



CONVERSATIONS
*what is Jesus
saying to you?*

THE FESTIVAL CONVERSATION
PART 2
August 6th, 2017

TEXT: JOHN 7:10-24 NLT

¹⁰ But after his brothers left for the festival, Jesus also went, though secretly, staying out of public view. ¹¹ The Jewish leaders tried to find him at the festival and kept asking if anyone had seen him. ¹² There was a lot of grumbling about him among the crowds. Some argued, "He's a good man," but others said, "He's nothing but a fraud who deceives the people." ¹³ But no one had the courage to speak favorably about him in public, for they were afraid of getting in trouble with the Jewish leaders.

¹⁴ Then, midway through the festival, Jesus went up to the Temple and began to teach. ¹⁵ The people were surprised when they heard him. "How does he know so much when he hasn't been trained?" they asked.

¹⁶ So Jesus told them, "My message is not my own; it comes from God who sent me. ¹⁷ Anyone who wants to do the will of God will know whether my teaching is from God or is merely my own. ¹⁸ Those who speak for themselves want glory only for themselves, but a person who seeks to honor the one who sent him speaks truth, not lies. ¹⁹ Moses gave you the law, but none of you obeys it! In fact, you are trying to kill me."

²⁰ The crowd replied, "You're demon possessed! Who's trying to kill you?"

²¹ Jesus replied, "I did one miracle on the Sabbath, and you were amazed. ²² But you work on the Sabbath, too, when you obey Moses' law of circumcision. (Actually, this tradition of circumcision began with the patriarchs, long before the law of Moses.) ²³ For if the correct time for circumcising your son falls on the Sabbath, you go ahead and do it so as not to break the law of Moses. So why should you be angry with me for healing a man on the Sabbath? ²⁴ Look beneath the surface so you can judge correctly." - John 7:10-24 NLT

THE TRILEMMA OF JESUS CHRIST (THREE OPTIONS)

Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?" ¹⁴ And they said, "Some say John the Baptist, others say Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets."

- Matthew 16:13-14 ESV

1. IMPOSSIBLE OPTION #1 - CHRIST IS GOOD BUT NOT GOD.

"He's a good man." - John 7:12 NLT

"This really is the prophet!" - John 7:40 ESV

Jesus said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, before Abraham was, I am." ⁵⁹ So they picked up stones to throw at him, but Jesus hid himself and went out of the temple.

- John 8:58-59 ESV

The high priest said to him, "I charge you under oath by the living God, tell us if you are the Christ, the Son of God." ⁶⁴ Jesus said to him, "You have said it yourself. But I tell you, from now on you will see the Son of Man sitting at the right hand of the Power and coming on the clouds of heaven." - Matthew 26:63-64 NET

2. IMPROBABLE OPTION #2 – CHRIST IS EITHER A DECEIVER OR INSANE.

“No, he is leading the people astray!” - John 7:12 ESV

“You have a demon!” - John 7:20 ESV

The officers then came to the chief priests and Pharisees, who said to them, “Why did you not bring him?”⁴⁶ The officers answered, “No one ever spoke like this man!”⁴⁷ The Pharisees answered them, “Have you also been deceived? - John 7:45-47 ESV

3. INESCAPABLE OPTION #3 – CHRIST IS LORD AND SAVIOR.

He said to them, “But who do you say that I am?”¹⁶ Simon Peter replied, “You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.” - Matthew 16:15-16 ESV

THREE INESCAPABLE REALITIES

1. JESUS IS AN ALL-OR-NOTHING PROPOSITION.

Once when large crowds of people were going along with Jesus, he turned and said to them,²⁶ “Those who come to me cannot be my disciples unless they love me more than they love father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, and themselves as well. - Luke 14:25-26 GNT

Then Simeon blessed them, and said to Mary His mother, “Behold, this Child is destined for the fall and rising of many in Israel... - Luke 2:34 NKJV

2. MORALITY AND GOODNESS ARE NOT ENOUGH.

3. MY INVESTIGATION SHOULD BOW TO THIS REVELATION.

If anyone wills to do His will, he shall know concerning the doctrine, whether it is from God or whether I speak on My own authority. - John 7:17 NKJV

MY NEXT STEP THIS WEEK...

- Memorize *John 7:17*.
- Master the trilemma so I can be prepared to be a better witness to the Jesus-skeptics in my life.
- Give my life to Jesus as Savior and Lord, for the first time.