

Anyone considering themselves a super fan of their favourite celebrity will naturally want to know as much about them as possible. When questioned about certain aspects of the celebs lives' they'll want to appear as if they are experts and won't want to be found lacking in knowledge. For that reason they will be skeptical about reports on an internet gossip site of a supposed feud with another star for example. They will want more reliable sources such as official biographies to confirm things.

If super fans of celebrities will take the time to verify information they are given, then "super fans" of Jesus really, really should do so. To get the full truth about anyone you don't know you need to read things like their official biographies, and Jesus' can only be found in The Bible.

It's obvious from this that we need to understand one of the simplest characteristics of Jesus. Was he part of God, or a separate entity with his own thoughts and free will? I am not going to read all the bible references out in full but please take the time to look them up yourselves, don't just take my word for it!

Let's consider some of the most basic answers. A few of my friends have always pointed out that The Bible makes little sense to them as God is immortal, as per 1 Timothy 1v17, yet he in the form of Jesus dies! Immortal beings do not die! Romans 5v10 states that we as sinners are only acceptable to God due to the death of Jesus. So if God is immortal he couldn't die. Which would mean we are not acceptable to him and the life of those trying to follow Jesus would be "futile" (1 Corinthians 15:14). Why would The Bible declare followers of Jesus futile?

Secondly if Jesus and God are the same being then why does Jesus pray to God in the Garden of Gethsemane as in Matthew 26? Why does Jesus pray to God at all in fact? God is clearly omnipotent as well as immortal as outlined in the Old Testament, Jeremiah 32v17. Why would an omnipotent being pray to himself to stop himself from dying a painful death when he could stop it himself? It doesn't add up!

There are a lot of other verses where Jesus clearly makes a distinction between himself and his Father. In Mark 10v18 Jesus says "*Why do you call me good? No one is good but One, that is, God.*" John 14v28 has him saying "*My Father is greater than I.*" How can one and the same person declare that they themselves are greater than themselves? Matthew 27v46 is the very well known phrase "*My God, My God, why have you forsaken me?*" If the two are one it would translate as "*Me, me, why have you forsaken me!*" Most powerfully in Mark 13v32 it is said "*But of that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son but only the Father.*" If the Father and the Son are the same and they don't know the hour of judgement, then there is clearly something seriously wrong with the plan!

I'd also like to look at the verse that most people would say God and Jesus are the same being. John 10v30 states simply "*I and my father are one.*" Taken out of context it could mean literally that. But seeing I've explained why it's impossible that they are both the same what does it mean? Well simply it means they share characteristics and have a close bond. After all Genesis 2v24 states that when a

man and a woman get married "*they become one flesh.*" Now this clearly doesn't mean if you marry someone you become some sort of strange conjoined twin with a shared consciousness. In fact I am sure most married couples will tell you that when you marry someone you start to realise just how "alien" the other person is *smile*

In reference to another Genesis, Phil Collins mentioned in the 1980s that he and his girlfriend were "*two hearts, living in just one mind*". Just as in the bible Phil doesn't mean that they are literally the same person. It is both an ancient and modern description, two people being the same, and it is never literal.

Another set of verses that may be interpreted as describing God and Jesus as one are the opening verses of John's gospel. That could be a massively long video in itself, and this video is a bitesize one. Nevertheless please do ask us for a weblink or an email explanation to why "The Word" referenced by John are indeed "Words" and not a person. We will happily provide them for you. In fact, if you have any questions about this, or any other bible topic, please don't be slow in getting in touch with us. Thanks for watching.