



## JESUS THE CHRIST

### INTRODUCTION

“Who Is Jesus?” is the most important question with which all men will have to deal. More hinges upon the response you give to this question than anything else does in which you will ever be confronted.

The identity of Jesus continues to be discussed and debated by people from all walks of life. None can deny that He lived but many deny His claims. Some say:

“He was just a man.”

“He was a Jewish prophet.”

“He was a do-gooder.”

“He was a great teacher.”

“He was the founder of Christianity.”

“He was an insurrectionist who got what He deserved.”

These are but a few of the opinions of people concerning Christ. As Josh McDowell has so aptly pointed out, there are really only three possibilities we can consider as to who Jesus really is:

1. He is a \_\_\_\_\_. If, when Jesus made His claims He knew that He wasn't God, then He was lying. Not only would He be a liar but also a hypocrite because He demanded total honesty out of His followers. He would be unspeakably evil because He told men He was the only way to eternal life and He was a fool because it was His claims of being God that got Him crucified. But the testimony of His closest friends and His worst enemies contradict what we would expect about Him if He were a liar and deceiver.
2. He is a \_\_\_\_\_. As Josh McDowell writes in *Evidence That Demands A Verdict*, “If it is inconceivable for Jesus to be a liar, then could not He actually have thought Himself to be God, but been mistaken? After all, it is possible to be both sincere and wrong. But we must remember that for someone to

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think that He is God, especially in a culture that is fiercely monotheistic, and then to tell others that their eternal destiny depends on believing in Him is no slight flight of fantasy but the thoughts of a lunatic in the fullest sense. Was Jesus such a person?”

All evidence points to the contrary. His words and thoughts are logical and reasonable. He baffled the teachers of the Law at age twelve. He put to silence the scribes and Pharisees when they tested Him. He amazed the common person because He taught as one who had authority. In every situation, He kept a cool head when all around Him people were losing theirs.

- 3. He is \_\_\_\_\_. The third and only real choice is that Jesus is telling the truth and is Lord. Three major factors point to this truth: He fulfilled all Old Testament prophecy concerning the Messiah; He performed miracles that only God could perform and; He raised from the dead.

**I. THE CLAIMS ABOUT JESUS:**

A. What did His enemies say about Him?

- 1. The Pharisees (John 5:18; 10:30-33; 19:7)  
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- 2. The demons (Matthew 8:29; Luke 4:33-34)  
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- 3. The Centurion (Matthew 27:54)  
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B. What did His friends say about Him?

- 1. Mark (Mark 1:1)  
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- 2. John the Apostle (John 1:1)  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 3. John the Baptist (John 1:29 & 34)  
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- 4. Andrew (John 1:41)  
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5. Nathaniel (John 1:49)

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6. Thomas (John 20:28)

\_\_\_\_\_

7. Peter (Luke 5:8; Matthew 16:16)

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C. What did God the Father say about Him?

1. Matthew 3:17

\_\_\_\_\_

2. Matthew 17:5

\_\_\_\_\_

D. What did Jesus claim about Himself?

1. Matthew 9:6 \_\_\_\_\_

2. Matthew 11:27 \_\_\_\_\_

3. Matthew 26:64 \_\_\_\_\_

4. Matthew 28:18 \_\_\_\_\_

5. John 5:22 \_\_\_\_\_

6. John 8:24 \_\_\_\_\_

7. John 8:29 \_\_\_\_\_

8. John 8:46 \_\_\_\_\_

9. John 8:58 \_\_\_\_\_

10. John 10:30 \_\_\_\_\_

11. John 11:25 \_\_\_\_\_

**II. THE CHARACTER OF JESUS:**

A. The testimony of His enemies:

1. Judas (Matthew 27:4)

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2. Pilate (Mt. 27:23; Lk. 23:4; Jn. 18:38)

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3. Pilate's wife (Matthew 27:19)

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4. Herod (Luke 23:14-15)

\_\_\_\_\_

5. Centurion (Luke 23:47)

B. The testimony of His friends:

1. Paul (II Cor. 5:21)

\_\_\_\_\_

2. Peter (I Peter 2:22-23)

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3. The writer of Hebrews (4:15)

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4. John (I John 3:5)

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C. Jesus' own testimony:

1. John 5:19 \_\_\_\_\_

2. John 8:29 \_\_\_\_\_

3. John 8:46 \_\_\_\_\_

4. John 14:30 \_\_\_\_\_

**III. THE FULFILLED PROPHECY OF JESUS:**

There are over 300, check these out (nothing to write).

A. Born of a virgin, named Emmanuel (Isaiah 7:14; Matthew 1:18,21).

B. Born in Bethlehem (Micah 5:2; Matthew 2:1).

C. Forerunner, cleansing temple (Malachi 3:11-3; John 2:13).

D. Triumphal Entry (Zechariah 9:9; Matthew 21:5)

- E. Patience and silence in suffering (Isaiah 53:7; Matthew 27:12-14)
- F. Rich man's grave (Isaiah 53:9; Matthew 27:57-60)
- G. Numbered with the criminals (Isaiah 53:12; John 19:18)
- H. Pierced hands and feet (Psalms 22:16; John 19:18)
- I. Cast lots for garments (Psalms 22:18; Matthew 27:35)

**IV. THE MIRACLES OF JESUS:**

- A. Known far and wide (Acts 26:26).
- B. Consistent and ethical.
- C. Great variety – List some of them:

- 1. Matthew 8:26 \_\_\_\_\_
- 2. Matthew 8:28-34 \_\_\_\_\_
- 3. Matthew 9:24-25 \_\_\_\_\_
- 4. Matthew 9:27-35 \_\_\_\_\_
- 5. John 1:48; 4:17-18 \_\_\_\_\_
- 6. John 6:11 \_\_\_\_\_

7. In all, 35 specific miracles are mentioned pointing to the deity of Jesus.

Peter was right when, at Caesarea Philippi, he looked in his Savior's face and said, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God."