

Major Event: His Life

Lesson 1: Deity of Christ

Scripture(s): Isaiah 9:6; John 1:1, 14; 8:58

Central Text:

John 1:1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

John 1:14 And the Word became flesh, and dwelt among us, and we saw His glory, glory as of the only begotten from the Father, full of grace and truth.

Suggested Subjects for Teacher to Cover:

The Scriptures declare Jesus to be God (deity):

Isaiah 9:6 “For a child will be born to us, a son will be given to us; And the government will rest on His shoulders; And His name will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Eternal Father, Prince of Peace.”

John 1:1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

Hebrews 1:3 And He is the radiance of His glory and the exact representation of His nature (ὑπόστασις *hypóstasis*-being, essence, essential nature), and upholds all things by the word of His power. When He had made purification of sins, He sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high,

“Exact representation” has the idea of representation or the express image or exact image. Along with the Greek word HUPOSTASIS (being, essence, essential nature), it refers to Jesus being the express image or exact representation of God’s essential nature or essence (namely God the Father).

יהוה –Yahweh- the covenant name of the God of Israel, the name that belongs to God alone. Jesus claimed this divine name when Exodus 3:14-15 and John 8:58 are compared:

Exodus 3:14 God said to Moses, “I AM WHO I AM”; and He said, “Thus you shall say to the sons of Israel, ‘**I AM** has sent me to you.’”

Exodus 3:15 God, furthermore, said to Moses, “Thus you shall say to the sons of Israel, ‘The LORD (Yahweh), the God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you.’ This is My name forever, and this is My memorial-name to all generations.

John 8:58 Jesus said to them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, before Abraham was born, **I AM**.”

Jesus claimed to be equal with God:

(1) By claiming to forgive sins (Mark 2:5ff); (2) By claiming power to raise and judge the dead (John 5:25, 29; cf. 1 Samuel 2:6; Deuteronomy 32:39; Psalm 2:7; Joel 3:12); (3) By claiming to be honored as God (John 5:18, 23)

Jesus claimed to be one with the Father: (John 10:30)

Jesus claimed to be Messiah-God:

(1) Mighty God (Isaiah 9:6); (2) God (Psalm 45:6; Hebrews 1:8); (3) Lord (Psalm 110:1 cf. Matt 22:43-44); (4) Messiah (John 4:26)

Jesus claimed to be God by accepting worship:

The Bible forbids worshipping anyone other than God, But Jesus accepted worship many times:

(1) A healed leper worshiped Him (Matthew 8:2); (2) A ruler knelt before Him after Jesus healed his son (Matthew 9:18); (3) The disciples after the storm (Matthew 14:33); (4) Canaanite woman (Matthew 15:25); (5) Mother of James and John (Matthew 20:20); (6) Gerasene demoniac (Mark 5:6); (7) Healed blind man (John 9:38); (8) All the disciples (Matthew 28:17); (9) Thomas said, “My Lord and My God” (John 20:28); (10) Angels worship Him (Hebrews 1:6)

Jesus claimed to have equal authority with God:

(1) He put His words on the level with God (Matthew 5); (2) He claimed the authority of God (Matthew 28:18-19); (3) He gave a new commandment (John 13:34); (4) He claimed His word would never pass (Matthew 24:35); (5) He said He had authority to judge men (John 12:48)

Suggested attributes and characteristics of God: Review the orthodox view of the Trinity.

Suggested reading for parents and child at home:

Idolatry is the worship of anyone or anything other than the true God (Exodus 20:3-6). An inaccurate view of Christ leads to idolatry (1 John 5:20-21).