So He Thinks He's God! John 10:22-33 Rev. Thomas Parrish What Does It Really Mean, Both Now and Eternally, If Jesus Is Who He Claims to Be?

The Number One Historical Question of all time is this: Is this man Jesus just a historical figure or is he really God?

Geo Barna Christian Research

<u>The Vast Majority of Americans Believe Jesus Was a Real Person</u> More than nine out of 10 adults say Jesus Christ was a real person who actually lived (92%). only 87 percent of Millennials agree Jesus actually lived. Younger Generations Are Increasingly Less Likely to Believe Jesus Was God

<u>Americans Are Divided on Whether Jesus Was Sinless</u> Jesus Christ was human and committed sins like other people (52%).

<u>People Are Conflicted between "Jesus" and "Good Deeds" as the Way to Heaven</u> after they die they will go to heaven because they have confessed their sins and accepted Jesus Christ as their savior (63%).

Many adults believe, however, that they will go to heaven as a result of their good works. obey the Ten Commandments (5%), as a result of being basically a good person (8%), or on the grounds that God loves all people and will not let them perish (7%).

Jehovah's Witnesses deny the deity of Jesus, Jesus is Not God, But a "god".

Mormon's believe that Jesus Christ was the firstborn spirit-child of the heavenly Father and a heavenly Mother. As man now is, God once was: As God now is, man may be.

I am especially moved by the words of C.D. Lewis in his ground breaking book: Mere Christianity regarding Jesus as a good teacher of as God.

I am trying here to prevent anyone saying the really foolish thing that people often say about Him: 'I'm ready to accept Jesus as a great moral teacher, but I don't accept His claim to be God.' That is the one thing we must not say. A man who was merely a man and said the sort of things Jesus said would not be a great moral teacher. He would either be a lunatic—on a level with the man who says he is a poached egg—or else he would be the Devil of Hell. You must make your choice. Either this man was, and is, the Son of God: or else a madman or something worse. You can shut Him up for a fool, you can spit at Him and kill Him as a demon; or you can fall at His feet and call Him Lord and God. But let us not come with any patronising nonsense about His being a great human teacher. He has not left that open to us. He did not intend to.

²² At that time the Feast of Dedication took place at Jerusalem. It was winter, ²³ and Jesus was walking in the temple, in the colonnade of Solomon. ²⁴ So the Jews gathered around him and said to him, "How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Christ, tell us plainly."

Jesus was getting **under the skin of the Jewish leaders.** Jesus was the very first who could be called the one whose goal was *to preach, teach and irritate*.

"How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Christ, (The Messiah) tell us plainly."

Judaism, in Jesus' day, had two major problems: Problem # 1: Everyone was awaiting the messiah with great anticipation. Problem #2: Anyone who claimed to be the messiah was rejected, ridiculed, and stoned to death.

Skepticism always wins when your mind is made up but most minds are made up having never investigated the evidence.

²⁵ Jesus answered them, "I told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father's name bear witness about me, ²⁶ but you do not believe because you are not among my sheep. ²⁷ My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me. ²⁸ I give them eternal life, and they will never perish, and no one will snatch them out of my hand. ²⁹ My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all, and no one is able to snatch them out of the Father's hand. ³⁰ I and the Father are one."

It's like drinking a glass of water. When you drink water, it is made up of two elements. H2O. Two parts hydrogen one part oxygen When you drink water are you getting the hydrogen or the oxygen?

³¹ The Jews picked up stones again to stone him. ³² Jesus answered them, "I have shown you many good works from the Father; for which of them are you going to stone me?" ³³ The Jews answered him, "It is not for a good work that we are going to stone you but for blasphemy, because you, being a man, make yourself God."

Why? ³³ The Jews answered him, "It is not for a good work that we are going to stone you but for blasphemy, because you, being a man, make yourself God."

According to <u>Merriam-Webster</u>, blasphemy is defined as: *"the act of insulting or showing contempt or lack of reverence for God; and/or the act of claiming the attributes of a deity"*

Look closely at vs 33 "It is not for a good work that we are going to stone you Here is the problem: but for blasphemy, because you, being a man, make yourself God."

JESUS IS CLAIMING TO BE GOD AMONG THEM.

What Does It Really Mean, Both Now and Eternally, If Jesus Is Who He Claims to Be? Our answer to that question determines: EVERYTHING!

> How we live, What we live for, Our purpose for existing, Our values, Our behavior,

TODAY LISTEN TO JESUS: I have told you in My word My will. I have told you your purpose for living. I have told you that I am your only savior. I have told you the truth in all things. How we treat one another, How we love one another, The power to forgive, The power to sacrifice, The life to come!

I have told you I am live right now. I have told you I'm coming again. I have told you over and over and over that I am God.



