Mark 8:34-38; John 5:24).

“Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life” (John 5:24).

- That the Father should share His glory with the Son (John 17:5).

“And now, O Father, glorify thou me with thine own self with the glory which I had with thee before the world was” (John 17:5).

This amazing request should be compared with Isa. 42:8.

“I am the LORD: that is my name: and my glory will I not give to another, neither my praise to graven images” (Isa. 42:8).

- That He could be identified with the great I AM name for Jehovah God in the Old Testament.

“And God said unto Moses, I AM THAT I AM: and he said, Thus shalt thou say unto the children of Israel, I AM hath sent me unto you” (Ex. 3:14).

Note now the ten-fold usage of this title by Jesus, all found in the gospel of John:

- A. I AM the Bread of Life (6:33, 35, 51)
- B. I AM the Water of Life (7:37)
- C. I AM the Light (8:12; 9:5)
- D. I AM the Good Shepherd (10:11, 14)
- E. I AM the Door (10:7, 9)
- F. I AM the Resurrection (11:25)
- G. I AM the Vine (15:1, 5)
- H. I AM the Way (15:6a)
- I. I AM the Truth (15:6b)
- J. I AM the Life (15:6c)

- That He alone could give peace and rest to those who put their trust in Him (Matt. 11:28-30; John 14:27; 16:33).

“Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light” (Matt. 11:28-30).

- That He was greater than the temple and the Sabbath (Matt. 12:6, 8).

“But I say unto you, That in this place is one greater than the temple ... For the Son of man is Lord even of the sabbath day” (Matt. 12:6, 8).

- That He would be the final Judge of all men (Matt. 7:22, 23; 10:32, 33; 25:31, 32; John 5:22, 27).

“For the Father judgeth no man, but hath committed all judgment unto the Son” (John 5:22).