

WHAT the BIBLE TEACHES about GOD and JESUS CHRIST

Lesson 5 - Part 2

JESUS CHRIST IS GOD

Jesus Christ has the attributes of God

1. What name is given to Jesus as a man?

What names are given to Jesus as God?

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2. Jesus is the name given to Him as a man. Some of the names given to Jesus as God are:

- Christ, the Anointed One
- Son of God
- One and Only Son of God
- Lord
- Holy One
- God

Jesus Christ is fully man and fully God.

In this lesson we want to look at four attributes of God which Jesus has.

They are: Jesus is

- eternal
- self-existing
- infinite
- immutable

These words look like hard words to understand. We did learn some of

these words already in Lesson 2 when we talked about the attributes of God.

The word "attribute" means a quality or characteristic which belongs to a person or a thing. Attributes tell what a person is really like. For example, when a person is kind, we say, his attribute is kindness.

What do attributes tell?

3. Attributes tell what a person is like. Attributes of God tell what God is like. Jesus Christ has all the attributes of God because He is God.

Colossians 2:9

For in Christ all the fullness of the Deity lives in bodily form.

In whom is all the fullness of God?

4. In Jesus Christ is all the fullness of God. In Lesson 4, part 2, we learned that Jesus Christ is eternal. "To be eternal" is an attribute of God. It cannot be an attribute of people. We can look at it this way:

From eternity ----- Jesus Christ ----- to eternity

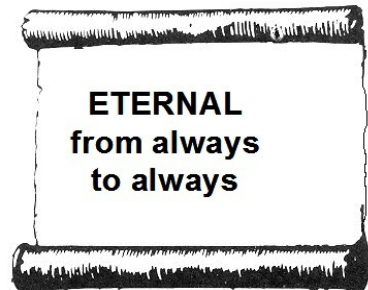
People from birth ----- to eternity

Colossians 1:17

He is before all things, and in him all things hold together.

What is one attribute of God which is true of Jesus Christ?

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- He is self-existing.
- He is infinite.
- He is immutable.



5. God is eternal. Jesus Christ is eternal.

Revelation 1:7,8

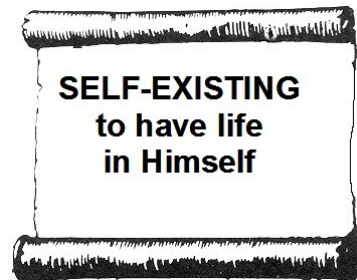
Look, he is coming with the clouds, and every eye will see him, even those

who pierced him; and all the peoples of the earth will mourn because of him. So shall it be! Amen. "I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, "who is, and who was, and who is to come, the Almighty."

Alpha means the beginning and Omega means the end. Alpha is the first letter and Omega is the last letter in the Greek alphabet.

Why can we not tell how old Jesus is?

6. We cannot say how old Jesus is, because He always was and always will be. He is eternal. To be eternal, He must also be self-existing. To be self-existing means to have life in oneself, or a person can be alive without anyone or anything helping him to be alive. As people we know this is impossible for us. We see poor people die and rich people die. We also see kings and strong men die. God is not this way. He lives and will live without the help of anyone or anything.



John 5:26

For as the Father has life in himself, so he has granted the Son to have life in himself.

John 1:1,4

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. . . .In him was life, and that life was the light of men.

John 1:14

The Word became flesh and lived for a while among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

Who has life in Himself?

7. Jesus has life in Himself. Only God can have life in Himself. No one gives life to God and no one takes life away from God. Jesus is God.

John 10:17,18

The reason my Father loves me is that I lay down my life - only to take it up again. No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have authority to lay it down and authority to take it up again. This command I

received from my Father.

Who has life in Himself or is self-existing?

8. Jesus has life in Himself. He is self-existing. God the Father has given Jesus the authority over His own life. To be "self-existing" is an attribute of God and of Jesus.

John 14:6

Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."

Who is life?

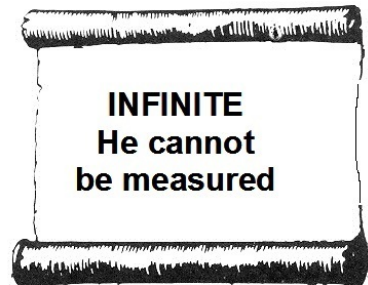
9. Jesus Christ is life. He does not only have life, but is life.

We have learned two attributes of God now. They are:

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10. Some of the attributes of God are:

- He is eternal.
- He is self-existing.
- He is infinite.
- He is immutable.



God is infinite. This means God is so great that He cannot be measured. He cannot be measured in His greatness or in His power. Can the same be said about Jesus Christ?

Colossians 1:19

For God was pleased to have all his fullness dwell in him (Christ).

Colossians 2:9

For in Christ all the fullness of the Deity lives in bodily form.

What does Jesus Christ have in Him?

11. Jesus Christ has the fullness of God in Him. He has all the greatness of God in Him - all the greatness of knowledge, power, life, and being of God. God is infinite because His greatness cannot be measured.

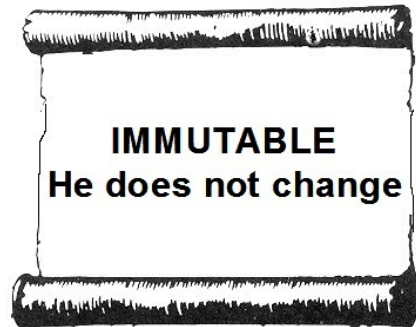
Romans 11:33

Oh, the depth of the riches of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable his judgments, and his paths beyond tracing out!

Why can the greatness of God not be measured?

12. The greatness of God cannot be measured because it is too great for us to understand. Jesus also has all this fullness, and is infinite.

Jesus is immutable. Immutable means that something cannot be changed. People change. Sometimes people meet after they have not seen each other for a long time. We may hear them say, "You have changed. I would not have recognized you." People also change in the way they feel and in the way they react. People are happy on their wedding day. Many marriages are happy and lasting. In some marriages the man and his wife turn the wedding-day happiness into hatred.



God does not change. Jesus Christ does not change. He does not grow old. His love and compassion do not change. His way of doing things does not change.

Hebrews 13:8

Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.

Hebrews 1:12

But you (Jesus) remain the same, and your years will never end.

Who does not change?

13. Jesus does not change. He is the same today as He was yesterday. He will be the same tomorrow as He was yesterday. He does not change.

Do you remember the meanings of the attributes we have learned so far?

Match with the right answer.

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|---------------|----------------------------|
| immutable | a) from always to always |
| infinite | b) does not change |
| eternal | c) to have life in Himself |
| self-existing | d) cannot be measured |

14. Immutable means He does not change. Infinite means He cannot be measured. Eternal means from always to always. Self-existing means to have life in Himself.

What do these attributes of God mean to us? They show us that we have a very great God. They also show us that Jesus Christ is God. Jesus Christ is eternal, self-existing, infinite, and immutable.

Write in about 200 words what it means to you that Jesus Christ is eternal, self-existing, infinite, and immutable. Tell something about how it helps you in your life.

15. What is an attribute?

Write down four attributes of God which Jesus has. Also write the meaning of each attribute.

- which means
- which means
- which means
- which means

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