

Jesus Was Not All-Powerful

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Jesus Was All-Powerful (Mt. 28:18; Jn. 3:35).

Jesus Was Not All-Powerful (Mk. 6:5).

As explained in a previous study, Jesus Christ is not equal to his heavenly Father (see study: Christ Is Not Equal with God), and by definition cannot be all-powerful, or omnipotent,

Definition of Omnipotent (from Latin: Omni Potens: “all power”):

Unlimited power which includes omniscience, omnipresence, and omnibenevolence.

By his own words, Jesus Christ stated that he did not know certain things, which means that he was not all-powerful,

But of that day (of Christ's return to establish his Father's kingdom on Earth) and hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, **nor the son** (Christ), **but only the Father** (Mk. 13:32; cf. Mt. 24:36; Ac. 1:7; Ed. notes in parentheses; emphasis added; NKJV used throughout unless otherwise noted).

Christ made it clear that only his Father in heaven knows what someone is going to ask before they even pray to Him,

Therefore do not be like them (those who use vain repetition in prayer). For **your Father knows the things you have need of before you ask Him** (Mt. 6:8; Ed. note in parenthesis; emphasis added).

In fact, Christ explained that his Father is so “all-powerful” He knows all the hairs on someone's head, and is aware of any event that occurs anywhere in His creation,

Are not two sparrows sold for a copper coin? And not one of them falls to the ground apart from your Father's will. ³⁰But the very hairs of your head are all numbered (Mt.10:29-30).

Before Jesus Christ became a human being, he was known as the Angel of the Lord (see study: Christ's Proof of His Pre-Existence). He served God's people in this capacity from the time of Adam to this day, and will continue to do so (Heb. 13:8). However, as he worked with Abraham, he did not know in advance what Abraham would do when asked to sacrifice his son Isaac. In contrast, Almighty God already knew what Abraham would do before he was asked to sacrifice Isaac,

But **the Angel of the Lord** called to him (Abraham) from heaven and said, ‘Abraham, Abraham!’

And he (Abraham) said, 'Here I am.'¹² And he (the Angel of the Lord) said, 'Do not lay your hand on the lad, or do anything to him; for **now I know that you fear God** (Almighty), since you have not withheld your son, your only son, from me' (Gen. 22:11-12; Ed. notes in parentheses; emphasis added).

This example alone proves that only Almighty God is all-powerful. Nonetheless, He delegates His power and authority to other faithful and obedient spirit-beings, which explains why Jesus Christ is able to perform the momentous tasks he has been given to fulfill. Thankfully, Christ does not misuse this power in any way, shape, or form, making him the opposite of Satan (cf. Isa. 14:16-20),

Then Jesus answered and said to them (Jewish religious leaders), 'Most assuredly, I say to you, the son (Christ) can do nothing of himself, but (except) what he sees the Father do; for whatever He (Almighty God) does, the son also does in like manner (Jn. 5:19; Ed. notes in parentheses).

I (Christ) can of myself do nothing. As I hear (i.e. instructions from his Father), I judge; and my judgment is righteous, because I do not seek my own will but the will of the Father who sent me (Jn. 5:30; Ed. notes in parentheses).

With this background, the scriptures that supposedly contradict each other will be examined,

Then Jesus came and spoke to them (his disciples), saying, 'All authority has been given to me (by his Father) in heaven and on earth (Mt. 28:18; Ed. notes in parentheses).

At this point, the question should be, 'authority to do what?' As Jesus Christ has not yet removed Satan from influencing mankind (Rev. 20:1-2), it should be evident that Christ's authority is currently over the church that keeps the commandments of Almighty God (cf. Rev. 12:17; 14:12; 22:14),

For the husband is head of the wife (and by extension the family), as also **Christ is head of the church**; and he (Christ) is the Savior of the body (Eph. 5:23; cf. Col. 1:18; Ed. notes in parentheses; emphasis added).

Christ's authority does not equal omnipotence. Instead, it means that Almighty God has delegated enough power to his faithful and obedient son, Jesus Christ, for the purpose of fulfilling the commission that was given to him,

The Father loves the son (Christ), and has given all (the) things (necessary) into his (Christ's) hand (to fulfill the tasks) (Jn. 3:35; Ed. notes in parentheses).

The final scripture used by some people to claim that Christ did not have enough power to accomplish certain tasks during his earthly ministry, has nothing to do with being all-powerful. Instead, it is proof that neither Almighty God nor Jesus Christ force, or coerce, anyone into believing the truth. If God's truth is rejected, those who refuse to accept it are left to their own devices,

Now he (Christ) could do no mighty work there (Nazareth), except that he laid his hands on a few sick people and healed them.⁶ And he marveled because of their unbelief. The he went about the

villages in a circuit, teaching (Mk. 6:5-6; Ed. notes in parentheses).

Christ practiced what he preached because he instructed his disciples to teach God's truth and, if people refused to hear or accept it, just move along,

And whoever will not receive you nor hear your words, when you depart from that house or city, shake off the dust from your feet (Mt. 10:14; cf. Mk. 6:11; Lk. 9:5).

So rather than the scriptures in the title of this study being contradictory, they are dealing with unrelated topics that need to be examined as separate subjects. Christ is not all-knowing as his heavenly Father is, and yet his Father has granted him authority to carry out His will. Neither Almighty God nor Jesus Christ force truth on anyone. Instead, they teach and witness to the truth because they understand what it is and that it is the only way of living that will lead to peace and happiness for everyone. Mankind has the choice, as they always have had, to accept it or leave it.

This document is the collaborative work of individuals who believe God's truth should be given freely (Mt. 10:8; 1Cor. 2:12; 2Cor. 11:7; Rom. 10:14-21) and the message of the one true God should be made available to all nations (Mt. 24:14) as a prerequisite to the return of Jesus Christ as King of kings (Mt. 17:10; 19:17; Mk. 9:11; Lk. 1:17; Rev. 19:11-16).

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