

Whom Say Ye That I Am?

Matthew 16:13-17

1

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14 And they said, Some say that thou art John the Baptist: some, Elias; and others, Jeremias, or one of the prophets.

15 He saith unto them, But whom say ye that I am?

16 And Simon Peter answered and said, Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God.

17 And Jesus answered and said unto him, Blessed art thou, Simon Barjona: for flesh and blood hath not revealed it unto thee, but my Father which is in heaven.

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3

“Of Heaven or of Men”

“Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth”

(John 17:17)

4

Why is this Subject So Important?

- **We are commanded to give an answer!**
 - “*But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts: and be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear*” (1 Peter 3:15).

5

Why is this Subject So Important?

- **We must confess Christ!**
 - “*32 Whosoever therefore shall confess me before men, him will I confess also before my Father which is in heaven. 33 But whosoever shall deny me before men, him will I also deny before my Father which is in heaven*” (Matthew 10:32-33).

6

Why is this Subject So Important?

- **Our Eternal Destiny is at Stake!**
 - *“I said therefore unto you, that ye shall die in your sins: for if ye believe not that I am he, ye shall die in your sins” (John 8:24).*

7

Why is this Subject So Important?

- **Christ is the Gift of God’s Love!**
 - *“¹⁶ For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. ¹⁷ For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved” (John 3:16-17).*

8

Why is this Subject So Important?

- **Christ is the Prophet foretold by Moses!**
 - *“For Moses truly said unto the fathers, A prophet shall the Lord your God raise up unto you of your brethren, like unto me; him shall ye hear in all things whatsoever he shall say unto you” (Acts 3:22).*
 - **Deuteronomy 18:15** – *“The LORD thy God will raise up unto thee a Prophet from the midst of thee, of thy brethren, like unto me; unto him ye shall hearken.”*

9

Why is this Subject So Important?

- **Christ is vested with all authority!**
 - *“¹⁸ And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. ¹⁹ Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost” (Mathew 28:18-19).*

10

Why is this Subject So Important?

- **Christ is God’s ordained spokesman!**
 - *“¹ God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets, ² Hath in these last days spoken unto us by his Son, whom he hath appointed heir of all things, by whom also he made the worlds” (Hebrews 1:1-2).*

11

Why is this Subject So Important?

- **Christ’s Words are Truth and Life!**
 - *“Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life (John 5:24).*

12

Why is this Subject So Important?

- **His words will judge us!**
 - “He that rejecteth me, and receiveth not my words, hath one that judgeth him: the word that I have spoken, the same shall judge him in the last day” (John 12:48).

13

Jesus Is The Universal Character!

14

His Universal Nature!

- Jesus **impacted** this world like no other!
- He is the most **known** character of religion!
 - Loved by many – hated by most!
- The most **controversial** character of all time!
- His religion and doctrine **excluded** any others!
 - Matthew 16:18; John 14:6
 - His doctrine was divisive (Matthew 10:34-39)
- He **transformed** skeptics & sinners into saints!
 - Saul a persecutor to Paul the preacher of the Gospel!

■ (Galatians 1:13-16)

15

His Influence!

- Most acknowledge His Goodness and Greatness:
 - A good **man!** – John 7:12
 - A great **teacher!**
 - A great **prophet!**
 - The greatest **philosopher!**
- Many accept His humanity but deny His Deity!

“What think ye of Christ? whose son is he?”

16

Flavius Josephus On Jesus

“Now there was about this time Jesus, a wise man if it be lawful to call him a man, for he was a doer of wonderful works, a teacher of such men as receive the truth with pleasure. He drew over to him both many Jews, and many of the Gentiles. He was the Christ, and when Pilate, at the suggestion of the principal men among us, had condemned him to the cross, those that loved him at the first, did not forsake him; for he appeared to them alive again the third day; as the divine prophets had foretold these and ten thousand other wonderful things concerning him. And the tribe of Christians so named from him are not extinct at this day.”

- Antiquities of the Jews 18.63-64

17

Comments of other Historians

- **Bruce M. Metzger**, Greek Scholar
 - “Today no competent scholar denies the historicity of Jesus.”
 - *The New Testament: Its Background, Growth, and Content* (Nashville, TN: Abingdon Press, 1965), 78.
- **George Bancroft**, 1800-1891
 - “I find the name of Jesus Christ written on the top of every page of modern history.”

18

Comments of other Historians

- Daniel Webster, American politician
1782-1852

– “All that is best in the civilization of today, is the fruit of Christ’s appearance among men.”

19

Peter’s Confession

20

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21

Peter’s Confession

“Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God”

- Peter spoke factually and truthfully!
- His confession embraced numerous truths:
 1. The **Office** of Jesus – “**the Christ**”!
 2. His **Divinity** – “**the Son of the living God**”!
 3. His **Christhood** implies his **humanity**!
 - The “**Son of David**” – Matthew 1:1; 9:27; 12:23; 15:22

22

Confirmed By Jesus

“**Blessed art thou Simon Barjonah...**”

- Jesus confirmed Peter was correct!
 - No blessings in a wrong answer!

“**...for flesh and blood hath not revealed it unto thee, but my Father which is in heaven**”

- Peter was blessed by revelation from God!
 - Revealed by the words and works of Jesus!

23

Divine Revelation vs. Men

| | |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <h2>GOD</h2> <p>Said He Was</p> <p>“...the Christ, the Son of the living God”</p> | <h2>MEN</h2> <p>Said He Was</p> <p>John the Baptist Elijah Jeremiah One of the Prophets</p> |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

“We ought to obey God rather than men”
Acts 5:29

24

“Whom Say Ye That I Am?”

25

Testimony of Scripture

- Christ relied on Scripture! Matthew 4:1-11
- Apostles relied on Scripture!
- The Scriptures testify of Christ!
- Belief brings temporal & eternal happiness!
– Romans 15:4


We must rely on the Scriptures to correctly answer our question!

26

Testimony of Scripture

“Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth” (John 17:17)

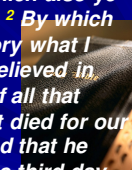
“¹⁵And that from a child thou hast known the holy **scriptures**, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus. ¹⁶**All scripture** is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: ¹⁷That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works (2 Timothy 3:15-17).



27

Testimony of Scripture

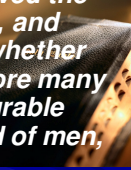
“¹ Moreover, brethren, I declare unto you the gospel which I preached unto you, which also ye have received, and wherein ye stand; ² By which also ye are saved, if ye keep in memory what I preached unto you, unless ye have believed in vain. ³ For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins **according to the scriptures**; ⁴ And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day **according to the scriptures**” (1 Corinthians 15:1-4).



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Testimony of Scripture

“¹¹These were more noble than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness of mind, and searched the **scriptures** daily, whether those things were so. ¹² Therefore many of them believed; also of honourable women which were Greeks, and of men, not a few” (Acts 17:11-12).




29

Testimony of Scripture

“Search the **scriptures**; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of me” (John 5:39).

“For had ye believed Moses, ye would have believed me: for he wrote of me” (John 5:46).

– Deuteronomy 18:18 – “I will raise them up a Prophet from among their brethren, like unto thee, and will put my words in his mouth; and he shall speak unto them all that I shall command him.”



30

Testimony of Scripture

“²⁷ Then saith he to Thomas, Reach hither thy finger, and behold my hands; and reach hither thy hand, and thrust it into my side: and be not faithless, but believing. ²⁸ And Thomas answered and said unto him, My Lord and my God. ²⁹ Jesus saith unto him, Thomas, because thou hast seen me, thou hast believed: blessed are they that have not seen, and yet have believed. ³⁰ And many other signs truly did Jesus in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book: ³¹ But these are written, that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye might have life through his name.” (John 20:27-31).

31

Who Is Jesus?

“What saith the Scripture?”

32

Divine Declarations!

■ Declared by the Father in Heaven to be His beloved Son!

– At His baptism!

■ Matthew 3:13-17

– At His transfiguration!

■ Matthew 17:1-5; 2 Peter 1:16-18

33

Jesus Made Claims

■ That He was the Messiah!

– John 4:25-26

■ Equality with God!

– John 5:17-18

■ That He was the Son of God!

– John 10:30-33

■ To see Him was to see the Father!

– John 14:7-10

■ That He could forgive sins!

– Matthew 9:5-7

34

What Some Said About Him

■ Peter - Acts 2:36

■ John - 1 John 1:1-4

■ Paul - Colossians 1:15

■ Centurion - Matthew 27:54

■ Ethiopian Eunuch – Acts 8:29-37

35

Miracles Proved His Claims

■ Healed the centurion's servant of palsy

– Matthew 8:5-13

■ The testimony of Peter on Pentecost

– Acts 2:22

■ The proclamation of Nicodemus

– John 3:2

■ His enemies could not deny His miracles

– John 11:47

36

He Fulfilled His Own Prophecies!

Jesus made detailed predictions...

- Of His death & resurrection!
 - Matthew 20:17-19
- Of Peter's Denial!
 - Mark 14:30
- Of the betrayal by Judas!
 - Matthew 26:23

37

He Fulfilled OT Prophecies!

| | | |
|-----------------|------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|
| Isaiah 7:14 | Born of a Virgin | Matthew 1:23 |
| Micah 5:2 | Born in Bethlehem | Matthew 2:1, 6 |
| Zechariah 9:9 | Enter Jerusalem on a colt | Matthew 21:5-7 |
| Psalms 41:9 | Betrayed by a friend | John 13:18-21 |
| Zechariah 11:12 | For 30 pieces of silver | Matthew 26:15 |
| Zechariah 13:7 | Forsaken by His disciples | Matthew 14:27 |
| Psalms 22:16 | His hands & feet pierced | John 20:25 |
| Psalms 22:1 | He would cry, "My God, My God, why hast thou forsaken me!" | Matthew 27:46 |
| → Psalms 34:20 | His bones not broken | John 19:31-36 |
| Isaiah 53:9 | Buried in a rich man's tomb | Matthew 27:57-60 |
| → Isaiah 53:12 | Be executed with thieves | Mark 15:28 |

38

He Fulfilled OT Prophecies!

17 Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets: I am not come to destroy, but to fulfill. 18 For verily I say unto you, Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled. (Matthew 5:17-18)

39

"There is None Like Him; None Can Compare"

Hymns for Worship, #7

40

There is None Like Him!

- **In Chemistry!**
 - He turned the water into wine!
 - John 2:1-11
 - Verse 9 – "but the servants who had drawn the water knew"

He had power over the elements!

41

There is None Like Him!

- **In Physics!**
 - He defied gravity and ascended into Heaven!
 - Acts 1:8-11
 - He walked on water!
 - Matthew 14:25-33
 - Falls of 10 feet or less causes many deaths!
 - OSHA Fall Protection Standard!
 - Eliminates the potential for falls. **Gravity Kills!**

He had power over the laws of Physics!

42

There is None Like Him!

- **In Meteorology!**
 - He had power over the winds and the sea!
 - He Stilled Storms!
 - Matthew 8:23-27; 14:32

He could control laws of nature!

43

There is None Like Him

- **In History!**
 - He is the beginning and the end!
 - Colossians 1:15-17
 - “*I am Alpha and Omega*”
 - Revelation 1:8, 11; 21:6; 22:13
 - First and Last letter of the Greek alphabet respectively
 - John 8:58

He is an ETERNAL being of the Godhead!

44

There is None Like!

- **In Government!**
 - His name would be called, “*Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace*”
 - Isaiah 9:6
 - But, His kingdom was not of this world!
 - John 18:33-37

Yet, He is “*King of Kings and Lord of Lords!*” (Revelation 19:16)

45

There is None Like Him!

- **In Mathematics!**
 - He disproved the “*law of diminishing return.*”
 - Fed the four & five-thousand!
 - 4,000 - 7 loaves & a few fish (Mark 8:1-9)
 - Took up 7 baskets
 - 5,000 - 5 loaves & 2 small fishes (John 6:2-14)
 - Took up 12 baskets of barley loaves
 - Pentecost – 12 Apostles to about 3,000 souls!
 - Romans 1:16

He provided an INCREASING Return!

46

There is None Like Him!

- **In Medicine!**
 - He, cured the sick, lame and halt without a single dose of medicine and raised the dead!
 - Blind – John 9:1-9
 - Crippled man – Matthew 9:1-8
 - Deaf & Dumb – Mark 7:31-35
 - Leprosy – Matthew 8:1-3
 - Raised the dead – Matthew 9:18-25
 - Nicodemus - “*...for no man can do these miracles that thou doest, except God be with him*” (John 3:2).

He had power over sickness & death!

47

There is None Like Him!

- **In Education!**
 - He was the “*teacher come from God!*”
 - John 3:2
 - He taught with authority!
 - Matthew 7:28-29; John 7:46

Yet, All the combined schools of men cannot boast of having as many students as Jesus!

48

There is None Like Him!

- **In Literature!**
 - He never wrote a book!
 - But all the libraries of the world could not hold the books written about Him!
 - John 21:25

Yet, “He became the author of eternal salvation unto all them that obey him” (Hebrews 5:8-9)

49

There is None Like Him

- **In Religion!**
 - He is our Great and Glorious High Priest!
 - “...*who is holy, harmless, undefiled, separate from sinners...*” – Hebrews 7:26
 - Romans 3:10, 22
 - 1 Peter 2:21-23
 - Hebrews 4:14-15

Yet, “Christ was once offered to bear the sins of many...” (Hebrews 9:28)

50

Historian Philip Schaff on Jesus

“This Jesus of Nazareth, without money and arms, conquered more millions than Alexander, Caesar, Mohammed, and Napoleon; without science...he shed more light on things human and divine than all philosophers and scholars combined; without the eloquence of schools, he spoke such words of life as were never spoken before or since, and produced effects which lie beyond the reach of orator or poet; without writing a single line, he set more pens in motion, and furnished themes for more sermons, orations, discussions, learned volumes, works of art, and songs of praise than the whole army of great men of ancient and modern times.”

51

Who Is Jesus?

- **He is worthy of our worship & praise!**
 - Revelation 5:11-14
- **His words give us life!**
 - John 6:33-35
- **To labor in His vineyard is not vain!**
 - 1 Corinthians 15:58

52

Who Is Jesus?

- **He had no servants!**
 - Yet they called Him Master! – Matthew 19:16
- **He had no educational degree!**
 - Yet they called Him Teacher! – John 3:2
- **He used no medicine!**
 - Yet He was a physician! – Mark 2:16-17

53

Who Is Jesus?

- **He won no military battles!**
 - Yet He conquered the world of sin & death!
 - Hebrews 1:1-4
- **He committed no crimes!**
 - Yet they crucified Him!
 - Luke 23:33
- **He was buried in an borrowed tomb!**
 - Yet He rose from the dead & reigns today!
 - Matthew 28:6-7

54

Who Is Jesus?

He Is The Greatest Man In History!

He Is The UNIVERSAL Character Of This Universe!

There Is None Like Him!

He Is The Divine Son Of God!

55

“What Think Ye of Christ?”
Matthew 22:42-45

Was He

- A Liar?
- A Hypocrite?
- An Imposter?
- Just a good Man?
- A religious Fanatic?
- A Deceiver or a Devil?
- The Son Of God?

Who Do You Say He Was & Is?

56

John 20:29-31

“Thou art the Christ the Son of the living God!”

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