

Was Jesus “God” or was He “A God”

For me, the debate regarding the Deity of Christ relates to our concept of God. Is God a supernatural being with a human-like personality who exists separately from us, or would God be more accurately defined as *“everything that is,”* including Jesus, and each of us, as well. When asked if I believe in the deity of Christ, I would answer, *“Sure I do. He is every bit as divine as the rest of us.”*

The issue may be rephrased like this. How much more of God is Jesus Christ than the rest of us? In my view, the answer depends on the scope of our “self-awareness.” God may in a sense be regarded as our *“higher self,”* that aspect of our being that resides with Christ in the heavenly places. None of us is fully aware of who we really are or who we were before we incarnated into human flesh. We were all born with amnesia of sorts. We falsely believe that we are separated from God, that God is a separate being who lives “out there” somewhere, and that our personal existence began with our physical birth and ends with physical death.

Jesus, it appears, had a better understanding of who He really was. He viewed God as His heavenly Father. He viewed himself as a physical representation of God the Father on Earth. He was aware of his “oneness” with the Father. His self-awareness was expanded to such a degree that He not only regarded Himself as one with the Father, but potentially one with each of us as well. Our “separateness” from God, and from Jesus Christ, is an illusion. As we expand our self-awareness, we experience a deeper sense of identity and communion with the divine. Was Jesus more divine than us? I would say yes, but only with respect to His conscious self-awareness. As we expand our own self-awareness, we do become more like Christ.

So, how do we go about doing this? The best way, I believe, is to become imitators of the earthly life of Christ, by living the lifestyle that He taught. I don’t believe that intense meditation, or worshiping Jesus as a God, is the best way to identify with Christ. I believe the best way is to follow in His footsteps. He demonstrated that way by the life He lived. The way of Christ is not easy, nor is it comfortable, or without many trials and tribulations. It is not the easy way, and there are very few who find it in this life. It is the way of sacrificial love and may only be experienced by placing the needs of others ahead of our own. We do not experience **age-abiding life* by seeking it directly. Instead, we experience it indirectly as a by-product of loving others, in the manner of Jesus.

**“age-abiding”* is mistranslated “*eternal*” in most versions of the Bible.