

I sometimes get asked how my research in one book or another has led me to change my views about something important. Here is a post from four years ago today, where I explain how I changed my mind about something rather significant in the Gospels. Do Matthew, Mark, Luke consider Jesus to be God? I always thought the answer was a decided no (unlike the Gospel of John). In doing my research for my book *How Jesus Became God*, I ended up realizing I was probably wrong. Here's how I explained it all back then.

This, I believe, will be my final post on an issue that changed my mind about while doing the research for *How Jesus Became God*. This last one is a big one - for me, at least. And it's not one that I develop at length in the book in any one place, since it covers a span of material. Here's the deal:

Until a year ago I would have said - and frequently did say, in the classroom, in public lectures, and in my writings - that Jesus is portrayed as God in the Gospel of John but not, definitely not, in the other Gospels of Matthew, Mark, and Luke. I would point out that only in John did Jesus say such things as "Before Abraham, I am" (8:58; taking upon himself the name of God, as given to Moses in Exodus 3); his Jewish opponents knew full well what he was saying: they take up stones to stone him. Later he says "I and the Father are one" (10:30) Again, the Jews break out the stones. Later he tells his disciples, "If you have seen me, you have seen the Father" (14:9). And in a later prayer to God he asks him to "glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had with you before the world was created" (17:5).

The rest of this post is for members only. If you don't belong yet, JOIN ALREADY!

You need to be logged in to see this part of the content. Please [Login](#) to access.



[My Book on Literary Forgery](#)

[The Thinking Atheist Interview: The Triumph of Christianity](#)