

Who Is Jesus, Part One

I imagine there are many in the world who want nothing to do with religion, as well as others who once walked with God and do not walk with Him any longer.

In all of this mix, the identity of the One called Jesus of Nazareth has been confused.

My desire here tonight is to bring attention once more, to what God Himself says about His Son.

Recent interviews with ordinary people have revealed what we could already imagine about how people would answer the question; Who do you say that Jesus is?

"Jesus is God."

"Savior of the Christian faith."

"He died in Israel."

"He is one of the gods."

"Palestinian Jew living around the year 0-30."

"A religious leader."

"I think He was just a person that was really smart and wanted to make the world a better place or something."

"He's a topic that I don't want to discuss."

"Savior of the world."

"The man who's gonna lead us into the promised land in the next life."

"A higher power above all things that no one can understand."

"Jesus is a rabbi that was in the first century."



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"I believe Jesus was a prophet trying to create a new branch of Judaism, and I believe that they took what His preachings were and later on made it into something which I don't believe it was at all intended to be. I don't think Jesus ever called Himself the Son of God."

"Probably He's a mythological figure that actually lived and I think we've developed His persona over the years."

"Possible fictional, possibly real person."

"My understanding is that He was a historical figure who played prominently in a whole lot of stuff."

"Jesus is a historical character."

"I'm sure He existed and was a great guy and stuff."

"He was a very enlightened and spiritual being, and I think He came to earth to teach us a few things."

"I kinda believe in my heart that He was probably the world's greatest prophet we ever had, you know, someone to learn from His lessons and kinda change the shape of mankind. There's no denyin' that. Big historical figure."

"Very holy man who lived a long time ago."

"Man who walks around in a robe. And sandals. Long hair. He looks like my uncle, actually."

"Can I say I'm not sure, I don't know? The guy in the Bible, I guess."

"Is that a trick question?"

"Jesus is the Son of God."

"Some people believe He's the Son of God. I don't."

"That's a good question, and I don't think I have an answer, Who Jesus is."

How about you?

Do you have an answer?

Let me suggest some for you, that come from the pages of the Bible.

1. He is the Son of God.

Did Jesus ever call Himself the Son of God?

The narratives about Jesus certainly did.

Matthew 1:23, for example.

23 "Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall call his name Immanuel" (which means, God with us).

Matthew believed that the birth of Jesus was the fulfillment of Isaiah's prophecy 700 years before, that a virgin would give birth to a Son Who would be "God-with-us", or as we say, Emmanuel.

Sounds like Son of God to me.

Luke follows up with an even clearer identification.

An angel appears to Mary and simply declares that the child being conceived in her womb is to be called the "Son of the Highest."

Later that conception is said to be by the Holy Spirit.

When God's Spirit creates a seed inside of a woman, that seed is Divine.

Jesus is the Son of God.

But what about Jesus Himself?

Did He ever say He was that Son?

While this is true, that it was not a constant theme of His teaching.

But it is far from the truth that He never made the claim.

Look at **Matthew 22: 41-46**. It is Jesus vs. the Pharisees, in a rivalry that lasted His entire ministry.

41-46 *Now while the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them a question,*

42 *saying, "What do you think about the Christ? Whose son is he?" They said to him, "The son of David."*

43 *He said to them, "How is it then that David, in the Spirit, calls him Lord, saying,*

44 *"The Lord said to my Lord, "Sit at my right hand, until I put your enemies under your feet"?"*

45 *If then David calls him Lord, how is he his son?"*

46 *And no one was able to answer him a word, nor from that day did anyone dare to ask him any more questions.*

Jesus asks them, "Whose Son is the Messiah?"

"David's," they replied.

"David's? But look at what David said:

'The Lord said to my Lord, Sit at my right hand...'

David calls the Messiah "Lord."

So how could the Messiah also be the son of David?

The obvious solution to the riddle is to find a person in history who was descended from David (David's "son" or descendant) but also was born of God.

Jesus is that person.

His line is described in Matthew and Luke, proof that He was from David's family.



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His miraculous birth is recorded in prophecy and in the famous Christmas narrative... "a virgin will conceive and bear a Son..."

Matthew 26 makes it even plainer.

63 But Jesus remained silent. And the high priest said to him, "I adjure you by the living God, tell us if you are the Christ, the Son of God."

64 Jesus said to him, "You have said so. But I tell you, from now on you will see the Son of Man seated at the right hand of Power and coming on the clouds of heaven."

65 Then the high priest tore his robes and said, "He has uttered blasphemy. What further witnesses do we need? You have now heard his blasphemy."

66 What is your judgment?" They answered, "He deserves death."

67 Then they spit in his face and struck him. And some slapped him,

68 saying, "Prophecy to us, you Christ! Who is it that struck you?"

He is on trial.

Jesus is asked by the ruling Jewish court, if He is the Messiah, the Son of God (see how these two terms, "Son of God" and "Messiah" come together again?).

Without blinking He admits that He is as they say, and He is immediately condemned to death for blasphemy.

Jesus was crucified because he claimed to be the Son of God!

Let no one today say that he never claimed it!

That's why He was crucified!

There's no question about the record of Scripture.

Jesus is the Son of the living God, and He claimed to be such.

2. He is God the Son

Here is where we lose a lot of people.

Many are willing to mouth the words, "Son of God", in reference to Jesus.

But most don't comprehend that what your Father is, you are.

My children are human.

God's Son is Divine.

He can only give birth to Divinity.

I was adopted into the family of God, and filled with God's Spirit, but I am not God.

But my Big Brother Jesus is God, because His real Father, not adoptive Parent, is God Almighty.

As you see by the image, Jesus is called many things in the Bible, things like;

Creator,

I AM,

Mighty God,

Lord of Lords,

the Rock,

the Savior,

The Forgiver,

the Judge,

the King,

the Shepherd,

the Sun,
the Light,
the First & Last,
the Redeemer.

And He is all these things, and more, so much more.

And did you notice as I was going through that list, that these names given to Jesus in the Bible are the same names that belong to the Father, the one we call "God" or "Jehovah" or "Yahweh"?

Jesus is Creator, but God the Father is Creator.



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