

A Case for Christ

Lesson Goals:

1. To show that people must choose between contrary belief systems.
2. To show that Jesus demonstrated legitimacy as the right choice.

The Necessity of Exclusivity

Major Classifications of Faith Systems

1. **Atheism** – Does not believe in God
2. **Agnosticism** – Does not believe you can know there is a God
3. **Deism** – Does not believe you can know God personally

Agnosticism Vs. Deism

4. **Pantheism** – believes god is everything
5. **Polytheism** – believes in many gods
6. **Humanism** – man is his own god
7. **Monotheism**

Understanding the Biblical Jesus

How do we explain why a man who lived 2000 years ago and only lived 33.5 years before he was executed as a rebel has been the most influential person to have ever lived?

Jesus was either Liar, Lunatic, or Lord.

Liar: If He claimed what He did and knew it wasn't true he shouldn't be followed.

Lunatic: If He claimed what He did and it wasn't true but he didn't know it, He was a lunatic (deluded) and shouldn't be followed.

Lord: If He claimed what He did and it was true, He should be followed because He is Lord.

I. His Claims

a. Direct (explicit)

i. Personal outright declarations (John 8:58-59; John 10:30-33)

ii. His trial – Here we see three of the most common claims

b. Indirect (implicit)

i. He forgave sins

1. The woman caught in adultery (John 8:1-11)
2. The man sick of the palsy (Mark 2:3-12)

ii. He exhibited authority (Psalm 50:4-6; Isaiah 40:21-31; Isaiah 45:5)

iii. Claimed noncommunicable attributes

1. Pre-existence (Eternal) (John 8:58)

58 Jesus said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Before Abraham was, I am.

2. Creative Power (John 1:1-3)

3. Omnipresence (John 3:13)

II. His Character

a. The sinlessness of God (Isaiah 6:1-3)

b. The sinlessness of Jesus

III. His Commendation

a. Worship God Alone

b. People Worshipped Jesus

The disciples worshipped Him (**Matthew 14:33**)

The healed blind man (**John 9:38**)

The women at the tomb (**Matthew 28:9**)

c. The Commendation of God

i. He claimed Him as His Son

ii. He called Him God

IV. His Control

a. He cast out demons

b. He performed miracles