

THE CLAIMS OF CHRIST  
(JOHN)

I. INTRODUCTION.

- A. The Claims Of Jesus The Nazarene Are Awesome And Astounding!
- B. The Claims Of Jesus Christ Are Either True Or False:
  - 1. He is who and what He claims to be or He is not.
  - 2. His claims substantiated by His works, (i.e. the signs/miracles): The historical evidence is sufficient to cause reason to declare, "I believe!"

II. AIM.

- A. To Examine The Claims Of Jesus Christ As Presented In The Historical Setting From The Book Of John. (Read John 1:1-19 and 20:30-31)
- B. To Realize The Significance Of Those Claims And The Impact That They Have Upon Humanity.

III. OUTLINE.

- A. JESUS CLAIMS TO BE THE PROPHESED MESSIAH. (4:1-42, esp. vs. 25-26)
  - 1. Jesus is God's Anointed One.
  - 2. Jesus is the realization of the Messianic hope of Old Testament scripture.
- B. JESUS CLAIMS TO BE THE BREAD OF LIFE. (6:22-59, esp. ver. 35)
  - 1. Jesus is the source of life: He gives life.
  - 2. Jesus is the sustainer of life: He continues life.
- C. JESUS CLAIMS TO BE THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD. (8:12)

1. *Jesus is the truth, knowledge and absolute purity as opposed to darkness, i.e. ignorance, falsehood and evil. (9:5; 12:35-36, 46)*
  2. *Jesus is the light of life. (1:4-5; 2 Tim. 1:10-11)*
- D. *JESUS CLAIMS TO BE THE I AM. (8:31-59, esp. ver. 58 cf. Ex. 3:14)*
1. *Jesus claims pre-existence with the Father: Eternal in His nature.*
  2. *Jesus affirms for Himself a constant existence without respect to time: He is Deity (i.e. God!)*
- E. *JESUS CLAIMS TO BE THE DOOR OF HIS SHEEP. (10:1-39, esp. vs. 1-18, 7-9, 22-39)*
1. *Jesus is the door to salvation: The abundant life! (cf. Eph. 2:18)*
  2. *Jesus is the way to the Father's presence.. (14:6)*
- F. *JESUS CLAIMS TO BE THE GOOD SHEPHERD. (10:1-18, esp. vs. 11, 14 cf. Ezek. 34:1-10)*
1. *Jesus, the good shepherd, died for His sheep: His sheep (true followers) listen to Him and follow Him.*
  2. *Jesus is also the great shepherd and chief shepherd. (Heb. 13:20; 1 Pet. 2:25)*
- G. *JESUS CLAIMS TO BE THE SON OF GOD. (10:30-42, esp. ver. 36)*
1. *Jesus plainly declares Himself to be "the Son of God."*
  2. *Jesus, as the Word (Λόγος = Logos), is attested to be "the only begotten (Greek μονογενής = monogenes - lit. 'only one of its kind') Son (of God)." (1:1-3, 14, 18)*
- H. *JESUS CLAIMS TO BE THE RESURRECTION AND THE LIFE. (11:1-46, esp. ver. 25)*
1. *Jesus had within Himself the power to lay down His life and take it up again. (10:17)*

2. *Jesus' claim of being the resurrection and the life is substantiated by factual evidence:*
    - a. *The raising of Lazarus and,*
    - b. *Ultimately His own resurrection! (Rom. 1:4 cf. Acts 13:32-41) (Carefully read John 5:29; 6:39-40, 44, 54 cf. 1 Cor. 15:1-58)*
- I. *JESUS CLAIMS TO BE TEACHER AND LORD. (13:13)*
1. *Jesus is Teacher: The instructor of all in wisdom and knowledge of truth. (cf. Col. 2:3)*
  2. *Jesus is Lord. (20:28; Rom. 10:9-10; Phil 2:5-11) (See Lesson 4 - "The Lordship Of Christ").*
- J. *JESUS CLAIMS TO BE THE WAY, THE TRUTH AND THE LIFE. (14:1-31, esp. ver. 6)*
1. *Jesus is the way between man and God. (1:50-51 cf. Acts 4:12; Heb. 10:20) Without Him there is no going!*
  2. *Jesus is the truth in both reality and morality. (1:17, 18, 32-47; 2 Cor. 4:6) Without Him there is no knowing!*
  3. *Jesus is the life that originates in God and lifts men out of sin and death. (1:4-5; 3:14-17; 10:10; 11:25) Without Him there is no living!*
- K. *JESUS CLAIMS TO BE IN THE FATHER. (14:8-24, esp. vs. 10-11)*
1. *Jesus affirms mutual relationship with the Father. (cf. 10:30 and 17:21)*
  2. *Jesus declares like-nature with the Father: He in the Father and the Father in Him. (cf. 10:38)*
- L. *JESUS CLAIMS TO BE THE TRUE VINE. (15:1-27, esp. ver. 1)*
1. *Jesus is the means whereby accomplishment and productivity are realized: "He that abideth in Me and I in him the same beareth much fruit." (15:5b)*
  2. *Jesus is the true (real, genuine) vine: (Not*

Abraham, Moses, Israel, Jewish leaders, Greek philosophy, etc.) "Apart from Me ye can do nothing." (15:5c)

#### IV. CONCLUSION.

**A. The Claims Of Christ, Supported By Factual Evidence Of The Signs That He Did, Present A Crisis To Every Person: To Believe Or Not Believe.**

1. Evidence is to be weighed in determining whether it be fact or fiction.
2. Evidence is judged by reason.
3. Evidence that is sufficiently strong merits acceptance.
4. Evidence that is accepted causes reason to say, "I believe": (Or, by the same honest induction of weak evidence, reason must say, "I cannot believe.")

NOTE: Unbelief is due to ignorance, dishonesty or weak evidence.

5. Evidence concerning Jesus' claims and miracles convinced John (and others) in his day.

**B. The Claims Of Jesus As Presented By John Are To Bring His Readers To A Complete, Personal Commitment To "Jesus Christ, The Son Of God" As Evidenced By The Actual (Historical) Signs That Jesus Worked Declaring His Unique Authority And Majesty.**

1. Thomas (a doubter) exclaimed, "My Lord and my God!" (20:28)
2. What will you do with Jesus Christ, the Son of God, your only Savior?