



Is Jesus Really God?

Read: Luke 24: 44-53

I always find it fascinating to ask children who they think Jesus is. I have heard just about everything under the sun. My favourite, courtesy of my niece Haley, is still “Jesus is the person the Easter bunny rose from the dead.” Although it is interesting to hear their responses, I do believe there is a great deal of confusion about Jesus’ identity. Even adults can find this complicated. In fact, I have been asked on numerous occasions whether the Bible actually says that Jesus is truly God.

The ascension of Jesus into heaven is further proof of his divinity. Jesus is the Word of God (Luke 1:31), “and the Word was God” (Jn. 1:1). The Word was “in the beginning with God” (Jn. 1:2). Jesus affirms his divine unity with the Father when he says, “I and the Father are one” (Jn. 10:30). At the incarnation the “Word became flesh” (Jn. 1:14). So, according to the Bible, Jesus is fully God, “For in Christ the fullness of God was pleased to dwell” (Colossians 1:19). Furthermore, Jesus never refuses the title of God. In Luke 1:43 and 2:11 he is called Kyrios, a name that is regarded in scripture as the absolute designation for God. Thus the ascension is Jesus’ glorious return to his divine Father (Jn. 17:5).

At the same time the Bible also teaches us that Jesus “came in the flesh” (2 Jn. 1:7). “For in Christ all the fullness of the Deity lives in bodily form” (Colossians 2:9). This means that Jesus is true God and true man, in unity of his divine person.

So why does any of this matter? If we are going to be “witnesses of these things” (Luke 24:48) we must be personally convicted of their truth. Jesus’ death, resurrection and ascension into heaven are the definitive proofs of his divinity. Jesus, God incarnate, has conquered the grave and offers us a share in his divine life. Our salvation hinges upon who we think Jesus is. He cannot be our saviour if we do not first acknowledge him as our God. The Bible is very clear about this. When we accept this truth, we can say with Peter that Jesus is “our God and saviour” (2 Peter 1).

Next Steps: Read the Bible passages in the above article, including Philippians 2:5-11. How do they prove either Jesus’ humanity or divinity? Ask yourself, “Do I believe that Jesus is God?”