**Messages Series: Answering Tough Questions**

**Pastor Demetric Felton Sr. August 14, 2016**

**Why Do Christians Believe Jesus Christ is God?**

John 1:1-3, 14

**Key Truth:** The Deity of Jesus Christ is absolutely essential to the Christian faith and our salvation. Matthew 16:31, John 2:26-31

**1. The Bible teaches the Deity of Jesus Christ.**

 A. He was in the beginning with God and the creator of the

 world. He became flesh and dwelt among us. John 1:1-3, 14

 B. He is declared God’s Son. Psalm 2:7/Hebrew 1:1-5

 C. He is called God with us. Matthew 1:23, Isaiah 7:14

**2. Jesus Christ taught that he was God**

 A. He is equal with God in essence, power, and authority.

 John 5:10-30

 B. He is from eternity past. John 8:48-58/Exodus 3:14

 C. He is more than human. Matthew 22:41-45/Psalm 110:1

 D. He is God incarnate. To see Jesus is to see God. John 14:8-11

 E. He was condemned for saying he was the Son of God.

 John 10:22-33, Mark 14:61-63

**3. Jesus Christ received worship as God** Matthew 4:8-10,

 Deuteronomy 6:13-14/Acts 14:8-18, Revelation 22:8-9

 A. Jesus didn’t forbid worship of Himself. Matthew 28:9, 28:18,

 John 9:38

 B. Angels are told to worship Jesus Christ. Hebrews 1:6-13

 C. In Heaven Jesus Christ receives worship just like God the

 Father. Revelation 4 & 5

**4. The Apostles spoke of Jesus Christ as God**

 A. The Apostle Paul spoke of Jesus as God

 1. Eternal God. Romans 9:5

 2. The image of the invisible God. Colossians 1:16-18, 2:9-10

 3. Equal with God. Philippians 2:1-10

 4. Our great God and Savior Jesus Christ. Titus 2:11-15

 B. The Apostle John

 1. Jesus Christ is God in the flesh. 1 John 4:1-5

 2. Jesus Christ is the Almighty. Revelation 1:8-11

 3. Jesus Christ is Lord and God. John 20:24-31

**Conclusion:** What you believe about the nature of Jesus Christ is vitally important. Salvation comes by believing in Jesus Christ the Son of God. Salvation belongs to God alone. 1 Timothy 3:14-16,

**Food for Thought for the week of August 14, 2016**

**(Objections and Answers for further study)**

**Objection 1**: Luke 18:18-21 “Why do you call me good? No one is good except God alone. …..

**Answer**: Jesus was asking a question not denying his deity. He was trying to get the young man to see who he truly was. full allegiance to him would be giving full allegiance to God.

**Objection** 2: John 14:28…”The Father is greater than I.”

**Answer**: The Father as God is greater than Jesus is as a man. And the Father is greater in ‘Office” but not in nature. Jesus is equal to God. Just as a human son would say that in the household his earthly father is greater than him by position but not in nature, they are both human beings.

**Objection 3**: Mark 13:32: “But concerning that day or that hour, no one knows, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father.”

**Answer**: Jesus Christ knows the time as God but as man he doesn’t know. The man Jesus had limited knowledge but as God he had infinite knowledge. In Revelation Jesus Christ in his glory reveals to the Apostle John things that are going to take place in the future.

**Objection 4**: Colossians 1:15: “He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation.”

**Answer**: The firstborn in Jewish culture speaks of the one who has the Preeminence or Priority as the heir not necessarily the first born in the family.

See Exodus 4:22 as an example. Israel who was called God’s firstborn.