

## **The Son was given Authority**

by Shane T. Derry

I am compelled to write this article after a service I attended a while back. Although the preacher was a friendly man with a good heart. I found his conclusions not Biblical and not supported by scripture. I am going to refute two claims he made. First of all he said Jesus was God because he is called "Immanuel". Which means "God is with us". Let me point out something I recently learned. The singular prophecy in Isaiah 7:14 has a dual fulfillment. The name is given the first time to Isaiah's son named Maher-shalal-hash-baz. Through the birth of Isaiah's son Ahaz was given a sign that God was with the people of Israel. This is found in Isaiah 8:1-10. On a grander scale the second time the name is given to Jesus in Matthew 1:21-23. This means that God was in and with his son. Jesus is the ultimate revealer of God but he is not God. He is the son of God. Look what Nicodemus said in John 3:2

“This man came to Jesus by night and said to Him, "Rabbi, we know that You have come from God as a teacher; for no one can do these signs that You do unless God is with him.”

Notice he did not say no one can do these signs unless he were God. Rather God was with him. Big difference! Now let's look at some other names of men in the Bible and what their names mean.

Ithiel-God is or God is with me

Jemuel-God is light or Desire of God

Kadmiel-God is of old

Eliathah-God hath come

Eliel-God is God

These are only the names of five men of the Bible. The Bible is full of names like this. God is incorporated in many men's names as well as his attributes. This doesn't make any of these people God. The next issue I'd like to address is authority. The preacher said Jesus forgave sins because he was God. This also is refuted by scripture. Matthew 28:18 And Jesus came up and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been **given** to Me in heaven and on earth. In Matthew 9:2-8 the scribes think Jesus blasphemes because he forgives sins. They think only God can forgive sins. Then Jesus makes a public announcement that he can forgive sins because the authority to do so has been given to him. Matthew 9:8 **But** when the crowds saw this, they were awestruck, and glorified God, who had **given** such authority to men. The crowds got the message and understood.

Why didn't the preacher understand? He missed the whole point! Look at Romans 13:1 Every person is to be in subjection to the governing authorities **For there is no authority except from God, and those which exist are established by God.** This proves again that Jesus forgave sins because he was given authority. All authority comes from God and if Jesus was God he would have already had authority. Jesus later gives the authority to forgive and retain sins to the disciples in John 20:23. Does this make the disciples God? No, of course not. It's an easy concept to understand when following the scripture. 2 Timothy 3:16 All Scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness; It seems like a lot of people want to fight the scriptures instead of harmonizing them. Establishing sound doctrine is priceless.

---

All scriptural references from "NASB"

References taken also from the book: Who is this then...by John Cordaro/Matthew Janzen

References taken also from the book: All the men of the Bible by Herbert Lockyer