

Chapter 25

Who is Jesus?



**“So tell me, who do they say I am?
What do they call me? How do
they see, and know, and
understand me?”**

**“Some say that you are John the
Baptist, or Elijah, or another of the
great teachers and prophets.”**



“Who do you say that I am?”

- Am I just another religious figure to you?**
- Do I just symbolize a set of rules?**
- Or do my teachings permeate your soul, transform your life?**



“Who do you say that I am?”

- **Do you see me as greater than the prophets?**
- **Do you understand that I am God?**



**“You are the Christ, the Living
God.”**



THE STORY

“Who do you say that I AM?”



THE STORY

What happens if Jesus is removed?"

- **Without Jesus there is no more purpose for the Bible.**
- **Without Jesus there is no more forgiveness.**



What happens if Jesus is removed?"

- **Without Jesus there is no more hope of salvation.**
- **Without Jesus there is no restoration of our relationship with God.**



What happens if Jesus is removed?"

- **Without Jesus there can be no heaven, which means Hell is our destiny.**



Who is Jesus?

I. Jesus is a decent fellow.

“sit on his throne in heavenly glory.” Matthew 25:31

“are you the Christ, the son of the Blessed one?”



Who is Jesus?

“And you will see the son of man sitting at the right hand of the mighty one and coming on the clouds of heaven. The high priest tore his clothes. Why do we need any more witnesses, he asked. You have heard the blasphemy.”

Mark 14:61-64



Who is Jesus?

“because you, a mere man, claim to be God.” John 10:33

“My Lord and my God.” John 20:28



Who is Jesus?

“....because you have seen me, you have believed; blessed are those that have not seen and yet believed.” John 20:29



II. Jesus is a demented fool.



III. Jesus is a deceiving fraud.

“the father is in me, and I in the father.” John 10:38



III. Jesus is a deceiving fraud.

“The works of our savior were lasting for they were genuine. Those who were healed and those who were raised from the dead were seen not merely while our savior was on earth,...



III. Jesus is a deceiving fraud.

**but also after his death they were
alive quite a while so that some of
them lived even to our day.”**

Quadratus 120 AD



IV. Jesus is a divine friend.



POPULAR IDEAS OF JESUS

**"There's the Progressive
Conservative Jesus—who is against
tax increases, for family values.**



“There's New Democrat Jesus—who is against Bay Street and Wal-Mart, for reducing our carbon footprint and printing money.

“There's Therapist Jesus—who helps us cope with life's problems, heals our past, tells us how valuable we are and not to be so hard on ourselves.



"There's Starbucks Jesus—who drinks fair trade coffee, loves spiritual conversations, drives a hybrid, and goes to film festivals.

"There's Open-minded Jesus—who loves everyone all the time no matter what (except for people who are not as open-minded as you).



"There's Touchdown Jesus—who helps athletes run faster and jump higher than non-Christians and determines the outcomes of Super Bowls.

"There's Martyr Jesus—a good man who died a cruel death so we can feel sorry for him.



"There's Gentle Jesus—who was meek and mild, with high cheek bones, flowing hair, and walks around barefoot, wearing a sash (while looking very German).



"There's Hippie Jesus—who teaches everyone to give peace a chance, imagines a world without religion, and helps us remember that 'all you need is love.'



"There's Yuppie Jesus—who encourages us to reach our full potential, reach for the stars, and buy a boat.



"There's Spirituality Jesus—who hates religion, churches, pastors, priests, and doctrine, and would rather have people out in nature, finding 'the god within' while listening to ambiguously spiritual music.



"There's Platitude Jesus—good for Christmas specials, greeting cards, and bad sermons, inspiring people to believe in themselves.

"There's Revolutionary Jesus—who teaches us to rebel against the status quo, stick it to the man, and blame things on 'the system.'



"There's Guru Jesus—a wise, inspirational teacher who believes in you and helps you find your center.

"There's Boyfriend Jesus—who wraps his arms around us as we sing about his intoxicating love in our secret place.



"There's Good Example Jesus—who shows you how to help people, change the planet, and become a better you.



"There's Jesus Christ, the Son of the living God. Not just another prophet. Not just another Rabbi. Not just another wonder-worker. He was the one they had been waiting for: the Son of David and Abraham's chosen seed;...



**the one to deliver us from
captivity; the goal of the Mosaic
law; Yahweh in the flesh; the one
to establish God's reign and rule;
the one to heal the sick,...**



**give sight to the blind, freedom to
the prisoners and proclaim Good
News to the poor; the Lamb of God
who came to take away the sins of
the world...
De Young**



THE STORY

"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 the level with a man who says he is a poached egg - or he would be the devil of hell..."



You must take your choice. Either this was, and is, the Son of God, or else a madman or something worse. You can shut Him up for a fool or you can fall at His feet and call Him Lord and God...



**But let us not come with any patronizing nonsense about His being a great human teacher. He has not left that open to us."
C.S. Lewis**

