

Christ demonstrated attributes that only God can possess.

Response: God has the right, the authority, and the ability to endow anyone whom He chooses with those attributes that He wants him to have. One such attribute is that Christ forgave sins. Interestingly, trinitarians wishing to support their claim that Christ could only forgive sins if he were God point to the words of Jesus' enemies who reasoned, "*He is blaspheming; who can forgive sins but God alone?*" (Mark 2:5-7) At John 5:30 Christ said, "*I can do nothing on my own authority; as I hear, I judge; and my judgment is just, because I seek not my own will but the will of Him who sent me.*" So when Christ forgave sins, was it really he doing the forgiving, or was it actually God? That the Jews who did not oppose Jesus did not conclude he was literally God by his ability to forgive sins is proven in the parallel account at Matthew 9:2-8 which closes with the comment, "*they glorified God, who had given such authority to men.*" Again, if it is within the purposes of God to give this authority to Jesus, who are we to question or challenge His way of doing things? We simply cannot!

The same is true when Jesus performed miracles. Peter resurrected Dorcas, was able to read Ananias' heart, and healed a lame man. (Acts 9:36-41; 5:1-5; 3:2, 6, 7) We automatically understand that Peter could not do these things under his own ability. Notice 1 Kings 17:1, "*Now Elijah... said to Ahab, 'As Yahweh the God of Israel lives, before whom I stand, there shall be neither dew nor rain these years, except by my word.'*" No dew or rain except by Elijah's word!!! Should we now construe that he, too, is a person in a multiple Godhead? At John 5:19 Jesus is quoted as saying, "*Truly, truly, I say to you, the Son can do nothing of his own accord, but only what he sees the Father doing; for whatever He does, that the Son does likewise.*" As Peter explained to Cornelius and those assembled with him, Jesus was able to do the things he did because "*God was with him.*" Nothing was said about Jesus' being God . -- Acts 10:38