

OK, we Christians have this wacky belief that (sit down):

God became man...

not in myth, but in reality! Jesus of Nazareth is the accused party. And there are agnostics and Jehovah's Witnesses and even Christians who don't know how *ever* we came to that conclusion. Following are some of the verses that show us where it is claimed He is God. Read through these, then on the next pages we'll see if the claims stand up, OK?

John 1.1 *in the beginning was the word and the word was with God and the word was God.*

John writes that the Word, whoever that was, is God. The Word only has to be identified. Hmm... Verse 14 clears it up! "And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us." That would be Jesus. So John says that Jesus = God.

John 10.30-33 *[Jesus said] "i and the father are one." Again, the jews picked up stones to stone him... "We are stoning you] for blasphemy, because you, a mere man, claim to be God."*

The Jews were no idiots. They knew Jesus was making himself equal to God; they were about to stone him for it. Important note here: Jesus *never* corrects them saying, "Whoa! Hold on! You misunderstood! OUCH! Who threw that?" Unlike what an angel or prophet or apostle would do, *He never denies their accusation.*

John 8.58 *"i tell you the truth," jesus answered, "before abraham was born, i am."*

Why not "Before Abraham was born, I WAS"??? Where did Jesus learn grammar? Hello! Jesus knew *exactly* what he was saying and the Jews knew *exactly* what he was implying. The I AM was how God referred to Himself in the Scriptures. Jesus was saying that HE was the great I AM, i.e. G-O-D. Reading further you'll see that the Jews were trying again to stone him and Jesus *still* doesn't correct what he said. No misunderstanding in this situation, either!

John 20.28 *thomas said to him, "My lord and my God."*

Hard to get more plain than that. Further reading will reveal that Jesus doesn't correct Thomas, either - again he accepts the worship! (See also: Mt 8.2, John 9.35-39, Mt 14.33)

Mark 13.31 *[Jesus said] "Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will never pass away."*

Isaiah 40.8 says, *The grass withers and the flowers fade, but the word of our God stands forever.* Hmm. No direct claim here, but a clear indirect assertion that his words are equal to God's words, therefore He is claiming equality with God. In the same way compare Revelation 1.17 and Isaiah 44.6.

There are many other claims, direct and inferred, but that's for YOU to look up and study on your own! C'mon! You can do it! Now before we try and figure out if Jesus really was Who He says He is, let's briefly tackle our Holy Book, The TV Guide. Kidding! The Bible, of course...