

But Whom Say Ye That I Am?

Introduction:

- A. Modernists try to take the middle ground with Jesus and call him just a good man.
- B. With Jesus there is no middle ground. - Luke 11:23
 - 1. This is because with Christ, unlike with other great teachers, one cannot separate the teaching from the teacher.
 - 2. Buddha: "It doesn't matter whether you remember me or not; remember my teachings, Remember the way, the truth."
- C. Jesus - John 8:58; 14:6; Matthew 16:13-18
- D. Proposition: Jesus is the Christ the Son of God, or He is NOT a good man.
- I. He claimed equality with God. - John 5:17-18
 - A. He wasn't merely A son of God but THE Son of God. - Matthew 16:16
 - B. Jesus referred to God as His Father over 100 times in the gospel accounts but never in the same sense God was the Father of His disciples. - cf. John 20:17
 - C. His claim was unshared Sonship. - Matthew 11:27-30
 - D. He claimed to:
 - 1. forgive sins. - Mark 2:1-12
 - 2. have eternal existence. - John 8:24,28,56-59
 - 3. be God. - John 10:30-33
 - 4. see Him is to see God. - John 14:7-10
 - E. Thus, He is either the Christ or a blasphemer.
- III. He accepted worship.
 - A. Jesus taught that only God should be worshiped. - Matthew 4:10
 - B. During His ministry He accepted worship. - Matthew 8:2-3; 9:18-19; 14:33; 15:25; John 9:35-38
 - C. After His resurrection His disciples worshiped Him. - Matthew 28:9-10; cf. Acts 10:25-26
 - E. Thus, he is either the Christ or an impudent pretender.
- IV. He claimed sinlessness.
 - A. Compare the admissions of the apostles. - 1 Timothy 1:15; Luke 5:8; 1 John 1:8-10
 - B. But Jesus claimed sinlessness.
 - C. He condemned self-righteousness. - Luke 18:9-14
 - D. But He confessed no sin. - John 8:46
 - E. Thus, He is either the Christ or an hypocrite.
- V. He claimed to be the Savior.
 - A. He claimed to be:
 - 1. the light of the world. - John 8:12
 - 2. the door. - John 10:7-9
 - 3. the good shepherd. - John 10:10-11
 - 4. the way, the truth and the life. - John 14:6
 - B. Thus, He is either the Christ or a liar and an impostor.
- VI. He claimed to offer Himself for man's sins.
 - A. He claimed His blood would remove the guilt of sin. - Matthew 20:28; 26:28
 - B. Thus, He is either the Christ or a fanatic.

VII. He claimed to be Christ.

A. He confessed Himself to be the “Christ, the Son of the Blessed.” - Mark 14:61-64

B. Thus, He is either the Christ or the great deceiver. - cf. Matthew 27:63

Conclusion:

A. There is no middle ground with Christ. Either He is the Christ, the Son of God, or He is **NOT** a good man. - Luke 11:23

B. Who do you say that Jesus is? - Matthew 16:15