

JESUS: MAN, MYTH, OR MESSIAH?

DR. ROBERT JEFFRESS
PALM SUNDAY, APRIL 9, 2017

INTRODUCTION: Few historians argue that Jesus actually existed. Furthermore, most religions acknowledge that Jesus was a great, moral teacher. However, Jesus claimed to be much more than that, as we will discover this morning.

I. Jesus: His Unique Claims

A. Jesus Claimed To Be _____

John 10:30 "I and the Father are one."

John 14:8 "Philip said to Jesus, 'Lord, show us the Father, and it is enough for us.'"

John 14:9 "Jesus said to him, 'Have I been so long with you, and yet you have not come to know Me, Philip? He who has seen Me has seen the Father; how can you say, Show us the Father?'"

Mark 14:61b "Are You the Christ, the Son of the Blessed One?"

Mark 14:62a "And Jesus answered, 'I Am.'"

Mark 14:63-64 "⁶³ And tearing his clothes, the high priest said, 'What further need do we have of witnesses? ⁶⁴ You have heard the blasphemy; how does it seem to you?' And they all condemned Him to be deserving of death."

B. Jesus Claimed To _____ Sins

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Mark 2:5 “And Jesus seeing their faith said to the paralytic, ‘My son, your sins are forgiven.’”

Mark 2:7 “Why does this man speak that way? He is blaspheming; who can forgive sins but God alone?”

Mark 2:10-12 “¹⁰ ‘But in order that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins’—He said to the paralytic— ¹¹ ‘I say to you, rise, take up your pallet and go home.’
¹² And he rose and immediately took up the pallet and went out in the sight of all; so that they were all amazed and were glorifying God, saying, ‘We have never seen anything like this.’”

Luke 19:10 “For the Son of Man has come to seek and to save that which was lost.”

Matthew 20:28 “Just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many.”

John 11:25 “Jesus said to her, ‘I am the resurrection and the life; he who believes in Me will live even if he dies.’”

C. Jesus Claimed To _____ Death

Matthew 16:21 “From that time Jesus Christ began to show His disciples that He must go to Jerusalem, and suffer many things from the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and be raised up on the third day.”

Matthew 12:38-40 “³⁸ Then some of the scribes and Pharisees said to Him, ‘Teacher, we want to see a sign from you.’ ³⁹ But He answered and said to them, ‘An evil and adulterous generation craves for a sign; and yet no sign shall be given to it but the sign of Jonah the prophet; ⁴⁰ for just as JONAH WAS THREE DAYS AND THREE NIGHTS IN THE BELLY OF THE SEA MONSTER, so shall the Son of Man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth.’”

Matthew 27:62-64 “⁶² Now on the next day, which is the one after the preparation, the chief priests and the Pharisees gathered together with Pilate, ⁶³ and said, ‘Sir, we remember that when He was still alive that deceiver said, after three days I am to rise again. ⁶⁴ Therefore, give orders for the grave to be made secure until the third day, lest the disciples come and steal Him away and say to the people, He has risen from the dead, and the last deception will be worse than the first.’”

D. Jesus Claimed He Would Return To _____ The World

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Matthew 25:31-34 “³¹But when the Son of Man comes in His glory, and all the angels with Him, then he will sit on His glorious throne. ³²All the nations will be gathered before Him; and He will separate them from one another, as the shepherd separates the sheep from the goats; ³³and He will put the sheep on His right, and the goats on the left. ³⁴Then the King will say to those on His right, ‘Come, you who are blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world.’”

John 3:17-18 “¹⁷For God did not send the Son into the world to judge the world, but that the world might be saved through Him. ¹⁸He who believes in Him is not judged; he who does not believe has been judged already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.”

John 8:24 “I said therefore to you that you shall die in your sins; for unless you believe that I am He, you shall die in your sins.”

John 8:12 “Again therefore Jesus spoke to them saying, ‘I am the light of the world; he who follows Me will not walk in the darkness, but shall have the light of life.’”

II. Jesus: His Unique Teachings

James 1:17 “Every good thing bestowed and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation, or shifting shadow.”

A. There Are Two Possible Eternal _____

Matthew 25:46 “These [the unrighteous] will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.”

B. The _____ Of Mankind Will Spend Eternity In Hell

Matthew 7:13-14 “¹³Enter by the narrow gate; for the gate is wide, and the way is broad that leads to destruction, and many are those who enter by it. ¹⁴For the gate is small, and the way is narrow that leads to life, and few are those who find it.”

Matthew 7:21-23 “²¹Not everyone who says to Me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ will enter the kingdom of heaven; but he who does the will of My Father who is in heaven. ²²Many will say to Me on that day, ‘Lord, Lord did we not prophesy in Your name, and in Your name cast out demons, and in Your name perform many miracles?’ ²³And then I will declare to them, ‘I never knew you; DEPART FROM ME, YOU WHO PRACTICE LAWLESSNESS.’”

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C. Jesus Offers An _____ Way To Heaven

John 14:6 “...I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father, but through Me.”

John 5:24 “Truly, truly I say to you, he who hears My word, and believes Him who sent Me, has eternal life, and does not come into judgment, but has passed out of death into life.”

John 3:3 “...Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.”

John 3:14-16 “¹⁴ And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of Man be lifted up; ¹⁵ that whoever believes may in Him have eternal life. ¹⁶ For God so loved the world, that He gave his only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish, but have eternal life.”

III. Jesus: His Unique Solution To Man’s Dilemma

Romans 3:23 “for all of have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.”

Galatians 3:10 “For as many as are of the works of the Law are under a curse; for it is written, CURSED IS EVERYONE WHO DOES NOT ABIDE BY ALL THINGS WRITTEN IN THE BOOK OF THE LAW TO PERFORM THEM.”

James 2:10 “For whoever keeps the whole law and yet stumbles in one point, he has become guilty of all.”

2 Corinthians 5:21 “He [God] made Him [Jesus Christ] who knew no sin to be sin on our behalf, so that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.”

Ephesians 2:8-9 “⁸ For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God; ⁹ not as a result of works, so that no one may boast.”

Conclusion