

Why does the Bible say deity is a spirit and you say Jesus was deity and man at the same time?

That God is a spirit is the plain teaching of the New Testament in John 4:24: " 24 God is spirit, and his worshipers must worship in spirit and in truth." From the very beginning, Jesus was a spirit just like God, according to John 1:1-2: "1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. 2 He was with God in the beginning."

Jesus was in the *very nature of God* but gave that up as described in Phil 2:5-8:

5 Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus:

6 Who, being in very nature God,  
did not consider equality with God something to be grasped,  
7 but made himself nothing,  
taking the very nature of a servant,  
being made in human likeness.  
8 And being found in appearance as a man,  
he humbled himself  
and became obedient to death –  
even death on a cross!

He also took on the *appearance of a man* (Phil 2:8) and according to John in John 1:14: "14 The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth." Even though he took on the fleshly nature of man, he retained his full measure of the Holy Spirit of God, as described in John 3:31-35:

31 "The one who comes from above is above all; the one who is from the earth belongs to the earth, and speaks as one from the earth. The one who comes from heaven is above all. 32 He testifies to what he has seen and heard, but no one accepts his testimony. 33 The man who has accepted it has certified that God is truthful. 34 For the one whom God has sent speaks the words of God, **for God gives the Spirit without limit.**

Just as Christ was flesh and spirit, so is man flesh and spirit. Jesus illustrates this dual nature of man in Matt 26:41: "41 Watch and pray so that you will not fall into temptation. The **spirit** is willing, but the **body** is weak." Paul affirms this very idea in Rom 8:13-14:

13 For if you live according to the sinful nature, you will die; but if by the **Spirit** you put to death the misdeeds of the **body**, you will live, 14 because those who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God.

In this same context, Paul taught that God's Holy Spirit instructs our spirit in Rom 8:16-17:

16 The **Spirit** himself testifies with our **spirit** that we are God's children. 17 Now if we are children, then we are heirs – heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ, if indeed we share in his sufferings in order that we may also share in his glory.

Therefore, we must be concerned with both our bodies and our spirits, as Paul said in 2 Cor 7:1: "7 Since we have these promises, dear friends, let us purify ourselves from everything that contaminates **body** and **spirit**, perfecting holiness out of reverence for God."

In order to attain this perfect holiness, we must understand the new birth as described by Jesus in John 3:5: " 5 Jesus answered, "I tell you the truth, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless he is born of water and the Spirit." Paul also declared that we must be born again to be new creatures in Christ in 2 Cor 5:17-18: "17 Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!"

One can only be this new creation of the new birth or water and the Spirit in Christ as one is baptized into Christ. Gal 3:26-27 is emphatic: "26 You are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus, 27 for all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ." Paul is equally emphatic in Rom 6:3-4:

3 Or don't you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? 4 We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life.

As you obey the good news preached by Jesus with the culmination in baptism; you will be raised to a new life. While in the flesh, even as Jesus was in the flesh, you will be a new creature of the spirit just as Jesus was of the spirit. According to Peter in 2 Peter 1:3-4, you will participate in the divine nature of God:

3 His divine power has given us everything we need for life and godliness through our knowledge of him who called us by his own glory and goodness. 4 Through these he has given us his very great and precious promises, so that through them you may participate in the divine nature and escape the corruption in the world caused by evil desires.

May I encourage you to seek out a church of Christ, where they will assist you in obeying the gospel of Christ so that you may have the forgiveness of sins and renew your spirit.