

APOLOGETICS

IN ONE LESSON

↑
almost

Ai1L.net

Lesson 20

“Jesus didn't claim to be God”

Key Takeaways (review)

1

You cannot reject a source merely because they believe their own message; **people who claim this are inconsistent**

2

Cross examine all sources; and recognize that all are biased (but that doesn't make them wrong)

3

The broad outline of the Gospel is **well-attested by non-Christian sources**

Numbers 27

(27:16) like sheep who have no shepherd

(27:20) listen to him

(27:21) at his word they will go out

(27:17a) will lead them out

(27:17b) who will go out before them

(27:17b, 27:21) who will go out before them
and who will go in before them.

... at his word they will go out
and at his word they will come in he and all the
children of Israel.

John 10

the shepherd of the sheep (10:2)

hear his voice (10:3a)

calls his own sheep by name and he leads
them out (10:3b)

he goes before them (10:4)

if anyone enters through me, he will be saved,
he will go in and out find pasture (10.9)

IDEA IN BRIEF

- | | |
|-------|---|
| What? | Be able to show that Jesus is identified as God in many places in the New Testament |
| Why? | So that people can answer groups (skeptics, Jehovah's Witnesses, etc.) that argue Jesus never claimed to be God (and possibly do so to cause doubt) |
| How? | By showing that a solid case case for the divinity of Christ (using the simple H.A.N.D.S. model) |

1 Make an argument that Jesus accepted the *honor* due to God.

	God	The Lamb	God (1 Chron. 29)
Worthy	4:11	5:9, 12	
Blessing/praise	5:13; 7:12	5:12, 13	
Honor	4:9, 11; 5:13; 7:12	5:12, 13	
Glory	4:9, 11; 5:13; 7:12; 19:1b	1:6; 5:12, 13	29:12
Dominion	5:13	1:6; 5:13	
Power	4:11; 7:12; 19:1b	5:12	29:11
Might	7:12	5:12	29:11-12
Wealth		5:12	29:12
Wisdom	7:12	5:12	
Thanksgiving	4:9; 7:12		
Salvation	7:10; 19:1b	7:10	

Worship Received by Christ

Revelation 1:12-20

Described in detail in glorious imagery
(1:13-16)

John fell at Jesus' feet as a dead man
(1:17a)

Jesus said, "Don't be afraid"
(1:17b)

Claimed to be "the first and the last"
(1:17-18)

Jesus does nothing to redirect worship
away from himself

Worship Rejected by the Angel

Revelation 19-22

No description of the angel is given at all
(19:12—16)

John fell at the angel's feet to worship him
(19:10a; 22:8)

"Don't do that"
(19:10b; 22:9a)

Said that he was merely a fellow servant
(19:10b; 22:9b)

Tells John to worship God
(19:10c; 22:9c)

2

Make an argument that Jesus shared the *attributes* of God.

“...two that sit together and are occupied in words of Torah have the Shekinah¹ among them”

RABBI HANANIAH

Pirkei Avot 3.2

¹ Shekinah refers to the presence of God

“Here Jesus himself fills the role of the Shekinah, God's presence, in the traditional Jewish saying.”

CRAIG KEENER

*A Commentary on the Gospel of Matthew
(page 455)*



3

Make an argument that Jesus shares the *names* of God.

4

Make an argument that Jesus share
in the *deeds* that God does.

Exodus

Mark

Midst

Walked in "the midst of the sea"
(Exod. 14:16, 22, 27, 29)

Boat in the middle of the sea
(Mark 6:47)

Crossed Over

Crossed to the other side
(Exod. 15:16)

They also "crossed over" the sea
(Mark 6:53)

Strong wind

1. From the east blew
2. Close to daybreak
3. Egyptians found it difficult

(Exod. 14:21, 24-25)

1. Blew from the east
2. Close to daybreak
3. Difficult for the disciples

(Mark 6:48)

Hard heart

Egyptians hardened their hearts
(Exod. 14:4, 8, 17)

"their hearts were hardened"
(Mark 6:52)

Take heart

Moses told the Israelites: "Take heart!"
(Θαρσεῖτε, Exod. 14:13 LXX)

Jesus told the disciples: "Take heart!"
(Θαρσεῖτε, Mark 6:50)

5

Make an argument that Jesus shared the seat of God's throne.

“Go to my brothers and tell them, ‘I am ascending to **my Father and your Father**, to my God and your God.’”

John 20:17

“‘I am,’ said Jesus, ‘and you will see the Son of Man sitting at the right hand of the Power and coming with the clouds of heaven.’

Mark 14:62

“Here is the Lord’s proclamation to my lord:

‘Sit down at my right hand until I make your enemies your footstool.’”

Psalms 110:1

“And Jesus said, “I am, and you will see the Son of Man seated at the right hand of Power, and coming with the clouds of heaven.”

Daniel 7:13 (ESV)

ONE DOES NOT SIMPLY

WALK INTO GOD'S THRONE ROOM

Key Takeaways

1

There are several passages that **explicitly say that Jesus is God** (including in Mark)

2

There are many passages which make an argument for Jesus' divinity based on **Old Testament references**

3

Many statements from Jesus would be **incredibly weird if Jesus isn't God**

Sharp's Rule: (Indicates that both nouns refer to same person)

The—noun—and(και)—noun

Example 1 (one person):

The CEO and chairman ...

Example 2 (two people):

The CEO and the chairman ...

Sharp's Rule: (Indicates that both nouns refer to same person)

The—noun—and(καί)—noun

Titus 2:13:

our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ ...

Sharp's Rule: (Indicates that both nouns refer to same person)

The—noun—and(καί)—noun

2 Peter 1:1:

our God and Savior, Jesus Christ ...