## ISSUES AND ANSWERS BIBLICAL ANSWERS TO WORLDLY OPINIONS John 8:12-59 JESUS CHRIST, "MY LORD AND MY GOD"

**INTRODUCTION:** It is clear that many Christians do not really understand who Jesus Christ is, even though they have trusted Him as their Savior. The world is even more confused about His identity. Religious people call him a Prophet, Role Model, Great Moral Teacher, Disillusioned Madman, God's First Created Being, Brother of Lucifer, Blasphemer of God, False Messiah, and Son of God, without understanding the term! Did Jesus Christ ever actually claim to be God? Does the Bible give us the answers we need about Him? Can you afford to be wrong about who He really is?

**BACKGROUND:** No figure in human history has been as polarizing as Jesus Christ. The first century world and its historical documents bear witness to his presence on earth. Yet then, as well as now, there was confusion about who he really was. The fact of his claims to be "equal" with the one true God who has no equal, caused many to want to kill him for blasphemy.

- I. ONLY GOD POSSESSES PERFECT GOODNESS BY NATURE, AND JESUS CHRIST IS GOOD. (Mark 10:17-22)
- A. The Rich Young Ruler called Jesus "Good Teacher." He was talking about his character and teaching skills. Jesus challenged him about his terminology, because he used a description of goodness that only belongs to God. (Psalm 34:8; 107:1; 145:9)
- B. Notice that Jesus did not say only the Father was good, as that would have excluded himself and the Holy Spirit! *God is good,* and he wants people to recognize his deity. Notice the young man did not say; "good" teacher in his follow up statement!
- C. "Son of Man" (A messianic term also confirming his complete humanity, Daniel 7:13; Matthew 26:62-64) is the title for Himself Jesus used most. "Son of God" indicates His position in the Godhead, the one who will inherit all things. "Son of" means same nature as God, not less than God.

## II. ANYONE WHO DENIES THAT JESUS CHRIST IS GOD INCARNATE WILL DIE IN THEIR SINS. YOU BETTER RECOGNIZE! (John 8)

- A. Jesus is "the Light of the world," illuminating the minds and paths of all who follow Him. That same light will *blind* those who refuse to look at it from the proper perspective. Jesus used the celebration of lighting the temple candelabra to point to Himself as the light. (Psalm 27:1) (John 1:6-9; 3:19-21) (1st John 1:5-7) (1st Timothy 6:14-16)
- B. God the Father consistently bore witness to the nature of Jesus. (Matthew 3:16-17; 17:5) Anyone who actually knows the Father will likewise know who Jesus really is. (John 8:13-20) Those religious persons who claim a relationship with God the Father without acknowledging the deity of the Son of God have deceived themselves.

- C. Christ Jesus is the "Word" (*logos*, message/communication/wisdom) of God. You cannot separate your words and thoughts from your personhood. The Word took on a human body and lived among us. (John 1:14)
  - 1. God was manifest in flesh, which confirms Jesus Christ is God (1st Tim. 3:16)
  - 2. "Doubting" Thomas was convinced after the Resurrection (John 20:28-29)
  - 3. Jesus is the perfect example of "like Father, like Son"! (John 1:14-18)
- D. Those who do not know who Jesus Christ really is will not be able to go where he has gone. **The Lord Jesus Christ is in glory!** (John 8:21-25) (John 14:5-6)

## III. TRUE FREEDOM IS ONLY GRANTED TO THOSE PERSONS WHOSE BELIEF ABOUT JESUS CHRIST IS CORRECT. HE IS LORD OF ALL! (John 8:30-59)

- A. Some believed what Jesus said about himself and salvation, while others only believed he was a political messiah. Only those who continue in the Word of God as lifelong learners experience freedom from sin. Many think they are free but are actually in deep bondage.
- B. Only those persons who know God as Father and Jesus as the only begotten, unique, "same genes" (*monogenes*) Son are true believers. (John 1:18) If you reject Jesus as your Lord, you belong to Satan's family. *Who's your daddy???* (John 8:37-44)
- C. If takes the work of the Holy Spirit in you to enable you to recognize the words of Jesus as the Word of God. **All** other religious teachings are cleverly disguised "doctrines of demons." (John 8:42-47) (1st Corinthians 12:3) (1st Timothy 4:1)
- D. *Those who know Jesus as Lord will continue in HIs Word,* giving evidence of eternal life. Jesus affirmed his deity by using the same title for Himself that Moses heard at the burning bush (Exodus 3:14), declaring he existed before Abraham. (John 8:48-59)
- E. Scripture consistently affirms the *deity* (not "divinity" since that term is used for outward manifestations) of Jesus the Christ. The evidence is irrefutable!
  - 1. All the fulness of *deity* was and is contained in His body. (Colossians 1:19)
- 2, Christ always existed in the form (nature) of God, and he took on the fashion (exterior) of a human being (Philippians 2:5-11)
- 3. Jesus told Philip those who have seen him (Jesus) have seen the Father! Only God could truthfully make such a statement! (John 14:7-11) (Isaiah 9:6)

JESUS CHRIST IS LORD! JESUS CHRIST IS GOD INCARNATE. HE IS THE "I AM" — YHWH, YAHWEH, JEHOVAH) THAT HAS ALWAYS LOVED YOU AND ALWAYS WILL. (Revelation 1:5-6) MY LORD AND MY GOD!

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