

IS JESUS REALLY GOD?

(John 1:1-2; 14; 20:27-29)

What makes an ink pen...an ink pen is not how it looks because some ink pens may look like an ink pen but it can be a disguised flashlight, camera, or even a gun. So what makes an ink pen a genuine ink pen is that it possesses the qualities and attributes of what makes an ink pen - a ink pen. It must possess the chemical composition that makes ink – ink...and the ink is enclosed in a small tube and there is some type of casing that holds the ink in the tube and once the tip of the casing that houses the ink and its tube is pressed upon a substance like paper, then what was on the inside comes on the outside...you visibly see the ink. Church, Jesus is God - not because of how He makes us feel or because someone else has said it or how things look – Jesus is God because Jesus possesses the qualities and attributes of God. Just like God the Father and God the Holy Spirit - Jesus is eternal. In John 1:1 the word for - “Word” in the Greek is in the imperfect tense, indicating continuous, ongoing existence. When the universe came into being, Jesus (God the Son) already existed affirmed by Hebrews 1:8–11 and John 1:1-2. Jesus is self-existent - as the Creator of all things based on Colossians 1:16 & Hebrews 1:2, therefore, Jesus who is God the Son existed before time. Jesus is all-knowing – Matt. 10:29 affirms not even a sparrow falls that Jesus is not aware of and Jesus knows the number of hairs on our head. The Gospels record Jesus knowing the thoughts, hearts, and living conditions of his audience in like when He met the woman collecting water at the well at Sychar, Jesus said to her, she had 5 husbands and the man she was presently living with was not her husband in John 4:18... Jesus is all-powerful - Jesus sustains the entire universe by His own power according to Colossians 1:17 and Hebrews 1:3. During His earthly ministry, Jesus exercised power over nature just like God the Father parted the Red Sea for His people to cross over on dry ground in Exodus 14 – Jesus spoke to a storm and said “peace be still” and the storm immediately ceased and great calm immediately occurred in Mark 4. Jesus is sovereign - Jesus presently sits at the right hand of God the Father, 1 Peter 2:22 says, “Angels, authorities, and powers have been made subject to Him.” When Jesus comes again in glory, He will be adorned with a majestic robe, and on the thigh section of His robe will be the words, “King of King and Lord of Lords” according to Revelation 19:16. Jesus

is sinless - Jesus challenged Jewish leaders in John 8:46 when He said, "Which of you convicts Me of sin?" The apostle Paul referred to Jesus as "Him who knew no sin" in 2 Corinthians 5:21. Now these are just some of the qualities & attributes that only God has and we see from Scripture so did Jesus. Now...did Jesus ever say the exact phrase - "I am God?" Well, not in those exact words but we should not confuse the directness of a claim with the existence of a claim. You see...I don't have to say the exact words, "I am married" to indicate and communicate that I am married. If I said, "I'm Rosalind Rosenthal's husband," or "this is my beautiful wife Rosalind Rosenthal," Or my wife and I celebrated our 27th year wedding anniversary on June 18th – now I never said the words "I am married" but anybody in this era would deduce from my aforementioned statements – "I am married." So, Jesus didn't have to say the exact words "I am God," in order to claim to be divine. Jesus often showed people, by His actions, that He was deity. We know Jesus is God because of the following:

1. Jesus is Eternal; the Word with God, and He is God (vs. 1-2)
2. Jesus was Fully Man and Fully God at the Same Time (vs. 14)
3. Scripture Evidence Alone Proves Jesus is God, but God often times Confirms Scripture with Personal Experiences (John 20:27-29)

In John 1:1 the Apostle John said to both Jews and Greeks: "For centuries you've been talking, thinking, and writing about the Word (the logos). Now, let me tell you who He is - He is Jesus – God the Son – the Eternal Word. John met Jews and Greeks right where they were and explained Jesus in terms they already understood. This is what we must do...we don't need to worry so much about the sin a person may be engaged in when we meet them – rather; we must love them enough to share the Word with them because the truth of the Word can make them free...if you allow the Word to point you in the right direction, then know your direction is more important than your present location. Jesus sees you for what you are going to be, not just for who you are right now. So confess and repent of sin, and then allow Jesus' love, mercy, and grace to lead you into His destiny and purpose for your life.

John 1:14 represents what is called the Incarnation – the act of the preexistent God the Son voluntarily assuming a human body and emotions without ceasing to be God and never

yielding to temptation hence, never committing sin. Jesus did not give up His deity to become a human – He set aside the right to His glory and honor to demonstrate to us - who God is. In His full humanity, Jesus represents everything about God’s attributes and character that can be conveyed in human terms.

One of the most unusual personalities in the Bible who affirmed Jesus as being God the Son is “doubting Thomas” found in John chapter 20. Thomas gets a bad reputation but Thomas simply did not believe everyone’s account without investigating. Thomas did not have an unexamined faith. There is a difference between doubt and unbelief. Doubt says, “I cannot believe for I need more information to make an informed decision.” Unbelief says, “I will not believe no matter what evidence you share.” Doubt has to do with intellect – your mind has to be able to process information. Unbelief is a heart problem. In John 20:28 when Thomas said “My Lord and my God”- both Lord and God were titles of deity, so Thomas was declaring Jesus is God. And the Greek construction of the phrase clearly states Thomas did not subtly say, “My Lord and my God” like he was at the opera or in the library – like some who come to church and hear the gospel weekly. You cannot have had a genuine encounter with Jesus revealing His Lordship to you and you not worship and praise demonstratively sometimes. When you need a like never before breakthrough, you have to offer Jesus some like never before praise.

Let me tell you something...I have never seen George Washington – but I know he was the first president because I read it in a history book and I believe it...well, there is another book called the Bible – and it affirms Jesus is God the Son and I believe it by faith and God affirms it through experience. Jesus is God...do you know Him!