

# SESSION 5: Is Jesus Really God?

## Discovering that He Often Said So!

Reference: *Surprised by Faith*, pages 55-62 (fourth edition); pages 59-65 (third edition)

### Making the Discovery

1. Jesus made extraordinary claims that He was \_\_\_\_\_ incarnate. The concept of the incarnation is the biblical teaching that God came to earth in the form of the man Jesus Christ who had both the nature of God and nature of man.
2. Jesus claimed that He was the Divine \_\_\_\_\_ (Matthew 22:41-46). Jesus, the Christ (Messiah or “anointed one”) was prophesied in the Old Testament as both the One who would die for the sins of the people and reign forever as King on David’s throne. David’s “son” (Messiah) was David’s God!
3. Jesus claimed that His name is \_\_\_\_\_, the name of God (John 8:56-59; Exodus 3:14-15). The Jews tried to stone Him for what they thought was blasphemy. To speak blasphemy is to speak about God or sacred things with abuse or contempt, cursing or reviling God and being irreverent. (See Leviticus 24:16.)
4. Jesus claimed to be \_\_\_\_\_ (equal) with the Father (John 10:30). The Jews again tried to stone Him for what they thought was blasphemy, for making Himself out to be God (John 10:33).
5. Jesus claimed He could give \_\_\_\_\_ life to anyone (John 5:21). Only God has this authority and power.
6. Jesus claimed He was “from \_\_\_\_\_” and “not of this world” (John 8:23-24). He also said that everyone will die in their sins unless they believe that He is God.
7. The New Testament cites many other occasions on which Jesus claimed to be God. Responses of those who were eyewitnesses reinforce the fact that His claims about Himself were extraordinary. People around Him were clearly astonished. Some even considered His claims blasphemous and determined that He should be put to death (Matthew 26:63-66).

## DISCOVERY #5

**“Ah-ha!”** Eyewitnesses testified that Jesus claimed to be God!

### Confirming the Discovery from God’s Word

In summary of God’s Word, the Old and New Testaments are clear that the promised Messiah would be both man and God. Jesus claimed that He gave His life as a ransom for sin, but God says in Psalm 49:7 that no man can redeem the life of another or ransom them. Hence, Jesus must be claiming to be more than a man and without sin, as no other man ever was or is (Psalm 49:7; Mark 10:45). By claiming that He could give and guarantee eternal life to His followers, Jesus was promising what only God—with absolute power and authority—could deliver (John 10:27-28). During His temptations in the wilderness Jesus stated that only God must be worshiped. His acceptance of worship without objection during His ministry is an indirect way of claiming divinity (Matthew 28:16-17; John 9:38). It was prophesied that a child would be born in Galilee of the Gentiles who would be called “Mighty God” and “Eternal Father.” Little Bethlehem would deliver a ruler of Israel who is “from the days of eternity.” Jesus fulfills both prophecies: Son of Man and Lord God (Micah 5:2; Isaiah 9:6)!

Answers to “Fill in the Blanks”: 1. God; 2. Messiah; 3. I AM; 4. one; 5. eternal; 6. above