

# **Jesus Is -1**

## **“The Son of God”**

Hey Newsong!

I want to take a moment and welcome all of our first-time guests, and those worshipping with us online...

Today we're starting a brand new series called "Jesus is..." Now that's the beginning of a very important statement...and we're doing this series because Who you believe Jesus to be matters, not just while we're on this earth, but for all eternity...

Now if you were to go outside and ask people the question who Jesus is, you would get different answers...

A Jehovah's Witness will tell you that Jesus is the first creation of Jehovah...

That he was originally created as Michael the archangel before the world was formed...

He came to earth as a man, died on a torture stake, and rose from the grave invisibly as a spirit. He came back invisibly to Brooklyn in 1914 to start the Watchtower Bible and Tract Society

A Mormon will tell you that Jesus was the first born spirit child of heavenly father and heavenly mother, and that Jesus and Lucifer are actually brothers...

A Scientologist will tell you that Jesus never existed...In fact, the whole concept of Christianity is a virus that was implanted in the human soul by an extraterrestrial named Xenu about 1 million years ago...

A Jew will tell you that Jesus was Mary's son a rabbi who claimed to be the Messiah, had a following, and was crucified for his claims

A Muslim will tell you that Jesus was a sinless prophet but he was not as great as Muhammad

A Hindu will tell you that Jesus is just another god...

A Buddhist will tell you that Jesus was a holy man, and an enlightened teacher...

And it goes on and on and on...in fact, in the gospels, Jesus is with His disciples and He actually asks the question "Who do People say that I am?"

**14 They replied, "Some say John the Baptist; others say Elijah; and still others, Jeremiah or one of the prophets."15 "But what about you?" he asked. "Who do you say I am?"**

Jesus is saying Hey what other people are saying about Me isn't as important as what you say about Me...Who do you say that I am?

In other words, Who am I to you?

So over the next four weeks we're going to look at four different titles that are given to Jesus, and why they matter! Today's title is found in the very next verse of Matthew 16...Jesus says Who do you say that I am?

***16 Simon Peter answered, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God."-Matthew 16:14-16 (NIV)***

Today I want to dive into the title Jesus is the Son of God

**Pray**

This morning, I want to give you testimony based on the Scriptures as to why Christians believe that Jesus is the Son of God  
And then give you one reason why it matters

But before I do that we have to understand something about God...So lets put on our Theology hats

There is only One God, yet as we read the Gospels we see that Jesus speaks of The Father, The Son, and the Holy Spirit. This is called the doctrine of The Trinity...

The Father is God, The Son is God, the Holy Spirit is God. There is One God and He exists in Three Persons...

The idea that Jesus is the Son of God speaks of His divine nature...The opening words of John's gospel speak of Jesus as the Word

***1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.  
2 He was with God in the beginning.***

What is John saying? He's saying Jesus is eternal...Jesus the Son was pre-existent "with God" He is a distinct Person yet has fellowship with God The Father. But the Word also "Was God" meaning that He has the same divine nature and essence as the Father.

**3 Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made.**

Jesus is Creator. It was through Jesus that God the Father created the world...

**4 In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind. 5 The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome[a] it.**

Jesus is life and light...Not only did He create the world, he holds it altogether-**John 1:1-5 (NIV)**

Jesus the Son of God is fully God, but He's also fully human...

**14 The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.-John 1:14 (NIV)**

*“If Jesus were only a man, he would be at an infinite distance from God. And if Jesus was only God, he would be at an infinite distance from us. So here is the marvelous truth at the center of the Gospel. That God who is at an infinite distance from us, has become Man in Jesus Christ, He is God made flesh, God with us, He is the One who reveals the Father to us, it is through the Son that we have access to God the Father”-Colin Smith*

Next week we'll look at the title Jesus is the Son of Man, but this week our focus is Jesus is the Son of God...

What does that statement mean? My birth certificate says that I am the son of Gregory and Judy Tolone. It says that I was born in Syracuse NY on June 3rd 19\_\_\_\_ (nevermind)

It takes the birth of a son or daughter to make a man a father and a woman mother...

So based on what we just learned...when did God become Father? He's always been Father...

**Isaiah 9:6** says He is the Everlasting Father...

When did Jesus become the Son. He's always been the Son, that's why when He is praying in **John 17:5** He talks about the glory that He shared with the Father before the world began.

Jesus was loved by the Father, shared glory with the Father, and always existed with the Father...



He is the eternal Son of God...God didn't gain a Son when Jesus was born into our world...God sent His Son...

Remember at Jesus' baptism

***16 As soon as Jesus was baptized, he went up out of the water. At that moment heaven was opened, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him. 17 And a voice from heaven said, "This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased."-Matthew 3:16-17 (NIV)***

Jesus talked about being the Son of God, and it got Him into trouble a few times...

***18 For this reason they tried all the more to kill him; not only was he breaking the Sabbath, but he was even calling God his own Father, making himself equal with God.-John 5:18 (NIV)***

A few quick reasons why we believe Jesus to be the Son of God...We could spend weeks on each one...

His **UNIQUE** birth

Jesus's mother was a virgin.

***30 But the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary; you have found favor with God.***

***31 You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you are to call him Jesus.***

Now if you're wondering how that can happen...Jesus' Mother Mary wondered the same thing...

***34 "How will this be," Mary asked the angel,***

***"since I am a virgin?" 35 The angel***

***answered, "The Holy Spirit will come on***

***you, and the power of the Most High will***

***overshadow you. So the holy one to be born***

***will be called [b] the Son of God. -Luke***

***1:30-35 (NIV)***

## **His EXTRAORDINARY life**

Jesus lived a extraordinary life...and He made some very extraordinary claims about Himself...

He called Himself the Good Shepherd...

The Bread of Life...

The Light of the World...

The Resurrection and the Life...

In John 14 Jesus said

***6 Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.-John 14:6 (NIV)***

These are extraordinary claims that He made about Himself...and every single one of us have to decide for ourselves if we believe them...

It's not just the claims that He made about Himself that points to His divinity...

Think about all of His miracles...

**22 “Fellow Israelites, listen to this: Jesus of Nazareth was a man accredited by God to you by miracles, wonders and signs, which God did among you through him, as you yourselves know.-Acts 2:22 (NIV)**

His life wasn't just extraordinary...it was supernatural...the things He did were supernatural!

**38 how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and power, and how he went around doing good and healing all who were under the power of the devil, because God was with him.-Acts 10:38 (NIV)**

He walked on water...

He turned water into wine...

He calmed the storm...

He healed the sick...He raised the dead

Ordinary people don't do that! But Jesus is no ordinary man...He is the Son of God...

He made extraordinary claims about Himself...He performed extraordinary miracles...another extraordinary thing about Jesus' life was He was sinless...

***26 Such a high priest truly meets our need—one who is holy, blameless, pure, set apart from sinners, exalted above the heavens.-Hebrews 7:26 (NIV)***

***22 “He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth.”-1 Peter 2:22 (NIV)***

Jesus the Son of God lived a life of perfect obedience and submission to God...something we can never ever do...I'll explain why that matters in a few minutes...

Why do we believe that Jesus is the Son of God? His unique birth, His extraordinary life,

His **SUBSTITUTIONARY** death

Jesus had an extraordinary life, but died an excruciating death...

### **His death was plotted**

The religious leaders were so jealous of His popularity and afraid of losing their power that they were willing to break God's law and commit murder to get rid of Him...

After Jesus raised his friend Lazerus from the dead, the religious leaders were so jealous

***53 So from that day on they plotted to take his life.-John 11:53 (NIV)***

After they arrested Him and falsely accused Him the High Priest questions Jesus

***62 Then the high priest stood up and said to Jesus, "Are you not going to answer? What is this testimony that these men are bringing against you?"***

**63 But Jesus remained silent. The high priest said to him, "I charge you under oath by the living God: Tell us if you are the Messiah, the Son of God." 64 "You have said so," Jesus replied...**

**65 Then the high priest tore his clothes and said, "He has spoken blasphemy! Why do we need any more witnesses? Look, now you have heard the blasphemy. 66 What do you think?" "He is worthy of death," they answered. 67 Then they spit in his face and struck him with their fists. Others slapped him.-Matthew 26:62-64a; 65-66 (NIV)**

His death was plotted by the religious leaders

### **His death was performed**

The Romans had no idea who Jesus was... They crucified two thieves and they crucified the Son of the Living God...

Wrapped in human flesh...  
Conceived by the Holy Spirit...  
Born of a virgin...  
Living a sinless life...

Preaching that all should repent of their sins for  
the Kingdom of God has come...  
Healing the sick...casting out demons...raising  
the dead by the power of the Holy Spirit...

Never rebelling against the government...  
Never talking against Rome...

When Pilate asked Him if He was the King of  
the Jews, Jesus said yes (**John 18**)

When Jesus was crucified on the cross it was  
an excruciating death that was plotted by the  
religious leaders, performed by the Romans...

**His death was Planned** by God all along...



The cross wasn't a plan B it was planned between God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit before the world was even created...

We'll talk more about this in the weeks ahead, but God knew that man would fall...He knew that he would not be able to save himself...So He knew that He would send His Son to die for our sins

Isaiah declared...

***10 Yet it was the LORD's will to crush him and cause him to suffer...Isaiah 53:10a (NIV)***

The Apostle Paul wrote

***3 For what I received I passed on to you as of first importance[a]: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures- 1 Corinthians 15:3 (NIV)***

Jesus the Son of God...Didn't just die...He died for us...He took our place on the cross... He suffered the punishment that we deserved... He paid our sin debt in full...

**21 God made him who had no sin to be sin[b] for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.2  
Corinthians 5:21 (NIV)**

Only the sinless Son of God can do that...  
Only His death could be the sacrificial, atoning, substitutionary death because Only the sinless Son of God is holy, pure and righteous...

Why do we believe that Jesus is the Son of God  
His unique birth  
His extraordinary life  
His substitutionary death

His **TRIUMPHANT** Resurrection

***5 The angel said to the women, “Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified.***

***6 He is not here; he has risen, just as he said. Come and see the place where he lay.***

***7 Then go quickly and tell his disciples: ‘He has risen from the dead and is going ahead of you into Galilee. There you will see him.’ Now I have told you.”-Matthew 28:5-7 (NIV)***

Now obviously in a few weeks we're going to be celebrating the greatest day in history...the day that Jesus rose from the dead...

I hope you're inviting people! Let's Goooo!  
But Jesus' resurrection was so shocking that His own disciples didn't believe it at first!

Then Jesus appeared to all of them...and Paul tells us in **1 Corinthians 15** that Jesus appeared to over 500 people before He ascended into Heaven...

He said you can even ask them about it because at that time they were still alive and could testify to seeing Him!

Jesus rose from the dead with a physical body...Thomas wouldn't believe it until he put his own fingers in Jesus' hands where the nails were...and his hand in the huge hole in Jesus' side where the spear stabbed Him...

He ate with people...

He walked and talked with people...

He taught them from the Scriptures and showed them how Moses and the Prophets all pointed to Him and His victory!

The devil tried to stop Him...

And he thought for a moment he outwitted God and beat Him at the cross...

But the devil played into God's hands...Death couldn't hold Him down...

Jesus the Son of God destroyed the work of the devil...He conquered sin, hell and the grave!

Now why does this matter? I'm going to give you one reason...

Because Jesus is the Son of God, we can be **SAVED**

Think about this...

We see the idea of sacrifice as early as **Genesis 3:21** When our first parents Adam & Eve sinned, and their eyes were opened, and they realized that they were naked and afraid, so they hid from God...

What did God do? He covered them with animal skins...which means that an innocent animal had to die...

Fast forward to the time of Moses, God arranges a way for the Israelites to have

forgiveness by instituting the priesthood and blood sacrifices...

The Law required that just about everything had to be cleansed with blood...but this was only a temporary covering over of sin, and it had to be repeated every year...

Which is why the writer of Hebrews tells us

***4 It is impossible for the blood of bulls and goats to take away sins.-Hebrews 10:4 (NIV)***

The only reason that God could accept those yearly sacrifices and still give forgiveness was because He knew that when the time was right

He was going to send His one and Only Son Jesus who would live a perfect sinless life, offer Himself as the perfect sinless sacrifice for sin...

And Jesus' sacrifice would be once for all...it would not just cover over our sin, but remove sin and make salvation possible for all who call upon His name!

My point?

The "Jesus" that the Jehovah's witnesses believe in isn't the same Jesus...

The "Jesus" of Mormonism isn't the same Jesus...

Jesus is more than a good teacher, a prophet or a rabbi...and if you put your trust in any of these false Jesus' then it's like jumping out of an airplane with a backpack instead of a parachute!

These other versions of Jesus are man-made imitations of the real Jesus

Who He is matters!

Paul tells us that

***23 For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in[a] Christ Jesus our Lord.-Romans 6:23***

It's only Jesus the Son of God...

Jesus the Second Person of the Trinity...

Jesus God with us...

Jesus the sinless Lamb of God...

Who is able to Save us, Redeem us, Reconcile, and Cleanse us! So the question "Who do you say that I am?" is the most important question you can answer!

The good news is that the Word of God reveals to us Who He is!

**Binoculars**



What the world, the cults and different religions believe about Jesus can make Him hard to see...

But the Word of God is like binoculars...It reveals Jesus...We can see Jesus...He's not distant or far away...and the Holy Spirit draws us to Jesus...we realize that He is the only way to God...

You can trust in Him to be your Lord and Savior...You can trust that He is Who He says He is...That He loves You and wants you to be with God for all eternity...That He paid for your sin completely and you don't have to do anything to try to earn your salvation, because He did it all...

***16 For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.***

***17 For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him. 18 Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe stands condemned already because they have not believed in the name of God's one and only Son. -John 3:16-18 (NIV)***

Jesus said He is the Son of God...

Who do you say that He is?

**Altar Time**