

Christian Apologetics (Part 77)

E. The Person and Work of Jesus Christ

1. The Deity of Christ

a. Argument By Truth (Proverbs 26:4)

1) Evidence From the Bible

- a) Deity is explicitly attributed to Him and claimed by Him.
- b) The attributes of God are possessed and manifested by Him.
- c) All the works of God are performed by Him.
- d) The worship of God is due to Him, offered to Him, and received by Him.
- e) The titles and names of God are used to designate Him.
- f) The seat of God's throne is occupied by Christ.

2) Evidence From the External World

- a) Jesus' position of kingship over the external world and His infallible control of all events demonstrate His true deity.
- b) The dramatic impact which Jesus' life had and has on the course of history demonstrates His deity.

3) Evidence From Personal Experience

-When people come to trust Christ for salvation, they meet Him and know Him, not as a creature, but as their Lord and God.

b. Argument By Folly (Proverbs 26:5): The non-Christian has no alternative that is acceptable to his own standards.

- 1) Show the non-Christian that he can't support his commitment to independence, upon which all his arguments against the deity of Christ rest.
- 2) Show the non-Christian that he can't support the specific positions he takes regarding the deity of Christ.

a) Denials Claiming Absolute Certainty

-“It is impossible for Jesus to be both God and man.”

-“Jesus was just a good man.”

-“Jesus was a son of God as every human being is a son of God.”

b) Denials Claiming Complete Uncertainty

-“We cannot know whether Jesus even claimed to be God, much less whether He truly was.”

The Practical Significance of Christ's Deity: Jesus' deity underscores His divine authority; renders Him an accurate and complete revelation of God; guarantees the integrity of His claims; demands that He alone must be worshiped. Refusal to worship God the Son as the true God is idolatry (1 John 5:20, 21).