

***Supplemental Notes:***

# **Immanuel**

## **The Transcendent Nature and Deity of Messiah**

Was there really a visitor to our Planet Earth from outside time and space?

Why do we believe that Jesus was the Messiah?

As part of their recent series on *The Creator Beyond Time and Space*, Chuck Missler and Dr. Mark Eastman explore the historical evidence, claims, attributes, and authentication of the Messiah.

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**Immanuel**  
**The Transcendent Nature and Deity**  
**of Messiah**

**Tape 1: “Immanuel” - God With Us!**

**The Finite Universe**

In the 20th century staggering scientific evidence has accumulated which points to a finite universe and a transcendent Creator for this universe.

Beginning with the theories of Albert Einstein, 20th-century cosmologists have concluded that the universe (space, time, and matter) had a beginning.<sup>1</sup> Consequently, there are only two options for its existence.

- 1) The universe created itself; or,
- 2) It was created by a Being which preceded the existence of the space-time domain.

Some try to add a third option—the universe is an illusion. This is called Solipsism.

**Necessary Attributes of the Creator**

Because of this new understanding of the nature of our universe, we are in a position to speculate about the nature of its Creator.

**1) Independent of the Space-Time Domain.**

Because the Creator existed before time and space He must, of necessity, be independent of the space-time domain.

**2) The Creator Must Be Transcendent.**

British Physicist Sir James Jeans recognized this fact when he stated:

*Indeed the finiteness of time and space almost compels us, of ourselves, to picture the creation as an act of thought...Modern scientific theory compels us to think of the creator as working outside time and space, which are part of his creation, just as the artist is outside his canvas.<sup>2</sup>*

Not only must the Creator be outside the “canvas,” He must be able to enter the “canvas” to order and establish the matter and energy therein. This attribute is called “transcendancy.”

**3) The Creator Cannot *Be* the Universe.**

In order to create the universe, the Creator must be distinct from it. In effect, 20th-century physics rule out any religious system that teaches that God is confined to the universe or that the universe is God.

**4) The Creator Must be Omnipotent.**

The law of cause and effect states that an

effect is always less than its cause. Since the universe is an effect of God, it means that God's power must exceed the sum total of the energy in all the universe! From our perspective, such a Being would be infinitely powerful; i.e., omnipotent.

#### **5) The Creator Must Be Omniscient.**

Because the Creator designed the physical universe, we would expect the Creator to have a perfect and full knowledge of its structure and function. Thus, from our perspective, He would be all-knowing; i.e. omniscient.

#### **6) The Creator Must Be Omnipresent.**

As finite beings trapped within the space-time domain we enjoy three dimensions of spatial reality and one dimension of time (In reality we only enjoy the use of half of the time domain because we cannot "move backward.") Consequently, we can only be in one place at one time.

However, a transcendent being who exists outside the space-time domain would possess additional dimensions of space and time. Consequently, in theory, He could be at all places at all times. This ability is called "omnipresence."

#### **7) Authority over the Laws of Nature.**

Because the Creator contrived and created the

very laws of nature (gravity, electromagnetism, thermodynamics, etc.) we would expect Him to demonstrate authority over those laws. That is, He should be able to supersede them at will!

### **Biblical Theology**

#### **God's Transcendent Nature**

Throughout the Bible we find the nature of God described. In the very first verse we see that God is independent of the space-time domain.

*In the beginning (time) God created the heavens (space) and the earth (matter).*

Genesis 1:1

This is supported by 2 Timothy 1:9:

*[God] Who hath saved us, and called [us] with an holy calling, not according to our works, but according to his own purpose and grace, which was given us in Christ Jesus before the world began.*

#### **Additional Attributes of God**

##### **1) Omnipresence**

*"Can any hide himself in secret places that I shall not see him?" saith the LORD. "Do not I fill heaven and earth?" saith the LORD.*

Jeremiah 23:24

## 2) Omniscience

*For if our heart condemns us, God is greater than our heart, and knows all things.*

1 John 3:20

*Great is our Lord, and mighty in power; His understanding is infinite.*

Psalms 147:5

## 3) Omnipotence

*Ah Lord GOD! behold, thou hast made the heaven and the earth by thy great power and stretched out arm, and there is nothing too hard for thee.*

Jeremiah 32:17

## God Manifest in Both Testaments

Throughout the Bible God demonstrates His transcendent nature by appearing “out of nowhere” in the form of a man. These are just a few examples:

- 1) Abraham met God in the Terebinths of Mamre (Genesis 18:1).
- 2) When Abraham offered Isaac (Genesis 22) he met “The Angel of the LORD,” who told Abraham that he knew Abraham feared God because, “you did not withhold your only son from me.”
- 3) In Genesis 32:24 Jacob wrestled with God.

- 4) In Joshua 5:14 Joshua worshipped One called the “Captain of the LORD’s Host.”<sup>3</sup>

## Biblical Christology

Throughout its text the Bible clearly teaches that there is but one God. However, the mystery of the Godhead is that this one God manifests Himself in three distinct persons—God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit.<sup>4</sup> This fact has led to the Christian doctrine of the Trinity. In fact, the attributes of God, the works of God and the names of God are applied to all three persons of the trinity.<sup>5</sup>

## Historical Evidence for Jesus

For most of the last 2,000 years the historical existence of Jesus was not doubted. However, in the last two centuries, liberal theologians as well as some rabbis, have claimed that Jesus never existed. However, even a cursory review of ancient Roman and Rabbinical writings reveals that Jesus was indeed an historical figure.

## Josephus

The first century Jewish historian Josephus made a number of references to Jesus Christ.

*Now there was about this time Jesus, a wise man. If it be lawful to call Him a man, for He was a doer of wonderful works. He was the Christ. And the tribe of Christians so named from Him are not extinct to this day.<sup>6,7</sup>*

### **Ancient Rabbinical Sources**

The Babylonian Talmud, an ancient rabbinical commentary, makes number of references to Jesus of Nazareth. In Sanhedrin, 43A we read a fascinating reference to His existence, His supernatural ministry and His crucifixion;

*It has been taught on the eve of the Passover they hanged Yeshua. And an announcer went out in front of him for forty days saying, "He is going to be stoned because He practiced sorcery and enticed and led Israel astray. Anyone who knows anything in His favor, let him come and plead in His behalf." But, not having found anything in His favor, they hanged him on the eve of the Passover.*

### **New Testament Claims About Jesus**

Throughout the New Testament the disciples clearly spoke of the preeminence and deity of Jesus Christ. The following is only a sample of their claims about the nature and identity of Christ.

**Creator of the Universe** • Jn 1:1-14; Col 1:16  
**Existed before time and space** • Jn 1:2; Rev 1:8,17

**God manifest in the flesh** • I Tim 3:16  
**Yahweh in the flesh** • Jn 1:23; Isa 40:3  
**Omniscience of Christ** • Rev 2:23  
**Omnipresence of Christ** • Mt 18:20  
**Omnipotence of Christ** • 2 Cor 12:9  
**God (Jesus) Purchased the Church with His Own Blood** • Acts 20:28  
**Jesus and God the Savior** • Titus 1:1-4

#### **Jesus is called:**

**"Lord and God"** • Jn 20:28  
**"Almighty"** • Rev 1:8  
**"True God"** • 1 Jn 5:20  
**"Great God"** • Tit 2:13; Rev 19:17  
**"Blessed God"** • Rom 9:5

### **The Claims of Jesus**

The claims of Jesus are the most radical ever made any man or religious leader. These are just a few of them.

#### **Jesus claimed to be:**

**The Messiah** • Jn 4:25  
**The Son of God** • Jn 9:35-37  
**One with God** • Jn 10:30-3  
**The Image of God** • Jn 14:9  
**The Only Way to Eternal Life** • Jn 14:6

## Jesus' Supremacy over Natural Laws

By healing the sick, resurrecting the dead, creating food out of nothing and by defying the laws of gravity, Jesus demonstrated His authority over the laws of physics and thereby revealed His divine nature.

**Jesus said he would  
resurrect Himself** • Jn 2:19; 10:17, 18  
**Resurrect Mankind** • Jn 11:1-45, 5:21, 6:40,54  
**He Walked on Water** • Mt 14:3  
**Healed the Sick** • Mt 11:4-5

## Evidence for the Deity of the Messiah in the Old Testament

Throughout the Old Testament we are given a glimpse of the deity and majesty of the Messiah (Anointed One). Furthermore, the fact that God is a plural Being, eternally existent in more than one person, is also found throughout the Old Testament.<sup>8</sup>

## Plurality of God

“Elohim”—The plural form of “El,” one of the names of God, is seen throughout the O.T. (see Genesis 1:1). In Genesis 1:26 God states, “Let Us make man in our image.” This is another hint of God’s plurality.

Messiah is called “Mighty God” • Isa 9:6

Messiah is called “Immanuel”

(With Us is God )

• Isa 7:14

Messiah is called “Yahweh”

• Jer 23:5-6; Isa  
6:1-3

## Immanuel—God With Us!

The résumé of Jesus is impeccable. All the necessary attributes of the Creator for this universe are applied to Him within the Biblical text.

## What if God Became One of Us?

- He could reveal His power.
- He could reveal His authority.
- He could reveal His love by dying in our place!

*Greater love has no one than this, than to lay down one's life for his friends.”*

John 15:13

## Tape 2: Our Transcendent Messiah

## How Certain Can We Be?

There are over 300 prophecies in the Old Testament detailing the Coming Messiah. We are going to examine eight of them (the Old Testament was translated into Greek by 270 B.C.)

## Conditional Probabilities

Example: Two events, each with a 50% probability, each have a 25% probability:  $.50 \times .50 = .25$ . If each had a 10% probability, together they would have 1% or  $1:10^1 \times 10^1 = 1:10^2$ .

## 8 Prophecies

Micah 5:2	Bethlehem	1:200,000
Zech 9:9	King on Donkey	1:100
Zech 11:12	30 Pieces of Silver	1:1,000
Zech 11:13	Temple, Potter, etc.	1:100,000
Zech 13:6	Wounds in Hands	1:1,000
Isa 53:7	No Defense; Innocent	1:1,000
Isa 53:9	Died with Wicked Grave with Rich	1:1,000
Psalm 22:16	Crucified	1:10,000 1:10 <sup>28</sup>

If we say the total population of people born in the past 2,000 years = 100 billion ( $10^{11}$ ):

$$10^{28}/10^{11} = 10^{17}$$

## An Equivalent Sample

Concept Model: State of Texas covered with silver dollars, 2 feet deep. [Alternate model: there are only  $10^{17}$  seconds in the history of the universe!]

## 16 Prophecies

$$10^{28} \times 10^{28} = 10^{56}$$
$$10^{56}/10^{11} = 10^{45}$$

Concept Model: Ball of silver dollars—radius 30 times the distance of the earth to the sun!

## 48 Prophecies

$$10^{28} \times 10^{28} \times 10^{28} \times 10^{28} \times 10^{28} \times 10^{28} = 10^{168}$$

$10^{168}/10^{11} = 10^{157}$ ! (That's a bigger number than we can grasp.)

Concept Model:

- Make a "ball" of *every atom* in the universe ( $10^{66}$ )
- Make a ball *for each* atom of the universe ( $10^{66} \times 10^{66} = 10^{132}$ )
- Repeat that exercise, *every second since the universe began...* ( $10^{132} \times 10^{17} = 10^{149}$ )

...and we're still short by 100,000,000 times ( $10^8$ )...and we've still only dealt with 48 prophecies out of over 300 in the Old Testament!

Adapted from Peter Stoner, *Science Speaks*.

## Design A Genealogy

Try to design a genealogy, of actual people, with the following parameters:

- 1) The number of words in it must be divisible by 7 evenly.
- 2) The number of letters must also be divisible by 7.
- 3) The number of vowels and the number of consonants must also each be divisible by 7.
- 4) The number of words that begin with a vowel must be divisible by 7.
- 5) The number of words that begin with a consonant must be divisible by 7.
- 6) The number of words that occur more than once must be divisible by 7.
- 7) The number of words that occur in more than one form shall be divisible by 7.
- 8) The number of words that occur in only one form shall be divisible by 7.
- 9) The number of nouns shall be divisible by 7.
- 10) Only 7 words shall NOT be nouns.
- 11) The number of names in the genealogy shall be divisible by 7.
- 12) Only 7 other kinds of nouns are permitted.
- 13) The number of male names shall be divisible by 7.
- 14) The number of generations shall be 21, also divisible by 7.

This is the genealogy of Jesus Christ, in Greek, in Matthew.

## Why Wasn't He Recognized After His Resurrection?

- By Mary in the Garden? Jn 20:11-18
- On the Emmaus Road? Lk 24:13-23
- In the Upper Room? Lk 24:36,37
- On the Shore of Galilee? Jn 21:12

Old Testament Descriptions: Ps 22; Isa 53 (52:14); Isa 50:6; Rev 5:1-5. It will take an eternity for us to understand *what it cost Him* that we might live. A Transcendent Creator, who has given us a love story written in His blood, on a wooden Cross that was erected in Judea two thousand years ago.

\* \* \*

### Notes:

1. See *The Creator Beyond Time and Space* by Chuck Missler and Mark Eastman.
2. Sir James Jeans, *The Mysterious Universe*, pg. 154.
3. All other times when men tried to worship an angel they were told to worship God alone.
4. See *The Trinity*, 2 tape Briefing Pack by Chuck Missler. 1-800-KHOUSE1.
5. *Ibid.*
6. *The Antiquities of the Jews*, book 18, chapter 3.
7. See *The Search for Messiah*, Mark Eastman, Chuck Smith, *The Word for Today*.
8. For a detailed examination of the deity of Jesus Christ see *The Creator Beyond Time and Space*, Mark Eastman, Chuck Missler, Chapter 10.





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