

“The Identity and Activity of Jesus”

Worldview Camp 2019 – Pine Haven Christian Assembly
Web Resources: www.worldvieweyes.org/pinehaven2019.html

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Introduction

- A. Christian claims about Jesus.
- B. Skeptical claims about Jesus.
 - 1.
 - 2.
 - 3.
 - 4.
- C. How would you try to respond?
- D. Major questions to pursue:
 1. What does the Bible present about Jesus?
 2. Is the Bible sufficiently reliable and authoritative?
 3. Is the resurrection of Jesus credible?

I. Biblical Claims

A. Jesus' **WORDS**.

1. **Jn 5:21-23** ²¹ For just as the Father raises the dead and gives them life, even so the Son also gives life to whom He wishes. ²² For not even the Father judges anyone, but He has given all judgment to the Son, ²³ so that all will honor the Son even as they honor the Father. He who does not honor the Son does not honor the Father who sent Him.
2. **Jn 8:58** “Before Abraham was I am” (cf. v. 59: In response, the Jews want to stone him).
3. **Jn 10:30** “I and the Father are one.” (v. 31 The Jews pick up stones to stone Him)
4. **Jn 14:8-11** {Philip: “Show us the Father.” Jesus: “Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, ‘Show us the Father?’” “I am in the Father and the Father is in Me.”}
5. **“The Son of Man”**: Used 81x by Jesus.
 - a. Mark 14:61-64 (cf. Matt 26:59-65)
 - b. Daniel 7:13-14

Mark 14:61-64 Again the high priest was questioning Him, and saying to Him, “**Are You the Christ, the Son of the Blessed One?**” ⁶² And Jesus said, “I am; and **you shall see the Son of Man sitting at the right hand of Power, and coming with the clouds of heaven.**” ⁶³ 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.

Daniel 7:13-14 ¹³ “In my vision at night I looked, and there before me was one **like a son of man, coming with the clouds of heaven.** He approached the Ancient of Days and was led into his presence. ¹⁴ He was given authority, glory and sovereign power; **all nations and peoples of every language worshiped him.** His dominion is an everlasting dominion that will not pass away, and his kingdom is one that will never be destroyed.

B. Jesus' **WORKS**.

John 10:37-38 ³⁷Do not believe me unless I do the works of my Father. ³⁸But if I do them, even though you do not believe me, believe the works, that you may know and understand that the Father is in me, and I in the Father.”

1. **Matt 9:2-6** {Forgiving sin; healing paralytic}: vs. 6 ““But in order that you may know that the **Son of Man** has authority on earth to forgive sins’—then He said to the paralytic—‘Rise, take up your bed, and go home.’ And he rose, and went home.”
2. **Jn 5:18-23** vs. 21 ²¹ For just as the Father raises the dead and gives them life, even so the Son also gives life to whom He wishes.
3. **Jn 11:47-48** “Therefore the chief priests and the Pharisees convened a council, and were saying, “What are we doing? For this man is performing many signs. ‘If we let Him go on like this, all men will believe in Him,...”
4. **Jn 20:30-31** “Many other signs therefore Jesus also performed in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; but these have been written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing you may have life in His name.” (cf. Jn. 21:25 Jesus did many other things as well. If every one of them were written down, I suppose that even the whole world would not have room for the books that would be written.)

C. Jesus' **OPPOSITION**.

1. **Mk 14:61-64** Again the high priest was questioning Him, and saying to Him, “Are You the Christ, the Son of the Blessed One?” ⁶² And Jesus said, “I am; and you shall see the Son of Man sitting at the right hand of Power, and coming with the clouds of heaven.” ⁶³ 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. (cf. Matt 26:59-65).
2. **John 8:48-59** (cf. Ex 3:14) ⁵⁷ So the Jews said to Him, “You are not yet fifty years old, and have You seen Abraham?” ⁵⁸ Jesus said to them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, before Abraham was born, I am.” ⁵⁹ Therefore they picked up stones to throw at Him, but Jesus hid Himself and went out of the temple.”
3. **Matt 12:8-14** {Lord of the Sabbath}: ¹⁴ But the Pharisees went out and conspired against Him, as to how they might destroy Him.
4. **John 10:30-39** {“I and the Father are One”}: ³⁰ I and the Father are one.” ³¹ The Jews picked up stones again to stone Him.

D. Jesus' **FOLLOWERS**.

1. “Sons of God” VS. “**The Son of God**”
 - a. “Sons of God” refers to Christians (Gal. 3:26; Matt. 5:9).
 - b. “The Son of God” (with the definite article): Used 48x in the New Testament in 11 different books and in all 4 Gospels.
2. **Acts 2:22-36** [sermon preached just 50 days after Jesus’ crucifixion and resurrection]
 - a. vs 34 The Lord said to my Lord, “Sit at My right hand, ³⁵ Until I make Your enemies a footstool for Your feet.”
 - b. Cf. Matt 22:41-46 “...⁴⁵ If David then calls Him ‘Lord,’ how is He his son?” ⁴⁶ No one was able to answer Him a word, nor did anyone dare from that day on to ask Him another question.
 - c. vs 36 ³⁶ Therefore let all the house of Israel know for certain that God has made Him both Lord and Christ—this Jesus whom you crucified.”
3. **John 1:1-2, 14** “... the Word was with God and **the Word was God** And the Word **became flesh** and dwelt among us”
4. **John 3:16** ¹⁶ “For God so loved the world, that He gave His **only begotten Son**, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life.

5. **Colossians 1:15** “And He [Christ] is the **image** [*icon*] of the invisible God ...”
6. **Hebrews 1:3** God “in these last days spoken unto us by His Son whom He appointed heir of all things . . . [the Son is] the image of His glory and the **exact representation** [*charakter*] of his nature”
7. **2 Peter 1:16** “For we did not follow cleverly devised tales when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we were **eyewitnesses** of His majesty.”
8. **1 John 1:1-4** What we have “heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we beheld and our hands handled, concerning the **Word of life** ... we proclaim to you ... and these things we write”
9. **John 20:30-31** “Many other signs therefore Jesus also performed in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; but these have been written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, **the Son of God**; and that believing you may have life in His name.”

II. Religious Comparisons and Contrasts.

- A. Only Christianity has God coming uniquely in flesh.
- B. Classic Judaism: Rejects the incarnation. Jesus is not Messiah nor Son of God.
- C. Islam: Allah is distant. He has no son. There is nothing like the Holy Spirit in Islam.
- D. Hinduism: Has many gods/goddesses that are expressed in millions of ways.
- E. Buddhism: No real concept of God.
- F. New Age: *You* are god (but there is no God who is separate from us who transcends us).

III. Special Considerations on Jesus' Activity.

- A. His compassionate relationship with _____ (Mark 2:14-16; cf. Matt. 9:9-13).
- B. His confirming relationship with _____.
 1. He broke social and religious rules to engage them (John 4).
 2. He included women disciples during his travel ministry (Luke 8:1-3).
 3. He would not allow women to be singled out for condemnation (John 8:1-11).
 4. Jesus encouraged women to “sit as His feet” to learn (Luke 10:38-42 story of Mary and Martha).
- C. His caring relationship with the _____ and _____.
- D. His condemnation of many _____ leaders.