

The question of the true identity of Jesus of Nazareth, the Christ, has always been an issue of great controversy

Matthew 13:13-16

Each must ask ourselves: Do I believe a person must acknowledge Jesus is God in order to be saved?

The Apostles’ Creed was used as a profession of faith for baptism candidates

- The Creed itself is not the Bible. However, it clearly comes from what the Bible teaches.
- Knowing the creed and understanding what each phrase means will help ground you in what is authentic, Apostolic teaching

1. The very words “Jesus Christ” point us to his _____.

The angel tells Mary she must name her son Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins

- Matthew 1:21
- The name Jesus means “Savior” or “God Saves”

“Christ” is a TITLE, not a surname

- (Greek) Christos = anointed one

1 Timothy 6:15

Revelation 19:16

Some people have a hard time thinking of Jesus as God Almighty, King of Kings and Lord of Lords because He suffered such a humiliating death on the cross

“Son of Man” is the name Jesus takes for Himself

- When Jesus calls Himself this, He is saying He is the Messiah
- This title also refers to His humanity

Jesus calls himself the Son of Man and He talks about Himself as if He’s God

The testimony of Scripture concerning Jesus’ identity:

- John 1:1-3, 1:14, 1:18, 5:17-18
- Exodus 3:14
- John 8:58, 10:30, 12:45, 14:9, 20:28
- Mark 14:61-64
- Romans 9:5

- 2 Corinthians 4:4-6
- Philippians 2:4-8
- Colossians 1:15-20
- Titus 2:13
- Hebrews 1:1-3, 1:8-12
- 1 John 5:20

2. The Creed speaks of Jesus as the _____ Son of God, our Lord.

The title “Son of God” points to the fact Jesus IS God

- If Jesus was any less than God, then to give Him worship would be idolatry, it would be worship of a creature

“Son of God” speaks solely of the unique relationship between Jesus and God the Father

- The word “only” suggests “one of a kind”
- Philippians 2:6-6

When we call on Jesus as “Lord”, we are again confirming He IS God

- Greek word translated “Lord” is “Kurios”
 - Used 718 x’s in the NT, always translated Lord
 - In Bible, “Lord” almost always refers to God
- “Kurios” is the Greek form of Hebrew “Adonai”
 - In the OT, “Adonai” is a title for God himself and is translated as “Lord”

Romans 1:4

Romans 10:9-10

To call Jesus:

- “Lord” is to acknowledge He IS God
- “Son of God” is to acknowledge He IS God
- “Son of Man” is to acknowledge He IS God
- “Christ” is to acknowledge He IS God

Scripture clearly teaches any old god will NOT do!

- Exodus 20:2-3
- John 8:24

Wrap-Up

If a person says, “I believe in Jesus but I don’t believe He is God”, that person has accepted another Jesus, but not the Jesus of the Bible. And only Jesus can save a person.