

Jesus is God because he raised the dead

Jesus raised Lazarus, Jairus' daughter, and the widow's son. If raising the dead makes Jesus God, then Elijah, Elisha, and Peter are also God because they also raised the dead. Peter also walked on the water.

Jesus is God because he walked on water

Jesus confessed the source of his miracles when he said, "the Father abiding in me does His works" (John 10.25, 32, 37; 14.10) and "the Son can do nothing of himself" (John 5.19). Jesus walked on the water because God empowered him to do so.

Jesus is God because he cast out demons

Often Jesus came face to face with the spiritual forces of wickedness. He never struggled but cast them out with a few words. However, he is not unique here either, the 12 also cast out demons as well as the 70. Besides, Jesus clearly stated, "I cast out demons by the spirit of God" (Matthew 12.28). God empowered His Messiah to do these things.

Jesus is God because he forgave sins

When the paralyzed man was brought to Jesus, he said, "Take courage, son; your sins are forgiven" (Matthew 9.2). It is alleged that since all sins are ultimately an affront to God (Ps 51.4), that only God can forgive sins. This reasoning is logical, but what if God conferred His right to forgive sins onto his earthly agent—the Messiah? "But when the crowds saw this, they were awestruck, and glorified God, who had given such authority to men" (Matthew 9.8). Similarly, Christ's disciples are authorized to forgive or retain sins (cf. John 20.23).

Jesus never sinned therefore he must be God

Adam was made in God's image—perfect. God's plan was for him to stay sinless, live forever, cultivate the Garden of Eden, rule over the earth, and produce many children. Jesus also was made in the image of God (Col 3.10). He was divinely created (begotten) (Luke 1.35; Matthew 1.20) in the womb of his mother, Mary. (Adam was also divinely made (Gen 2.7).) Thus, Jesus falls in the category of one who began perfect who needed to maintain his perfection (i.e. the second Adam). Because of what Christ has done, we can now mortify the deeds of our old man and live as he lived (Romans 8.10, 13). Christ is the example of what God can do with a wholly submitted human. To say that one has to be God to be made perfect means that Adam never had a chance and that all Christians will be made "Gods" in the resurrection.

If Jesus were not God then our sins would not be paid for

This argument is easily refuted for four reasons (1) Nowhere is this stated in the Bible; (2) God cannot die (1 Timothy 1.17 says he is immortal); (3) A sacrifice is effective because God accepts it, not because it is exactly equivalent to the transgression; (4) According to their view, only the body (the humanity) of Jesus died; his spirit (the deity) continued to live. Thus, the God portion of Jesus did not die, only impersonal human nature, which is even less valuable than a real human being!