

Deity of Jesus Christ of Nazareth

Lesson Presented by Asaolu O. S. (asaolu@yahoo.com) at COC UNILAG, Lagos, Nigeria on July 1, 2026

Definition: *Deity* is simply put divinity or godhood.

Introduction: Who is Jesus to you? I mean *the historical Jesus of Nazareth* who is revealed in the scriptures as the mediator of the New Covenant and promised Messiah or Redeemer. On what basis can we accept His claims, the testimony of the NT writers and put all out trust in Him? The deity of Christ is central to Christianity yet controversial to the religious world. **I submit that Jesus is fully man and fully divine;** He alone is the Lord our God and that exactly is what qualifies Him to be mankind's Saviour! His divine nature ensure He could fully fulfill the law and be the perfect sacrifice while his humanity ensures He could truly represent man before, during and after the crucifixion. Some proofs below: (See also [Is God one or three?](#))

1. **There is only one God**, not two or three or multiple. One entity or divine being with various roles and manifestations throughout the ages or dispensations –Deut 6:4-5, Mk 12:29-34, Jms 2:19. If Jesus is God, He must be *the Almighty God* not a mini or demi-god - 1 Cor 8:4-6, Rev 1:7-8, Jn 20:28
2. The Old Testament teaches that the **coming Saviour is Jehovah/Yahweh Himself**. His birth and ministry -Isa 9:6-7 (Lk 1:31-33), Isa 45:21-23 (Lk 2:10-11), Isa 40:1-5; 35: 1-8; Mal 3:1 (Mt 2:1-3; 11:2-11).
3. Jesus as Emmanuel or *God with us* **fulfilled many OT passages as “God in the flesh”** –Isa 6:1-10 (Jn 12:35-41), Isa 44:6 & Zech 9:9 (Jn 12:12-16)
4. **While on earth, Christ by speech and conduct taught people that he is God**. The first pointer to the divinity of Jesus was that the Father mandated all angels to worship Christ at his birth on earth (Heb 1:6). Since God had previously stated that no other being should be worshiped and affirmed “*my glory, I will not give to another*,” this action indicated that the messiah is God himself. The angels at Christ's birth did worship and proclaim that joy universal (Lk 2:10-13). The wise men worshipped the new born too (Mt 2:11). He also made outstanding claims such as being the way, the truth, the light, the life and the resurrection as well as the one to raise the dead and judge on the last day. **Indications which Christ gave to show that he is God include:**
 - During his earthly ministry, Christ received worship on numerous occasions (Mt 14:33, Mk 5:6, Lk 24:52) yet affirmed “*worship the Lord thy God, and him only shalt thou serve*.”
 - Christ stated that he proceeded forth from the status of God to becoming a man –Jn 8:42. By identifying himself as the Son of God, Jesus implied that he is God and many Jews understood as much. That was why they wanted to stone him on such occasions -Jn 10:30-36. His supposed blasphemy was the central charge made by the religious leaders although they were simply acting out of envy -Mt 26:63-66
 - He was sinless, did wonderful works which He attributed to the Father in him, taught that there is none good but God (Lk 18:18-19) yet declared himself as the Good Shepherd (Jn 10:11).
 - He showed that messiah is the Lord of David and thus the God of David - Matthew 22:41-46 [Since David knew that *the LORD is our Lord* (Pls 8:1), it follows that “*the LORD said unto my Lord...*” means God as Spirit addressed himself in the flesh.]
 - He could read men's heart, answer all posers, and perform unheard of miracles. Beyond that, when a man sick of the palsy was brought unto him, 33-year-old Jesus said “*Son, thy sins be forgiven thee*.” (Mk 2:5-12). Only God could call a grown man “son” and forgive sins!
5. NT passages declare that Jesus is God –Jn 1:1-3,14, 1 Tim 3:16, Rm 9:5b, Phil 2:5-11, Tit 2:13, Jude 1:4, Christ is NOT in the Godhead, rather **in Him dwells the fullness of the Godhead in bodily form** -Col 2:8-9. [He is the Father Gal 1:3-4, 1 Jn 3:1-2, and the Holy Spirit 2 Cor 3:17] That is why we use His personal name Jesus Christ in baptism as the name of the saving Godhead –Mt 28:19 vs Acts 2:38f]

Conclusion: Just as Man in his fullness is body, spirit and soul, so is God in His fullness the Word, the Spirit and the Father. One entity, not three different persons though each aspect may temporarily manifest or function as if distinct. Christ is the Word incarnate; the Creator –Isa 44:24, Col 1:14-17, Rev 4:10-11