Controversial Claims

Robert Harkrider · Matthew 16:13–19

INTRODUCTION

- There are yet today many different opinions about who Jesus is.
- No one ever made the stupendous claims that Jesus made.

1 In the Beginning Was the Word

John 1:1–3; John 1:18

- In the beginning was the Word. And the Word was with God. And the Word was God.
- All things were made by him. And without him was not anything made that was made.
- He's simply a moral teacher, then such a statement would be a lie.
- If you want to understand the characteristics of the Father of his love, even of his displeasure at sin, you can look at the life of Jesus Christ.

2 I Who Speak to You Am He

John 4:20–26

- But if you have the water that I can give unto you will never thirst again.
- The true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and truth.
- God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.
- I know that Messiah is coming, who is called Christ. When he comes, he will tell us all things. Jesus said to her, I who speak to you am He.

3 Making Himself Equal With God

John 5:17–18; John 8:51–59; Exodus 3:14

- Therefore, the Jews sought all the more to kill him, because he not only broke the Sabbath, but also said that God was his father, making himself equal with God.
- It isn't that the disciples have made up this story, but rather even the Jews understood.
- Jesus said, Most assuredly I say to you, before Abraham was, I am.
- And when Jesus says, before Abraham, I am, they understood he's making the claim to be God.

4 Do You Believe in the Son of God?

John 9:35–38; John 10:30–31

- Never before had anyone born blind been made well or able to see.
- He asked him, Do you believe in the Son of God? Notice, it was Jesus asking the question.
- You have both seen him and it is he who is talking with you. Then he said, Lord, I believe. And he worshipped him.
- Again, when Jesus in John chapter 10 makes the claim, I and my Father are one.

5 Seven Times Jesus Says I Am

John 6:35; John 8:12; John 14:6

- There's seven times in the Gospel of John that we find Jesus saying, I am.
- Jesus says, I am the bread of life. I am. He who comes to me shall never hunger. He who believes in me shall never thirst.
- I'm the means of entrance into God's fellowship.
- I am the way, the truth, and the life. No man comes into the Father except by me.
- I am the true vine, the fruit bearing life. You come to me, life with purpose and with meaning.

6 These Are Written That You Might Believe

John 20:30–31

- These are written that you might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God. And that believing you may have life in his name.
- If you want to know that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, then look at His life. Look at what He did.
- The diversity in them itself gives evidence that only Jesus could do these things.

> THE CHALLENGE
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> **I hope, brethren, that you'll begin to learn and think about how would you answer the question to your neighbor? You believe Jesus to be the Son of God? Look at the claims.**

MY NOTES