

Christian Apologetics (Part 76)

E. The Person and Work of Jesus Christ

1. The Deity of Christ

a. Argument By Truth

1) Evidence From the Bible

- a) Deity is explicitly attributed to Him and claimed by Him.
- b) The attributes of God are possessed and manifested by Him.
- c) All the works of God are performed by Him.
- d) The worship of God is due to Him, offered to Him, and received by Him.
- e) The titles and names of God are used to designate Him.

-El Gabor (Isaiah 9:6)

-Jehovah (Psalm 118:22 with Acts 4:10-12; Isaiah 6:1-5 with John 12:39-41; Isaiah 8:13-15 with 1 Peter 2:5-8; Isaiah 40:3 with Matthew 3:3; Zechariah 12:10; John 8:58 with Exodus 3:14, 15; Revelation 1:17, 2:8, 22:13 with Isaiah 41:4, 44:6, 48:12)

-Immanuel (Isaiah 7:14 with Matthew 1:23)

-The Son (signifies Messianic office; supernatural origin; eternal filial relation to, and equality with, God the Father (John 5:16-29; 10:22-39; 16:28; 17:5; Ephesians 1:3, 4; 1 Peter 1:2; 1 John 1:1-3).

-Lord (passim)

- f) The seat of God's throne is occupied by Christ (Mark 12:35-37; 14:61, 62 with Psalm 110:1 and Daniel 7:13, 14. See also Genesis 49:13-19; Acts 2:33; Hebrews 1:3.)

2) Evidence From the External World

- a) Jesus' position of kingship over the external world and His infallible control of all events demonstrate His true deity.
- b) The dramatic impact which Jesus' life had and has on the course of history demonstrates His deity.

3) Evidence From Personal Experience

-When people come to trust Christ for salvation, they meet Him and know Him, not as a creature, but as their Lord and God.

Practical Significance of Christ's Deity: Jesus' deity underscores His divine authority; renders Him an accurate and complete revelation of God; guarantees the integrity of His claims; demands that He alone must be worshiped. Refusal to worship God the Son as the true God is idolatry (1 John 5:20, 21).