

J E S U S

Reason To Believe – Part 3

Allan Hamblin – October 14, 2018

"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 a man who says he is a poached egg—or he would be the devil of hell. You must take your choice. Either this was, and is, the Son of God, or else a madman or something worse. You can shut him up for a fool 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."

- C.S. Lewis, Mere Christianity

Jesus could only be one of four things:

Legend

Liar

Lunatic

LORD

"When Jesus saw their faith, he said, **"Friend, your sins are forgiven."**²¹ The Pharisees and the teachers of the law began thinking to themselves, "Who is this fellow who speaks blasphemy? **Who can forgive sins but God alone?"**²² Jesus knew what they were thinking and asked, **"Why are you thinking these things in your hearts?"**²³ Which is easier: to say, 'Your sins are forgiven,' or to say, 'Get up and walk'?²⁴ **But I want you to know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins."** So he said to the paralyzed man, **"I tell you, get up, take your mat and go home."**²⁵ Immediately he stood up in front of them, took what he had been lying on and went home praising God.²⁶ Everyone was amazed and gave praise to God. They were filled with awe and said, "We have seen remarkable things today."

Luke 5:20-26 (NIV)

- Jesus claimed He could forgive sin... which means He claimed to be **God**.
- Jesus claimed that He is the **"Son of Man"** (Daniel 7:13-14)
- Jesus claimed His miracles proved what He said is **true**.

"Why then do you accuse me of blasphemy because I said, 'I am God's Son'? ³⁷ Do not believe me unless I do the works of my Father. ³⁸ But 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." John 10:36b-38 (NIV)

"Then some of the scribes and Pharisees answered him, saying, **"Teacher, we wish to see a sign from you."**³⁹ But he answered them, **"An evil and adulterous generation seeks for a sign, but no sign will be given to it except the sign of the prophet Jonah. ⁴⁰ For just as Jonah was three days and three nights in the belly of the great fish, so will the Son of Man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth."** Matthew 12:38-40 (ESV)

"The Jews then responded to him, **"What sign can you show us to prove your authority to do all this?"**¹⁹ Jesus answered them, **"Destroy this temple, and I will raise it again in three days."**²⁰ They replied, "It has taken forty-six years to build this temple, and you are going to raise it in three days?"²¹ But the temple he had spoken of was his body.²² **After he was raised from the dead, his disciples recalled what he had said. Then they believed the scripture and the words that Jesus had spoken."**

John 2:18-22 (NIV)

The Resurrection Is The Best Reason To Believe Jesus

"And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins." 1Corinthians 15:17 (ESV)

"Why do you call me 'Lord, Lord,' and not do what I tell you?" Luke 6:46 (ESV)

"THE GREATEST SINGLE CAUSE OF ATHEISM IN THE WORLD TODAY IS CHRISTIANS, WHO ACKNOWLEDGE JESUS WITH THEIR LIPS AND WALK OUT THE DOOR AND DENY HIM BY THEIR LIFESTYLE. THAT IS WHAT AN UNBELIEVING WORLD SIMPLY FINDS UNBELIEVABLE."

Brennan Manning