

God the Son

There are 3 statements that summarise biblical teaching:

1. God is 3 persons (God the father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit).
2. each person is fully God
3. there is one God.

Today we focus on the person being the Son of God - Jesus Christ - but the doctrine helps us to a better understanding of Jesus.

1. So referring to the first point - God is 3 persons:

What does God the Father say about the Son?

At Jesus' baptism:

"As soon as Jesus was baptized, he went up out of the water. At that moment heaven was opened, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him. And a voice from heaven said, "This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased.""

Matthew 3:16-17 NIV

On the mount of transfiguration:

"While Peter was still speaking, a bright cloud covered them, and a voice from the cloud said, "This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased. Listen to him!"

Matthew 17:5 NIV

What does Jesus say about himself?

In our passage read from Mark today: Jesus was up before the church council and they asked him who he is.

"But Jesus remained silent and gave no answer. Again the high priest asked him, "Are you the Messiah, the Son of the Blessed One?" "I am," said Jesus. "And you will see the Son of Man sitting at the right hand of the Mighty One and coming on the clouds of heaven.""

Mark 14:61-62 NIV

This would have been a shock to those around. 'I am' was a name of God and out of reverence it was barely spoken. He was Jesus saying 'I am'!

Then in John 14:

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

John 14:6 NIV

So to clarify, the first statement God is 3 persons - scripture clearly separates Jesus from the Father.

2. So is he fully God?

“In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made.”
John 1:1-3 NIV

“For in Christ all the fullness of the Deity lives in bodily form, and in Christ you have been brought to fullness. He is the head over every power and authority.”
Colossians 2:9-10 NIV

“The Son is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation.”
Colossians 1:15 NIV

“Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage; rather, he made himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death— even death on a cross!”
Philippians 2:6-8 NIV

3. The third point about being one God can be drawn from a number of passages in the Old Testament and the new. Using just one passage from each, NT and OT:

“For there is one God and one mediator between God and mankind, the man Christ Jesus,”
1 Timothy 2:5 NIV

“I am the Lord, and there is no other; apart from me there is no God.”
Isaiah 45:5 NIV

In many ways , I believe that progressively, over time, we have become over familiar with Jesus, he is indeed accessible to us, and whilst he is our advocate, he is God himself.

He is all powerful and yet merciful, but not to be taken lightly.

Questions

1. Consider what other passages talk about Jesus in the Trinity?
2. Consider the implication of the following passage on:
 - a: how we live
 - b: how it might change or influence the way we pray

Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.”

Philippians 2:9-11

3. Take time to list some of the names given in the bible for Jesus Christ- e.g. Son of Man, Son of God etc and consider him as a person.