

“Who Is Jesus Christ?”

“In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God....And the Word was made flesh...” John 1:1, 14

THE HISTORIC

1. Myth or Man?
 - _____ manuscripts. (See sessions #1 and #2).
 - First to second _____ writers.
 - Meticulous detail of history, genealogy, chronology, geography, topography, and customs.
 - Extra biblical sources. (Historic, Archaeology) See Figure #1.
 - Medical descriptions.
 - Writers had nothing _____ and everything _____.
 - No ancient writings challenging the historicity.

The Lord Jesus Christ is the most prominent & influential figure in all of human history. Why?

THE SPIRITUAL

1. Mystic or Master?
 - “I say unto you.” Over 65 times (in various forms).
 - The problem in being a “moral teacher.”

THE ETERNAL

1. Magician or Messiah?
 - a. His Fingerprint. (Session #2 handout, - prophecies fulfilled)

The chance that any one man could fulfill 8 prophecies is 1 in 10^{17} .
The chance that any one man could fulfill 48 prophecies is 1 in 10^{157} .

Peter Stoner – *Science Speaks*

 - Rules out coincidence.
 - Rules out “engineering.”
 - Rules out conspiracy.
 - b. His Claims.
 - John 14:1, 6, 7, 9, 11, 21, 23 *et al.*
 - John 5:17,18; 8:58, 59 (note: “I am”)
 - John 10:30-33 (note: “are one”)
 - Mark 14:61-64 (note: He is Messiah, He is Son of Man, He is at the Right Hand, He comes in the Clouds).

- c. His Actions.
 - Forgives: John 8:7, 11; Mark 2:5-7.
 - Worshipped: Matthew 28:16, 17.
 - Authority: John 5:21.
 - Judge: John 5:22, 27.
- d. His Life. John 8:46; Hebrews 4:15.
- e. His Miracles.
- f. His Death.
- g. His Burial.
- h. His Resurrection.
 - Friendly eyewitnesses.
 - Hostile eyewitnesses.

THE INCARNATION

1. God in Human flesh. (See Figure #2) John 1:1, 14; 1 John 5:7.
 - Jesus Christ is one person possessing two distinct natures that are inseparable, unmixed, and unchanged. His divine nature is not humanized nor is His human nature deified.
 - Jesus Christ remains a single unified person.
 - Jesus Christ is God the Son, who shares equality with the Father and Holy Spirit.
 - Jesus Christ is fully human, who shares equality with humanity.

THE SAVIOR (1 Timothy 1:16; Philippians 2:5-7; Titus 2:13)

1. The Sinner. Romans 3:23.
2. The Sacrifice. Romans 3:24, 25.
3. The Solution. Romans 3:26-28.

Figure #1

- Tacitus (ca. AD 55-120): Roman historian, *Annals*
- Suetonius (ca. AD 120): Roman historian, *Life of Claudius*
- Josephus (AD 37-97): Jewish historian, *Antiquities*
- Pliny the Younger (AD 112): Roman governor, *Epistles X*
- Jewish *Talmud* (commentary on Jewish law, completed AD 500)
- Toledoth Jesu (reflects early Jewish thought, completed 5th century AD)
- Lucian (2nd century AD): Greek satirist
- Thallus (ca. AD 52): Samaritan-born historian, *Histories*
- Mara Bar-Serapion (ca. AD 73): Letter
- Phlegon (ca. AD 80): historian, chronicles (mentioned by Origen)

The Deity of Jesus Christ

1. ***Only One God.*** Isaiah 43:10; 44:8; 45:21-22
Jesus is God. Isaiah 9:6; Matthew 1:23; John 1:1; 20:28; Acts 7:59; Hebrews 1:8; I John 5:20
2. ***Only God to be worshipped.*** Exodus 20:2-5; 34:14; Deuteronomy 5:6-9; Matthew 4:10
Jesus is worshipped. Matthew 2:2, 11; 14:33; 15:25; Luke 24:52; John 5:23; Heb. 1:6
3. ***Only God to receive glory.*** Isaiah 42:8; 48:11; Jeremiah 13:6; Matthew 5:16
Jesus given glory. John 1:14; 17:5; I Corinthians 2:8; Hebrews 1:3; I Peter 1:21; I Peter 5:10-11; James 2:1; Revelation 1:5-6; 21:23
4. ***God is creator.*** Genesis 1:1; Psalm 8:1-3; 102:24-25; Isaiah 44:24
Jesus is creator. John 1:1-3; Colossians 1:16
5. ***Bible is inspired by God.*** 2 Timothy 3:16; I Peter 1:21
Inspiration by Jesus' Spirit. I Peter 1:10-11
6. ***God the only Savior.*** Isaiah 43:3,11; 45:21; Luke 1:46-47; Titus 1:3; 3:4; Jude 25
Jesus is Savior. Luke 2:11; Titus 1:4; 2 Peter 1:1; 2:20
7. ***Only God forgives sins.*** Isaiah 1:18; 43:25
Jesus forgives sins. Matthew 9:2-6; Mark 2:5-7; Ephesians 1:7; I John 1:7-9
8. ***God is Redeemer.*** Job 19:25; Psalm 19:14; Isaiah 49:26; 60:16
Jesus is Redeemer. Romans 3:24; I Corinthians 1:30; Galatians 3:13; Hebrews 9:12
9. ***God shed blood.*** Acts 20:28
Jesus shed blood. Revelation 1:5
10. ***God was pierced.*** Zechariah 12:4, 10
Jesus was pierced. John 19:37
11. ***God tempted by Israel.*** Exodus 17:2
Jesus tempted by Israel. I Corinthians 10:9
12. ***God raised Jesus from the dead.*** Acts 2:24; 3:15; 4:10; 13:30; Rom. 6:4; Col. 2:12; I Thess.1:9-10; Heb. 13:20; I Peter 1:21
Jesus raised himself from the dead. John 2:19; 10:17-18
13. ***God is the First & Last.*** Isaiah 41:4; 44:6
Jesus is the First & Last. Revelation 2:8; 22:13
14. ***Jesus Christ is: Immanuel:*** Isaiah 7:14; Matthew 1:23; ***I Am:*** Exodus 3:14; John 5:58; ***Almighty:*** Genesis 17:1; Rev. 1:8; ***Everlasting Father:*** Isaiah 9:6; ***Immutable:*** Malachi 3:6; Hebrews 13:8; ***Omniscient:*** Is. 40:28; Job 37:16; John 1:48; 6:64; 16:30; 21:17; Col. 2:3; ***Omnipresent:*** Jeremiah 23:23-24; Mt. 18:20; 28:20; ***Omnipotent:*** Job 42:2; Mt. 28:18; Heb. 2:8

(Courtesy of Clyde Pilkington, Jr. - Bible Students Notebook)