



**“Who is Jesus?” is the most important question.**

- **Who I believe Jesus to be will determine how I respond to Him.**
- **What Jesus claimed about Himself will determine if He is a liar, a lunatic, or God.**

*A person who claims to be God must belong to one of three categories: First, if he claims to be God and yet in fact is not, he has to be a madman or a lunatic. Second, if he is neither God nor a lunatic, he has to be a liar, deceiving others by his lie. Third, if he is neither of these, he must be God. You can only choose one of the three possibilities. If you do not believe that he is God, you have to consider him a madman. If you cannot take him for either of the two, you have to take him for a liar. There is no need for us to prove if Jesus of Nazareth is God or not. All we have to do is find out if He is a lunatic or a liar. If He is neither, He must be the Son of God.*

Watchman Nee, *Normal Christian Faith*, published in 1936

<sup>23</sup> But he continued, “You are from below; I am from above. You are of this world; I am not of this world. <sup>24</sup> I told you that you would die in your sins; if you do not believe that I am he, you will indeed die in your sins.” <sup>25</sup> “Who are you?” they asked..

<sup>30</sup> Jesus performed many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not recorded in this book. <sup>31</sup> But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

John 8:23-25, 20:30-31(NIV)

**Jesus claimed that those who choose not to believe that He is from God and that He is God will die bound in their sins.**

<sup>31</sup> To the Jews who had believed him, Jesus said, “If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples. <sup>32</sup> Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free...”

<sup>45</sup> Yet because I tell the truth, you do not believe me! <sup>46</sup> Can any of you prove me guilty of sin? If I am telling the truth, why don't you believe me? <sup>47</sup> Whoever belongs to God hears what God says. The reason you do not hear is that you do not belong to God.” <sup>48</sup> The Jews answered him, “Aren't we right in saying that you are a Samaritan and demon-possessed?..”

<sup>51</sup> “Very truly I tell you, whoever obeys my word will never see death...”

<sup>54</sup> Jesus replied, “If I glorify myself, my glory means nothing. My Father, whom you claim as your God, is the one who glorifies me. <sup>55</sup> Though you do not know him, I know him. If I said I did not, I would be a liar like you, but I do know him and obey his word. <sup>56</sup> Your father Abraham rejoiced at the thought of seeing my day; he saw it and was glad...”

<sup>58</sup> “Very truly I tell you...before Abraham was, I am!”

John 8:31-32, 45-48, 51, 54-56, 58 (NIV)

**There is no “was” with Jesus. He “is.”**

*At this, they picked up stones to stone him, but Jesus hid himself, slipping away from the temple grounds.*

John 8:59 (NIV)

HEBREW ORIGINS:

<sup>11</sup> “Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh and bring the Israelites out of Egypt?...”

<sup>13</sup> Moses said to God, “Suppose I go to the Israelites and say to them, ‘The God of your fathers has sent me to you,’ and they ask me, ‘What is his name?’ Then what shall I tell them?” <sup>14</sup> God said to Moses, “I am who I am. This is what you are to say to the Israelites: ‘I am has sent me to you.’” <sup>15</sup> God also said to Moses, “Say to the Israelites, ‘The LORD, the God of your fathers—the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob—has sent me to you.’”

“This is my name forever, the name you shall call me from generation to generation.”

Exodus 3:11, 13-15 (NIV)

- **I AM in Hebrew is transliterated as YHWH. We pronounce this as “Yahweh” or “Jehovah.”**
- **YHWH is transliterated into our English Bibles as LORD (see Exodus 3:15).**

# That Name

WEEK ONE



## THE SEVEN CLAIMS OF JESUS

<sup>13</sup> Then the Lord said to Moses: <sup>14</sup> "Take the blasphemer outside the camp. All those who heard him are to lay their hands on his head, and the entire assembly is to stone him.

Leviticus 24:13-14 (NIV)

**Jesus not only claimed to be from God but that He is God.**

SERIES BIG IDEA:

**Jesus is God; therefore, He is Lord.**

- "Jesus is Lord" is the one thing that unites all true Christians.
- "Yeshua" is Jesus' given Hebrew name and it means "Yahweh saves." (Luke 1:31)
- Jesus came so we can live with Him forever, and He can always be present with us.

**Jesus is from God because He is God, and He came to set us free from sin and give us eternal life in Him.**



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### TEACHING SUMMARY:

The most important question any of us will ever answer is "Who is Jesus?"

It is the most important question because it determines not only our earthly trajectory but our eternal trajectory. There are many places to find an answer but why go elsewhere when we can go directly to the mouth of Jesus himself and hear who He says that He is.

Jesus, on multiple occasions, under threat of stoning and death, declared that he was God by saying things like "Before Moses was, I am" and "I and the Father are one." The Jewish people of the time knew what He was saying and set out to stone Him.

Jesus declared Himself to be God and that makes Him one of 3 things. He is either a liar, a lunatic, or He is Lord. There isn't room for anything else and you have to decide who you believe Jesus to be.

Deciding that Jesus is Lord and submitting to His Lordship leads to eternal life in Him. What will you decide? Who is Jesus?

### TALK IT OVER:

Who do you believe Jesus to be?

What makes you either trust that Jesus is who He says He is or distrust Him in that?

What is one next step you can take today?

### DAILY BIBLE READINGS:

Day 1: Luke 6:17-19; John 10:22-30

Day 2: John 9:1-11; John 10:31-39

Day 3: Ephesians 1:17-23; Hebrews 1:1-3

Day 4: John 3:31-36

Day 5: John 3:16-18

Day 6: Luke 2:10-11; Romans 10:8-10