

1. Messiah, Christ, Saviour

a. **John 4:25-26, 42**

“(25)The woman saith unto him, I know that *Messiah* cometh, which is called *Christ*: when he is come, he will tell us all things.(26) ***Jesus saith unto her, I that speak unto thee am he.***”

“(42) And said unto the woman, Now we believe, not because of thy saying: for we have heard [him] ourselves, and know that this is indeed the *Christ*, the *Saviour* of the world.”

The Samaritan woman was told by Jesus that He was the Messiah or Christ, i.e. *Jesus confessed to her from his own mouth* that He and He alone was the Messiah. Now the word messiah is the word which means “anointed of Jehovah”. Jesus was the anointed of Jehovah by his own confession. Latter on in the same chapter of John verse 42 we are told that the term messiah is synonymous with the word saviour. Therefor there is no mistake about it, Jesus was claiming to be the Messiah, the Saviour of the World. Now in the Old testament the only one who was given such a title was Jehovah God Himself. So we can deduce from this passage in John that Jesus was confessing this to be His very own title and therefore confessing that He is God!

Verses in the Old Testament stating that God alone is the Saviour:

2 Samuel 22:3; Psalm 106:21; Isaiah 43:3,11, 45:15,21, 49:26, 60:16; Hosea 13:4.

Verses in the Gospels where Jesus and others testified to Jesus being the Christ or Messiah:

Matthew 16:16,20, 26:63; Luke 9:20; John 1:41, 11:27, 20:31 et al.

2. The Saviour has the divine right alone to forgive sins

a. **Mark 2:1-12**

“(1)And again he entered into Capernaum after some days; and it was noised that he was in the house. (2)And straightway many were gathered together, insomuch that there was no room to receive them, no, not so much as about the door: and he preached the word unto them. (3)And they come unto him, bringing one sick of the palsy, which was borne of four. (4)And when they could not come nigh unto him for the press, they uncovered the roof where he was: and when they had broken it up, they let down the bed wherein the sick of the palsy lay. (5)***When Jesus saw their faith, he said unto the sick of the palsy, Son, thy sins be forgiven thee.*** (6)But there were certain of the scribes sitting there, and reasoning in their hearts, (7)***Why doth this man thus speak blasphemies? who can forgive sins but God only?*** (8)And immediately when Jesus perceived in his spirit that they so reasoned within themselves, he said unto them, Why reason ye these things in your hearts? (9)Whether is it easier to say to the sick of the palsy, Thy sins be forgiven thee; or to say, Arise, and take up thy bed, and walk? (10)***But that ye may know that the Son of man hath power on earth to forgive sins,*** (he saith to the sick of the palsy,) (11)I say unto thee, Arise, and take up thy bed, and go thy way into thine house. (12)And immediately he arose, took up the bed, and went forth before them all; insomuch that they were all amazed, and glorified God, saying, We never saw it on this fashion.”

Here, Jesus clearly states that He possesses the Divine right to forgive sins. Only God can forgive sins and this is exactly what Jesus was trying to communicate he was. The scribes, who were teachers of the Old Testament and very respected religious people of the day, knew exactly what Jesus was saying and therefore responded with, “ Why doth this man thus speak blasphemies? who can forgive sins but God only?.” That is the point, either Jesus was God and therefor was not blaspheming or He was not God and was. Nevertheless, it is clear who Jesus is claiming to be by making such statements as this. It is left up to the Spirit of God to convince men that Jesus truly is God and the only way to receive forgiveness of sins. Every person needs to wrestle with the fact that Jesus was either Lord (as he claimed to be), liar or lunatic. And if he is who he said he is then we better listen to all else that he has to say!

3. The I AM of the burning bush is Jesus

a. **John 8:24**

(24) I said therefore unto you, that ye shall die in your sins: **for if ye believe not that I am, ye shall die in your sins.**

In the book of Exodus Jehovah God revealed himself to Moses as the I AM that I AM, at the burning bush. This title has a lot of meaning behind it and will not be discussed in depth at this time. But to say the least when Jesus used the phrase "I am" in Johns Gospel he was making no qualms about it, he was claiming to be Jehovah God. The very God that met with Moses at the burning bush. The greek words are *ego eimi*. These are the same greek words used in Exodus 3:14 in the LXX (the greek translation of the old testament) and for Jesus to use them as He did in the above verse and in other verses in the gospel of John is to say very clearly that He was and is God.

b. **John 8:58-59**

(58)Jesus said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, **Before Abraham was, I am.** (59)Then took they up stones to cast at him: but Jesus hid himself, and went out of the temple, going through the midst of them, and so passed by.

Abraham lived approximately 2000 years prior to the day when Jesus uttered these words. Jesus meant what He said and it was clear what he was saying. He was saying that He is the great I AM of the burning bush, the eternal and self existent one. These words speak to Jesus' eternality. Because he is eternal that means he always was, always is and always will be. Thus, if He is the one who always was, always is and always will be he is God.

The best proof of what Jesus meant by claiming to be "I Am" is found by seeing the response of His listeners: They took up stones to throw at Him. They wanted to stone Him for blasphemy, for claiming to be God. Again the same response as in Mark 2:1-12. His listeners knew exactly what He was saying about himself. Those that wanted to kill him didn't struggle at all about *what* Jesus was saying. As soon as those words dropped from our saviors lips they bent over to pick up the nearest stone to hurl at Him.

Other I Am statements made by Jesus:

John 6:35, 41, 48, 51; 8:12; 10:7, 9, 11, 14; 11:25; 14:6; 15:1, 5.

4. Jesus said that He and the Father were one

a. **John 10:30**

(30) **I and my Father are one.**

This is quite clear. When the scriptures talk about "the Father" it is always a reference to "God the Father". Here Jesus says that he and the Father are the one and selfsame person.

b. **John 14:9**

(9) Jesus saith unto him, Have I been so long time with you, and yet hast thou not known me, Philip? **he that hath seen me hath seen the Father;** and how sayest thou [then], Shew us the Father?

Of His own confession, Jesus states that, He is the fulness of the Godhead bodily, or God manifested in the flesh. Immanuel is one of our Lords blessed titles and it means "God with us"! He is very God and very man. The Son of God and God the Son.

3. The Fathers glory is Jesus' glory

a. John 17:5

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

The Glory of God belongs to no one other than God Himself. He does not share this glory with any thing or anyone (Isaiah 42:8; 48:11). It is His and His alone. But, amazingly, we see Jesus ascribing this same glory, the glory of the Father, to himself. In fact Jesus says this was the glory that both He and the Father existed in before the world was. Jesus is God because only God can lay claim to the glory of God. Jesus lays claim to it without hesitation, if it were anyone else saying these things it would be blaspheme. later on in chapter 17 of John Jesus will mention that He has given the glory which the Father has given Him to His disciples. This is to unify us who are His disciples to one another, to Christ and to God the Father. Made one in union, not in likeness.

6. Jesus said that His Father was God

a. John 5:17-18

(17)But Jesus answered them, **My Father** worketh hitherto, and I work. (18)Therefore the Jews sought the more to kill him, because he not only had broken the sabbath, but **said also that God was his Father, making himself equal with God.**

God can only beget God. Jesus is the "only begotten of the father" and therefore his father is God. Joseph was merely his surrogate father. Again, the best way to interpret the meaning of Jesus calling God his father is to look at how the Jews reacted to it: therefore the Jews sought the more to kill him, because [he said] that God was his Father, making himself equal with God.

What the hindus believe about Jesus

- That He was a great and holy man, a teacher and perhaps 1 of 330 million avatars which is a manifestation of a deity or released soul in bodily form on earth; an incarnate divine teacher. But not God

What Buddhists believe about Jesus

- He was an enlightened man, reaching perfection of all positive qualities.

What mormons believe about Jesus

- He was one of many different sons of God. That Jesus is the brother of satan. That Jesus is the result of a sexual relationship that a god elo hiem had with the virgin mary.

What Jehovah Witnesses believe about Jesus

- That he was a physical manifestation of the arch angel Michael.

Some verses Jehovah Witnesses use to denounce the deity of Christ

1. **Colossians 1:15** "first born"

"Who is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of every creature:"

2. **Revelation 3:14** "the beginning of the creation of God"

"And unto the angel of the church of the Laodiceans write; These things saith the Amen, the faithful and true witness, the beginning of the creation of God;"

3. **John 14:28** "My father is greater than I"

"Ye have heard how I said unto you, I go away, and come [again] unto you. If ye loved me, ye would rejoice, because I said, I go unto the Father: for my Father is greater than I."

4. **John 5:25** "The son of God"

"Verily, verily, I say unto you, The hour is coming, and now is, when the dead shall hear the voice of the Son of God: and they that hear shall live."

5. **Matt 19:16-17** "no one good but God"

"And, behold, one came and said unto him, Good Master, what good thing shall I do, that I may have eternal life? And he said unto him, Why callest thou me good? [there is] none good but one, [that is], God: but if thou wilt enter into life, keep the commandments."

6. **Mark 13:31-32**

"heaven and earth shall pass away: but my words shall not pass away. But of that day and [that] hour knoweth no man, no, not the angels which are in heaven, neither the Son, but the Father."

7. **John 3:16** "Begotten son of God"

"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life."

8. **Proverbs 8:22, 29** "lord possessed me" and "I was beside him"

(22)"The LORD possessed me in the beginning of his way, before his works of old."

(29)"When he gave to the sea his decree, that the waters should not pass his commandment: when he appointed the foundations of the earth:"

What these verses really mean

1. **Colossians 1:15**

"Who is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of every creature:"

a. Firstborn is prototokos = it means heir, preeminent, superior in rank or above.

b. He is preeminent over all creation

c. read the context, Verses 16-17 and Col 2:9 is not twisted even in their bibles yet.

d. Other cross references are: Hebrews 1:2; Matthew 11:27; Psalm 89:20-27 (David was not the first born)

2. Revelation 3:14

“And unto the angel of the church of the Laodiceans write; These things saith the Amen, the faithful and true witness, the beginning of the creation of God;”

- a. Beginning is arche = architect, it means origin, source, designer, supervisor, cause.
- b. Jesus was not saying that he had a beginning but that he was the beginner.
- c. John 1:2
- d. Revelation 21:6, The Father is mentioned as the beginning as well. Jesus ascribes the very same title to Himself.

3. John 14:28

“Ye have heard how I said unto you, I go away, and come [again] unto you. If ye loved me, ye would rejoice, because I said, I go unto the Father: for my Father is greater than I.”

- a. Greater is Meizon = this is a quantitative word not a qualitative word.

e.g. “the water in the glass is great”...Qualitative, speaks of the nature of the water.

“The amount of water in the glass is great”...Quantitative speaks of the amount of the water. A quantitative word in the greek speaks of quantities, levels and positions. Not of nature and essence.
- b. God the father was greater in the sense of position and authority. Jesus submitted himself to the father. Higher level of authority does not effect qualities.

Look at luke 2:51

Consider Husbands and wives

4. John 5:25

“Verily, verily, I say unto you, The hour is coming, and now is, when the dead shall hear the voice of the Son of God: and they that hear shall live.”

- a. John 5:18... Jesus said God was his father and this made him equal with God.
- b. A son is of the same nature species or make up. Jesus was saying that he was equal with God in all respects.
- c. We are sons of God by adoption not by nature as Jesus was.

5. Matthew 19:16-17

“And, behold, one came and said unto him, Good Master, what good thing shall I do, that I may have eternal life? And he said unto him, Why callest thou me good? [there is] none good but one, [that is], God: but if thou wilt enter into life, keep the commandments.”

- a. Is it true that the scriptures teach that there is none good but God? Ask this to them...
- b. Is Jesus good? Ask this to them as well...

Hebrews 7:26; John 10:11,14

6. Mark 13:31-32

“heaven and earth shall pass away: but my words shall not pass away. But of that day and [that] hour knoweth no man, no, not the angels which are in heaven, neither the Son, but the Father.”

a. Jesus was both God and Man

Philippians 2:5,7

He voluntarily submitted to the father and refrained from the independent exercise of his attributes of deity. In this case omniscience.

7. John 3:16

“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.”

a. Begotten is monogenes = single of its kind, only, sole, unique, special.

b. This is not saying that God the father created the Jesus.

8. Proverbs 8:22, 29

(22) “The LORD possessed me in the beginning of his way, before his works of old.”

(29) “When he gave to the sea his decree, that the waters should not pass his commandment: when he appointed the foundations of the earth:”

a. Solomon personifies wisdom i.e. ascribe to an inanimate object human like character.

b. check the beginning of the chapter.