

Week 2 He Is Our Mighty God

- 1. The name for Jesus from Isaiah 9:6 is "Mighty God". How do we know that Jesus was God? The Bible claims that he is God, but how do you know that what it says is true? Is there any proof that what the Bible says is the truth or do we accept it on the idea of "blind faith"? Answer—It is true that the only way we know much about Jesus is from what the Bible tells us. That is why it is so important to know the evidence that exists that proves that the Bible could not have been written by anyone but an all-knowing God. If there are people in your group that do not know that this proof exists and that their faith in the Bible is not a "blind faith", encourage them to come to the How We Got the Bible class in January, or if you have a number of people like this, have Pastor Mark come to your group for 3 weeks and teach the material to your group. The proof that God is the author of the Bible is found in the fact that it is 100% historically accurate, scientifically accurate, prophetically accurate, and without any contradictions.
- 2. The Bible teaches that Jesus is God (John 10:30), that the Father is God (Isaiah 44:6,8), and that the Holy Spirit is God (Acts 5:3,4). How can this be? Can you understand it? If you are to believe that this is true, what is required on your part? Read Hebrews 11:1-6. Why do you think God requires us to have faith and does not make everything so we can understand it? Why do you think that it seems to be easy for some people to have faith while others struggle with having faith? What can we do to strengthen our faith in God? Answer—The concept that there are three distinct persons and yet there is only one God is what we call the doctrine of the trinity which is throughout scripture. This is an impossible concept for humanity to understand completely because it goes beyond what the human mind can comprehend: we can understand the concept but not the reality of it. In Isaiah 55:8,9 God says that his ways and thoughts are so far above ours we cannot understand them. If we could understand everything about God, he would be just another human. Since this is true, it requires faith on our part to believe everything about God. But the main reason God wants us to have faith is because it demonstrates that we trust that he is good and wants our best. The only way to build your faith is to take a step of "faith" and apply what he says for us to do in the Bible. Then we see that it works and is true and that increases our faith to trust him more.

is he claiming? Why would they die in their sins if they did not believe this? Could Jesus have just been another great prophet or teacher and not God himself? What is the ultimate proof that he was God? (Read 1 Corinthians 15:12-19)

Answer—Jesus was claiming the same name for himself that God told Moses was his name, he was claiming that he was God himself and that if they did not believe he was God, they would die in their sins. The reason this is true is that only God could pay for our sins, Jesus was not just a great teacher or prophet because if he was, he could not have paid for our sins on the cross. A human with their own sins to die for could never die for the sins of another person. That is why Jesus had to be God: If Jesus were not God, then our faith is in vain because we are simply trusting in another human. The ultimate proof that Jesus was God and that he paid for our sins was the resurrection; it proved that Jesus was who he claimed and that he was able to pay for our sins.

3. Read John 8:23,24. What is the significance of Jesus claiming that unless they believe that "I

am", they would die in their sins? (Compare this with what it says in Exodus 3:14) Exactly what

- 4. In what ways has Jesus shown himself mighty in your life so far? In what ways do you think he wants to show himself mighty in your life in the future? If Jesus is the "mighty God", what is the only thing that would prevent Him from working in a mighty way in your life? Do you think there is a direct relationship with what God does in your life and your faith in him? What is the main area of your life right now that you need God to show himself as being mighty?
- 5. In this time of Christmas when we exchange gifts with each other to celebrate the gift that God gave to us, what can you give to Jesus as a gift? What do you think he would want?