

Does the Bible really teach that Jesus is God in the flesh?

The _____ teaches that Jesus is God in the flesh

“For by Him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things were created by Him and for Him. He is before all things, and in Him all things hold together.” Colossians 1:16-17

“He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of His nature, and He upholds the universe by the word of His power. After making purification for sins, He sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high.” Hebrews 1:3

_____ teaches that He is God in the flesh

“‘I and the Father are one.’ The Jews picked up stones again to stone Him. Jesus answered them, ‘I have shown you many good works from the Father; for which of them are you going to stone me?’ The Jews answered Him, ‘It is not for a good work that we are going to stone you but for blasphemy, because you, being a man, make yourself God.’” John 10:30-33

“Jesus answered, ‘If I glorify myself, my glory is nothing. It is my Father who glorifies me, of whom you say, ‘He is our God.’ But you have not known Him. I know Him. If I were to say that I do not know Him, I would be a liar like you, but I do know Him and I keep His word. Your father Abraham rejoiced that he would see my day. He saw it and was glad.’ So, the Jews said to Him, ‘You are not yet fifty years old, and have you seen Abraham?’ Jesus said to them, ‘Truly, truly, I say to you, before Abraham was, I am.’ So, they picked up stones to throw at Him, but Jesus hid himself and went out of the temple.” John 8:54-59

“Jesus said to him, ‘Have I been with you so long, and you still do not know me, Philip? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, ‘Show us the Father?’” John 14:9

“And behold, some people brought to Him a paralytic, lying on a bed. And when Jesus saw their faith, He said to the paralytic, ‘Take heart, my son; your sins are forgiven.’ And behold, some of the scribes said to themselves, ‘This man is blaspheming.’” Matthew 9:2-3

“Jesus said to her, ‘I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die. Do you believe this?’” John 11:25-26

“If you are the Christ, tell us.” But He said to them, “If I tell you, you will not believe, and if I ask you, you will not answer. But from now on the Son of Man shall be seated at the right hand of the power of God.” So, they all said, “Are you the Son of God, then?” And He said to them, “You say that I am.” Then they said, “What further testimony do we need? We have heard it ourselves from His own lips.” Luke 22:67-71

Since Jesus claimed to be God in the flesh, what conclusions can we draw?

Option #1 - Jesus is a _____

If Jesus was lying, it was a colossal _____

If Jesus was lying, He was a _____ liar

Lying doesn't fit with Jesus' _____ in the Gospels

Option #2 - Jesus is a _____

If Jesus was a lunatic, He was deeply _____

Lunacy doesn't fit with Jesus' _____ in the Gospels

Option #3 - Jesus is _____

"I am trying here to prevent anyone saying the really foolish thing that people often say about Him: 'I'm ready to accept Jesus as a great moral teacher, but I don't accept His claim to be God.' That is the one thing we must not say. A man who was merely a man and said the sort of things Jesus said would not be a great moral teacher. He would either be a lunatic - on the level with the man who says he is a poached egg - or else he would be the Devil of Hell.

You must make your choice. Either this man was, and is, the Son of God: or else a madman or something worse. You can shut Him up for a fool, you can spit at Him and kill Him as a demon; or you can fall at His feet and call Him Lord and God. But let us not come with any patronizing nonsense about His being a great human teacher. He has not left that open to us. He did not intend to."

~ C.S. Lewis - Mere Christianity ~

Jesus provided evidence that He is God in the flesh through His

"At this time [i.e., the rule of Pontius Pilate as prefect of Judea] there appeared Jesus, a wise man. For He was a doer of startling deeds, a teacher of people who receive the truth with pleasure. And He gained a following both among many Jews and among many of Gentile origin."

~ Josephus - 90s AD ~

"On the eve of Passover Yeshu was hanged. For forty days before the execution took place, a herald went forth and cried, 'He is going forth to be stoned because He has practiced sorcery and enticed and led Israel astray.'"

~ Talmud - 150s AD ~

"Yet Jesus, who won over the least worthy of you, has been known by name for but little more than three hundred years; and during His lifetime He accomplished nothing worth hearing of, unless anyone thinks that to heal crooked and blind men and to exorcize those who were possessed by evil demons in the villages of Bethsaida and Bethany can be classed as a mighty achievement."

~ Emperor Julian - 362AD ~

Jesus rose from the dead, confirming that He is God in the flesh

The resurrection was the center of the early church _____

“For I passed onto you as most important what I also received: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, that He was buried, that He was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures, and that He appeared to Cephas, then to the Twelve. Then He appeared to over 500 brothers at one time; most of them are still alive, but some have fallen asleep. Then He appeared to James, then to all the apostles. Last of all, as to one abnormally born, He also appeared to me.” 1 Corinthians 15:3-8

Resurrection Video

The resurrection is the best explanation of the _____ tomb

The resurrection is the best explanation for the _____

The resurrection is the best explanation for the disciple’s _____
that Jesus rose

What is our proper response to Jesus?

_____ and _____

How do we love and worship Jesus when we all gather on Sunday mornings?

We show our love for Jesus by _____ to Him in four areas:

Give Him _____ time

Give Him _____

Give Him _____

Give Him _____

Who is Jesus? Reflection Questions

#1 - What did you find confusing or compelling about this week's talk?

#2 - What is your response to Jesus' claims to be God?

#3 - As you read 1 Corinthians 15:3-8, how would you describe the primary message of the early church?

#4 - What reasons for Jesus' resurrection do you find compelling?

#5 - How does Jesus' resurrection impact your life?

#6 - How do we express love and worship for Jesus when we gather on Sunday morning?

***Do you have questions about this week's lesson?**

E-mail Lori McCormick at lorim@friendshipmn.org

Notes

DISCOVER