Who is Jesus? 2020-01-19

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<u>In the <u>beginning</u> was the <u>Word</u>, and the <u>Word</u> was with God, and the <u>Word</u> was God. <u>2</u>He was in the <u>beginning</u> with God. <u>3AII</u> things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. <u>4</u>In him was life, and the life was the light of men [humanity]. <u>5</u>The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.</u>

(John 1:1-5)

The Apostle John begins his Gospel account explaining that Jesus is the "Word" (Greek, λόγος "logos") which is the physical expression of a thought.

And, Jesus ("logos") is One *with* God ($\theta \epsilon \delta \zeta$ "theon/s") and *IS* GOD ("the", definite article, Greek, $\tau \delta v$ "ton"). Not "a" god but, "the" God, with a capital letter. Only *one* God. Jesus is God. And, Jesus made *ALL things*.

What other book of the Bible begins with "In the beginning"?

1 In the **beginning**, God created the heavens and the earth. (Genesis 1:1)

Just like John begins his Gospel with "In the beginning was the Word" so, especially Jews would see the comparison between Jesus and the Creator.

The Apostle Paul wrote to the Believers at Colossae. After starting his letter with encouraging greetings, Paul launches *directly* into the person of Jesus Christ and *Jesus' divine position, power* and *authority*.

15He is the <u>image</u> of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. 16For by him <u>all</u> things were created, in heaven and on earth, <u>visible</u> and <u>invisible</u>, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—<u>all</u> things were created through him and for him. 17And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together.

18And he is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything he might be preeminent. 19For in him <u>all</u> the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, 20and through him to reconcile to himself <u>all</u> things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross (Colossians 1:15-20)

v. 15 Jesus is not a reflection, like in a mirror. Jesus IS the *image* ($\epsilon i\kappa \omega v$, *icon*) of God. In this case, the image is the exact representation of God, Jesus isn't like, He IS God

And, Jesus created ALL things. In Genesis 1:1, who created the "Heavens and the Earth"? God created ALL things. And, here, Paul explains that Jesus created ALL things. Therefore, Jesus equals God!

Paul also declares in verse 17, regarding creation, that *Jesus IS Creator* and *Sustainer* of the Cosmos, that is the physical realm, and the spiritual, unseen realm.

<u>1</u>Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets, <u>2</u>but in these last days he has spoken to us by his <u>Son</u>, whom he appointed the heir of <u>all</u> things, through whom also he created the world. <u>3</u>He is the radiance of the glory of God and the <u>exact</u> imprint of his nature, and he [Jesus] upholds the universe by the <u>word</u> of his power. After making purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, (**Hebrew 1:1-3**)

The author of Hebrews tells us that Jesus created ALL things. Jesus existed before the beginning. Therefore, Jesus is Eternal.

v. 3 explains, Jesus is the *exact* (χαρακτήρ, character) imprint of God's nature. If something is exactly the same, it *is that* thing. Otherwise, it *is like* that thing, not exact. Jesus upholds the Universe by the WORD of HIS power. Once again, we see that Jesus is Creator and Sustainer of the Cosmos.

A few verses later, the author of Hebrews adds a prophetic Psalm to the description of Jesus:

<u>10</u>And, "You, *Lord*, laid the foundation of the earth *in the beginning*, and the heavens are the work of your hands; <u>11</u>they will perish, but you remain; they will all wear out like a garment, <u>12</u>like a robe you will roll them up, like a garment they will be changed. *But you are the same, and your years will have no end.*" (Hebrews 1:10-12, from Psalm 102:25-27)

Later, Hebrews reminds us of Jesus' eternal nature:

8Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever. (Hebrews 13:8)

Jesus is *ETERNAL*, from *before* time. Jesus *precedes* Space-Time at Creation. So, looking back at John 1:1-5, we see Jesus is *pre-Creation and pre-time* — *Eternal*.

John, in Revelation chapter 4, reveals the scene in Heaven of Jesus on the throne of God where He, Jesus, is worshiped as God!

"Holy, holy, is the Lord God Almighty, who was and is and is to come!"

9And whenever the living creatures give glory and honor and thanks to him who is seated on the throne, who lives forever and ever, 10the twenty-four elders fall down before him who is seated on the throne and worship him who lives forever and ever. They cast their crowns before the throne, saying,

11 "Worthy are you, our *Lord* and *God*, to receive glory and honor and power, for you created all things, and by your will they existed and were created." (Revelation 4:8-11)

So, who is Jesus?

Jesus is Creator. Jesus is Sustainer. Jesus is Eternal.

Jesus is GOD!