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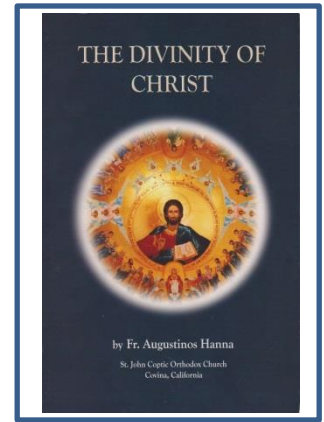
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# The Divinity of Christ

Fr. Augustinos Hanna

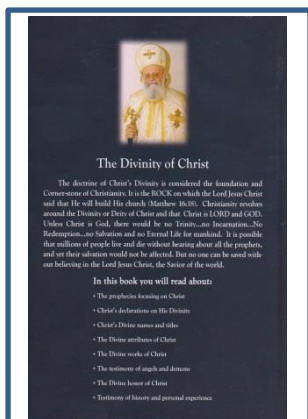


Christ has the same names and titles of God alone, and that these, Divine names and titles, proclaim the essence of His personality, attributes and works. These names were announced by angels, by prophets inspired by the Holy Spirit, by apostles and by Lord Jesus Himself.

Naturally, it is impossible to predict a person's biography, attributes and works before His birth. The sole exception is Christ the Lord.

Christ the Lord declared His deity, His equality with God the father, and the fulfillment of the law, the Prophets and the Psalms in Him.

The witness of practical personal experience is the strongest testimony and proof of divinity of Christ, and that He is indeed the Savior of the world. Millions of people everywhere and over a span of 2000 years have experienced firsthand Christ the Lord as the living God who saves, liberates, heals and cleanses from the leprosy of sin.



**PREFACE**

In 1976, His Highness Pope Shenouda III, the Pope of the Coptic Orthodox Church of Egypt, kindly published in the magazine "AL-KIRAZA" a year-long series of articles on the Deity of Christ authored by then Lawyer Maher Raghib Hanna (now the undersigned, Fr. Augustinos R. Hanna).

Given the vital importance of this topic, I expanded and published those articles in 25 installments in the monthly magazine St. John, published by St. John Coptic Orthodox Church in Costa, California, between October 1999 and April 2001.

More recently, I consolidated these articles in a book, published in Arabic in August 2004, which has now been translated into English by my brother, the book you now hold in your hands.

Articles on the Deity of Christ by certain other religions and by certain cults, e.g. Jehovah's Witnesses, are nothing new. Even in the USA, some enemies of Christianity have been active in handing out tracts on campuses with titles like "Is Christ really God?" This book is aimed at equipping Christians to defend their faith. As the Bible says, "That in your hearts you adore Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect." (1 Peter 3:15, NIV). Thus, every Christian is exhorted to study, learn, and even commit to memory – to the extent possible – the basis for such a belief.

The doctrine of the Deity of Christ is undoubtedly the cornerstone of Christianity, for none of the other key doctrines, e.g. Trinity, Incarnation, Redemption, Resurrection and Salvation would make sense if Christ were not God. To illustrate its significance, a person's eternal salvation is not affected by whether or not this person has ever heard of dozens of prophets. Conversely, no human can be saved without believing that Christ is both Lord and God.