

Give me One Scripture where Jesus called Himself God

There was a time when non-Christian challenged me and said, "give me one scripture where Jesus referred to Himself as God."

I actually have more than one. This question can be intimated to one who is not deeply studied, but the Word has many scriptures where Jesus clearly referred to Himself as God and guess what? He did not misspeak. He spoke exactly what was true and what He meant.

Furthermore, there are many other scriptures where Jesus was referred to as God.

Let's delve in.

- A) Jesus referring to Himself as God
 - 1. Jesus Is Equal with God

John 5:5-8 5 Now a certain man was there who had an infirmity thirty-eight years. 6 When Jesus saw him lying there, and knew that he already had been in that condition a long time, He said to him, "Do you want to be made well?" 7 The sick man answered Him, "Sir, I have no man to put me into the pool when the water is stirred up; but while I am coming, another steps down before me." 8 Jesus said to him, "Rise, take up your bed and walk." 9 And immediately the man was made well, took up his bed, and walked. And that day was the Sabbath.

14 Afterward Jesus found him in the temple, and said to him, "See, you have been made well. Sin no more, lest a worse thing come upon you." 15 The man departed and told the Jews that it was Jesus who had made him well. 16 For this reason

the Jews persecuted Jesus, and sought to kill Him, because He had done these things on the Sabbath. 17 But Jesus answered them, "My Father has been working until now, and I have been working." 18 Therefore the Jews sought all the more to kill Him, because He not only broke the Sabbath, but also said that God was His Father, making Himself equal with God. NKJV

- a) First the Jews wanted to kill Jesus for healing the man on Sabbath.
 - i) Jesus knew the extreme beliefs of the Jews, yet He went ahead and healed the man anyway on a Sabbath.
 - ii) He did not apologize or backdown.
- b) He went on and made a huge claim that angered them even the more. This was calling God, His Father.
- c) For 30 years, Jesus was a Jew and grew up in the synagogue hearing what the Jews believed.
- d) The Jews understood what claiming God to be one's Father was all about or what it meant.
 - i) This meant that one is making Himself equal to God
 God. In other words, one claiming deity or to be God.
- e) Jesus knew this (What the Jews believed) before He used this choice of words. He did not make a mistake, and He did not misspeak. He called God His Father countless times.
 - i) He knew well what He was saying and the claims He was making.
- f) Truth be said, Jesus was clearly stating not only to be God, but to be equal to Him.

g) Jesus was saying, My Father and I are equals. We are God.

2. Honor the Son = Honor the Father

John 5:23 That all *men* should honour the Son, even as they honour the Father. He that honoureth not the Son honoureth not the Father which hath sent him.

- a) Jesus revealed that He was not to be honored less than His Father, but the same way (even as). If one chooses to honor God the Father, but not honor Jesus equally, that person has not honored God the Father.
- b) Honoring the son = honoring the Father AND dishonoring the Son (Jesus) = Dishonoring God. If this is not claiming to be God, I do not know what is. Jesus was calling Himself God or claiming to be God.

3. I and My Father are one

John 10:30-33 I and My Father are one." 31 Then the Jews took up stones again to stone Him. Jesus answered them, "Many good works I have shown you from My Father. For which of those works do you stone Me?" The Jews answered Him, saying, "For a good work we do not stone You, but for blasphemy, and because You, being a Man, make Yourself God." NKJV

- a) According to the Jews, they wanted to stone Him because He had blasphemed specifically, He had made Himself God.
- b) What they did not understand that Jesus did not just make Himself God, He was God!
- c) In Jesus' communication, they knew very well what the statements he made meant by saying "I and My Father are one."

4. Before Abraham was, I AM

John 5:54-59 Jesus answered, If I honour myself, my honour is nothing: it is my Father that honoureth me; of whom ye say, that he is your God: 55 Yet ye have not known him; but I know him: and if I should say, I know him not, I shall be a liar like unto you: but I know him, and keep his saying. 56 Your father Abraham rejoiced to see my day: and he saw it, and was glad. 57 Then said the Jews unto him, Thou art not yet fifty years old, and hast thou seen Abraham? 58 Jesus said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Before Abraham was, I am. 59 Then took they up stones to cast at him: but Jesus hid himself, and went out of the temple, going through the midst of them, and so passed by.

- a) Exodus 3:14 And God said unto Moses, I AM THAT I AM: and he said, Thus shalt thou say unto the children of Israel, I AM hath sent me unto you.
- b) I AM is a reference to God. When Jesus claimed be to the I AM, He was saying He was GOD.
- c) Jesus was the great "I AM THAT I AM."

5. I am

John 8:20-24 These words spake Jesus in the treasury, as he taught in the temple: and no man laid hands on him; for his hour was not yet come. 21 Then said Jesus again unto them, I go my way, and ye shall seek me, and shall die in your sins: whither I go, ye cannot come. 22 Then said the Jews, Will he kill himself? because he saith, Whither I go, ye cannot come. 23 And he said unto them, Ye are from beneath; I am from above: ye are of this world; I am not of this world. 24 I said therefore unto you, that ye shall die in your sins: for if ye believe not that I am he, ye shall die in your sins. See verses 28 and 58 as well

a) Whoever does not believe that Jesus is God cannot be saved. That person will die in their sins.

- b) Jesus clearly mentioned that He was God. He claimed to be He is the I AM. He was invoking, Exodus 3:14 "And God said unto Moses, I AM THAT I AM: and he said, Thus shalt thou say unto the children of Israel, I AM hath sent me unto you."
- c) John 18:5-6, When Jesus pronouncement "I am he" it knocked backward to the ground all of those who came to arrest Him. This reveals how powerful this pronouncement was given that the very I AM revealed that He was.

B) Scriptures referring to Jesus as God

1. The Mighty God

Isaiah 9:6 For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.

2. God was manifest in the flesh

1 Timothy 3:16 And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: God was manifest in the flesh, justified in the Spirit, seen of angels, preached unto the Gentiles, believed on in the world, received up into glory.

3. Thy throne, O God

Hebrews 1:1-10 1 God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets, 2 Hath in these last days spoken unto us by his Son, whom he hath appointed heir of all things, by whom also he made the worlds; 3 Who being the brightness of his glory, and the express image of his person, and upholding all things by the word of his power, when he had by himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high; 4 Being made so much better than the

angels, as he hath by inheritance obtained a more excellent name than they. 5 For unto which of the angels said he at any time, Thou art my Son, this day have I begotten thee? And again, I will be to him a Father, and he shall be to me a Son? 6 And again, when he bringeth in the first begotten into the world, he saith, And let all the angels of God worship him. 7 And of the angels he saith, Who maketh his angels spirits, and his ministers a flame of fire. 8 But unto the Son he saith, Thy throne, O God, is for ever and ever: a sceptre of righteousness is the sceptre of thy kingdom. 9 Thou hast loved righteousness, and hated iniquity; therefore God, even thy God, hath anointed thee with the oil of gladness above thy fellows. 10 And, Thou, Lord, in the beginning hast laid the foundation of the earth; and the heavens are the works of thine hands:

4. Who being in the form of God

Philippians 2:5-11 5 Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus: 6 Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God: 7 But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men: 8 And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross. 9 Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name: 10 That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; 11 And that every tongue should confess that Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

- a) Jesus was in the form of God before He came to the earth to wear a human body.
 - i) "Being" = Always existing
 - ii) "form" is the word comes from a Greek word
 "morphe" which means "the expression of the true
 inner nature of a thing."

- iii) Philippians 2:6 ISV In <u>God's own form existed</u> <u>he</u>, and shared with God equality, deemed nothing needed grasping.
- b) Jesus thought (considered) it NOT robbery to be equal with God because He was equal with God. Why did He not think it was robbery? Because He was equal with God.
- c) He was not stealing from God because He was equal with Him.

5. This is the true God, and eternal life

1 John 5:20 And we know that the Son of God is come, and hath given us an understanding, that we may know him that is true, and we are in him that is true, even in his Son Jesus Christ. This is the true God, and eternal life.

Many people think eternal life is living forever, but it is more than that.

- a) Eternal life = knowing God (John 17:3).
- b) Eternal life = Jesus (1 John 5:20 says Jesus is the true God and eternal life.)
- c) Jesus = God (1 John 5:20) and other passages listed earlier.
 - a) We can accurately conclude that eternal life is knowing and having relationship with God who is Jesus in this life and life after.