

Is Jesus Christ The Son Of God?

Introduction:

- A. The question of whether or not the Jesus is the Son of God is one of the most important questions that each person must answer.
- B. The Bible says that Jesus is the Son of God (John 20:30-31).
- C. There can only be one correct answer to our question about Jesus.
 - 1. Either he is the Son of God or he is not.
 - 2. Either there is evidence that he is the Son of God, or there is evidence against him being the Son of God.
 - 3. The question must be answered.

Body:

I. The Facts About Jesus.

- A. There are certain facts about Jesus that everyone admits to be true.
- B. Some have questioned these facts about the historical Jesus.
 - 1. Some have speculated that maybe he was not a real, historical figure.
 - 2. Others have tried to cast doubt on the historical description given of Jesus in the Bible.
 - 3. But the Bible is not the only source of ancient history that refers to Jesus as a real historical figure.
 - 4. The ancient secular historians also make reference to him.
 - 5. Historians who were not Christians, and even those who were against Christians, wrote of Jesus as a real historical figure and confirmed the historical facts about him found in the Bible.

II. Who Is Jesus?

- A. Since it is a fact that he really lived, we must come to a decision about him and his identity.
 - 1. Is he the Son of God?
 - 2. Is he a lying imposter?
 - 3. Is he just a good man and a good moral teacher?
 - 4. Is he insane?
- B. There are really only two possibilities worth considering when it comes to the identity of Jesus.
 - 1. Could he have been a lying fraud?
 - 2. Could he have been the Son of God?

III. Evidence That Jesus Is The Son Of God.

- A. The claims of Jesus.
 - 1. He claimed he was sinlessly perfect.
 - a. His disciples said he never sinned (1 Peter 2:22).
 - b. The Roman governor said he was innocent of any wrongdoing (Matthew 27:24).

- c. He challenged his enemies to convict him of sin (John 8:46).
 - d. Can you imagine what would happen if a lying imposter made these claims?
- 2. He claimed he was equal with God the Father.
 - a. John 5:17-18.
 - b. John 8:57-58.
 - c. Exodus 3:14.
 - d. These claims would be thought of as a joke if made by a lying fraud.
- 3. He claimed he would rise from the dead.
 - a. Mathew. 16:21.
 - b. Matthew 17:22-23.
 - c. Matthew 20:18-19.
 - d. What would happen if an imposter made claims like these?
- B. The fulfillment of Old Testament prophecy.
 - 1. The prophets of the Old Testament wrote about Christ several hundred years before he was born.
 - 2. Jesus fulfilled every single prophecy recorded in the Old Testament concerning the Christ.
 - 3. How did Jesus fulfill all of these prophecies that were written hundreds of years before he was born?
- C. The unnatural attitudes of Jesus.
 - 1. He had no worldly ambition (John 6:15).
 - 2. He never expressed doubt when questioned on any subject (John 7:45-46).
 - 3. He did not have the common prejudices and hatred that others had (Mark 16:15).
 - 4. He was fearless in his teaching (Matthew 23:13-16).
 - 5. He was not vindictive toward his enemies (Luke 23:33-34).
 - 6. He was completely unselfish (Matthew 20:27-28).
 - 7. Are these the statements and attitudes of a lying imposter, or are they the statements and attitudes of the Son of God?
- D. The miracles of Jesus.
 - 1. A “miracle” is a direct act of intervention by God that defies the normal laws of nature (*i.e. walking on water*).
 - 2. The question is: Did Jesus perform miracles?
 - a. He said he did (John 10:25).
 - b. His disciples said he did (John 20:30-31).
 - c. His enemies said he did (John 11:45-48).
 - d. The Bible records them as fact (Matthew 15:30).
 - 3. The miracles of Jesus provide all of the evidence necessary to show that he is the Son of God.
- E. The resurrection of Jesus.
 - 1. The word “resurrection” means, “to restore to life; to come back from the dead.”
 - 2. The Bible says that on the third day after Jesus died he came back to life, that is, he was resurrected from the dead.

3. There are certain facts surrounding the resurrection of Jesus that everyone must admit to be true.
 - a. Jesus lived.
 - b. Jesus was crucified and killed.
 - c. Jesus was buried in a sealed tomb.
 - d. The tomb is empty.
 - e. The Bible says he rose from the dead.
4. How important is the resurrection of Jesus?
 - a. Everything depends upon the resurrection of Jesus (1 Corinthians 15:17)!
 - b. If he was raised from the dead, then every claim that he made is verified, and he has proven himself to be the Son of God.
5. But remember, there are certain facts surrounding the resurrection of Jesus that everyone must admit to be true.
6. Can the resurrection be disproved?
 - a. Does the “Swoon” Theory disprove the resurrection?
 - 1) The idea is that Jesus did not actually die on the cross. When placed in the tomb, he regained consciousness and walked out on his own.
 - 2) Does the evidence support this?
 - b. Did the enemies of Jesus steal the body from the tomb?
 - 1) The idea is that the tomb is empty because the Jewish leaders stole his body from the tomb.
 - 2) Does the evidence support this?
 - c. Did the disciples of Jesus steal his body from the tomb?
 - 1) The idea is that tomb is empty because the disciples of Jesus stole his body from the tomb.
 - 2) Does the evidence support this?
 - d. Does the “Hallucination” Theory disprove the resurrection?
 - 1) The idea is that the disciples had a hallucination and just imagined that they saw the resurrected Jesus.
 - 2) Does the evidence support this?
 - e. The only explanation of the empty tomb that fits the evidence is the explanation that Jesus actually was resurrected from the dead!
 - 1) The resurrection of Jesus cannot be disproved.
 - 2) The tomb is empty.
 - 3) If the resurrection is true, Jesus is the Son of God!

Conclusion:

- A. The evidence that Jesus is the Son of God is overpowering
- B. Our eternal destiny will be based upon whether or not we accept or reject this evidence (John 8:24).
- C. We have only 2 choices:
 1. Either he was the Son of God, or he was a lying imposter.
 2. Which choice makes more sense in light of the evidence?
- D. Each of us must come to a decision about Jesus.