

Bible Doctrine 1 – Lesson 6

The Deity of Christ

Matthew 16: 13-20

Introduction: There is no doubt that there is vast confusion in the world when it comes to the subject of deity. We are living in a time when atheism is popularize and promoted. Men and women, young and old are boldly saying that there is no God. The Bible is very clear about the person that says such a thing. The Bible says, *“The fool hath said in his heart, There is no God. They are corrupt, they have done abominable works, there is none that doeth good”* (Psalm 14:1). We are living in a time of polytheism, the belief that there are many gods. We hear often today that we should celebrate our diversity. I would say that is alright if you are talking about those who eat pinto beans and cornbread and those who eat refried beans and tortillas. But when you say that we should celebrate the diversities that we have in the so called many gods then I cannot and will not. The psalmist said, *“For thou art great, and doest wondrous things: thou art God alone”* (Psalm 86:10). Then we are living in a time of pantheism, the belief that everything is god and god is everything. This lie began back in the Garden of Eden when Satan told Eve that she was like God. Galatians 3:20 says, *“...God is one.”*

What a sad sight to see the world confused over the subject of deity. But it has reached the critical point when there is confusion in the Church concerning deity. There are two facts in the Church today that tell me that we are in a crisis concerning deity. There is a **bold heresy** that exists in the Church. When the pastor of the supposedly largest church in America can get on TV and make the statement that Jesus is not the only way to heaven it tells me that we are in a crisis. The Bible speaks of a blending of religion in the last times when we will have a one world religion. In our time the conclusion about what is right is what puts more people in the pew. It is becoming increasingly unpopular to preach Jesus to the exclusion of all other religions. Secondly, there is a **silent heresy** in the church. When the pastor of the supposedly largest church in America can get on TV and make the statement that Jesus is not the only way and there not be a loud outcry from the pulpits of our land it tells me that we are in a crisis. Galatians 1:8 says, *“But though we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed.”* There is a heretical silence in many of the pulpits of our day. They are not actively preaching a wrong way but neither are they actively preaching the right way. Their preaching is consumed with self-help, get rich, how to feel better about you, your wife, your job, your whatever. In preaching there had better be a good and steady diet of Jesus.

It is not a coincidence that in the first 12 verses of this chapter Jesus gives His disciples a warning about doctrine. At first the disciples were confused about the warning but it was clarified in verse 12. *“Then understood they how that he bade them not beware of the leaven of bread, but of the doctrine of the Pharisees and of the Sadducees.”* Now we are getting to the heart of the problem. The problem with the Pharisees and Sadducees was that although they were religious they were confused on this one point, who is God? That was something that Jesus would not allow His disciples to be confused about.

I. The Divine identity of Christ. Vv.13-17

(Between verses 12 & 13 there has been a 2 day journey)

- A. The _____ by Christ. Vv.13-15
1. The question of _____ opinion. Vv.13-14
 2. The question of _____ opinion. Vv.15
- B. The _____ about Christ. Vv.16
- C. The _____ of Christ. Vv.17

II. The Divine intention of Christ. Vv.18

- There are three things that Jesus about Himself and the Church.

- A. I am the _____.
- B. I am the _____.
- C. I am the _____.

III. The Divine investment of Christ. Vv.19-20

- A. The Divine _____ given to the Church.
- B. The Divine _____ given to the Church.