

12 Proofs That Jesus Is God

Adult Sunday School Class Lesson 4: Authority Proofs

Review

Proof #1: Jesus is Declared to be God

Proof #2: Jesus Claims to be God

Proof #3: Son Of God

Proof #4: Son of Man

Proof #5: Trinity

Proof #6. Jesus Assumed Divine Authority

❶ Over the forgiveness of sins

Context: Mark 2:5-9

5: Jesus claims a privilege belonging only to God.

6-7

- ~ Who do you think you are to claim the authority to forgive sins?
- ~ According to these religious leaders, only God could do this, so Jesus was declaring His deity.

"I, even I, am he who blots out your transgressions, for my own sake, and remembers your sins no more." - Isaiah 43:25

~ Jesus' words are condemning unless... He is in fact God.

8-9: Jesus reads their minds (another sign of DEITY!) and responds with questions of his own.

Mark 2:10-11

But I want you to know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins." So he said to the man, "I tell you, get up, take your mat and go home."

- ~ Son of Man is a title given to Jesus to speak of His humanity, humility, and deity.
- ~ Jesus as God has the power and authority to forgive the sins of humanity.

❷ Over the Sabbath

Context: Mark 2:23-26

- ~ The disciples are breaking Sabbath law by working (harvesting, threshing, winnowing) on the Sabbath.
- ~ The disciples are disrespecting God's authority!

Mark 2:27

Then he said to them, "The Sabbath was made for man, not man for the Sabbath.

- ~ What right do you have to make this statement?

Mark 2:28

So the Son of Man is Lord even of the Sabbath.

~ As God in the flesh (Deity) Jesus has the divine right (Authority) over the Sabbath!

③ Over people's eternal destinies

Context: John 8:21-23

~ Jesus teaches about His role as the Light of the World and his relationship with the Father.

John 8:24

I told you that you would die in your sins; if you do not believe that I am he, you will indeed die in your sins."

~ Jesus has the authority to determine a person's eternal destiny.

Proof #7. Jesus Exercised Divine Authority

① Over demons

Context: Mark 1:21-27

~ Jesus is in the synagogue on the Sabbath teaching with authority and then with authority he heals a demon possessed man.

24: Jesus was the ultimate threat to their power and authority.

27: CASTING OUT DEMONS was a further extension and example of Jesus authority.

1. Jesus uses a few direct words to cast out the demons (no spells, incantations, odors).
2. The demons immediately submit to Jesus' authority.

② Over disease and death

Context: Mark 5:21-43

Jesus Heals A Woman With A Chronic Illness

Raising of Jairus' daughter from the dead

Mark 5:42

Immediately the girl stood up and began to walk around (she was twelve years old). At this they were completely astonished.

~ Completely astonished: Out of their minds with amazement

~ The Deity of Christ is on display here.

~ One way the Deity of Jesus is seen in the NT is through His miracles.

John 20:30-31

Jesus performed many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not recorded in this book.

But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

~ Jesus demonstrates His deity through authority over Demons, Disease, Death and...

③ Over the natural world

Context: Luke 8:22-25

~ Jesus calms the storm

Luke 8:25

“Where is your faith?” he asked his disciples.

In fear and amazement they asked one another, “Who is this? He commands even the winds and the water, and they obey him.”

~ Jesus offers convincing proof of His deity.

~ Only the Creator himself controls nature.

Proof #8: Jesus claimed ownership over that which belongs only to God

① The kingdom of God

Context: Luke 1:26-33

~ Gabriel announces Christ’s birth to Mary

Luke 1:32-33

He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, 33 and he will reign over Jacob’s descendants forever; his kingdom will never end.”

~ Son of the Most High signifies equality. Jesus was a “carbon copy” of His Father and will rightfully rule over the Kingdom of God forever.

② The angels of God

Context: Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

~ Parable of the Wheat & Tares

Matthew 13:41

The Son of Man will send out his angels, and they will weed out of his kingdom everything that causes sin and all who do evil.

~ Jesus sends/commands HIS angels to execute judgment in the end times.

The Authority of Jesus: Granted or Inherent? Earned or Intrinsic?

Intrinsic means belonging to a thing by its very nature

Was Jesus given his authority by God or did He already have authority because He is God?

Illustrations

~ Pastor as an under shepherd, Disciples of Jesus

Luke 9:1

When Jesus had called the Twelve together, he gave them power and authority to drive out all demons and to cure diseases.

Counterpoints

- ~ The argument is not about a denial of authority, but the source of the authority.
- ~ Jesus did not have authority on his own like God the Father (Yahweh), but rather he earned God-level authority when it was appointed to him by the one true God (Yahweh) and when he submitted to the will and plan of God the Father.

Misc Verses

Matthew 28:18

*Then Jesus came to them and said, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been **given** to me.*

- ❖ Jesus exercises absolute authority over heaven and earth which shows his deity while remaining functionally in obedience to the Father.

John 5:18; 26-27

*18 For this reason they tried all the more to kill him; not only was he breaking the Sabbath, but he was even calling God his own Father, making himself equal with God.²⁶ For as the Father has life in himself, so he has granted the Son also to have life in himself.
27 And he has **given** him authority to judge because he is the Son of Man.*

John 17:1-2

After Jesus said this, he looked toward heaven and prayed:

*“Father, the hour has come. Glorify your Son, that your Son may glorify you. 2 For you **granted him authority** over all people that he might give eternal life to all those you have given him.*

- ❖ The Father has authorized Jesus to give life to other people, because as God, Jesus was life Himself.

John 7:28-29

*28 Then Jesus, still teaching in the temple courts, cried out, “Yes, you know me, and you know where I am from. I am **not here on my own authority**, but he who sent me is true. You do not know him, 29 but I know him because I am from him, and he sent me.”*

- ❖ Jesus represented the Father’s authority because He knew the Father because of his origin and divine mission (John 1).

Philippians 2:6-11

Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage; rather, he made himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness.

And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death—even death on a cross!

Therefore, God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

This act of obedience to the will of his Father, despite his own will, earned him the highest position in all of Yahweh’s creation.

- ❖ God granting Jesus authority through the name above all names is a recognition of his already existing divine position in the Triune Godhead and recognizes his obedience to the will of the Father, it is not an obedience advancement reward.

Additional Authority Responses

1. Jesus already possessing authority as God is essential to the meaning of the many passages in Scripture affirming His pre-incarnation existence and deity.
2. Before the Incarnation and Crucifixion, Jesus had divine authority as Creator, and divine authority as pre-existing with the Father.
3. God granting Jesus authority is an affirmation of his already existing divine role in the redemptive plan of Scripture that is “fleshed” out in the Incarnation.