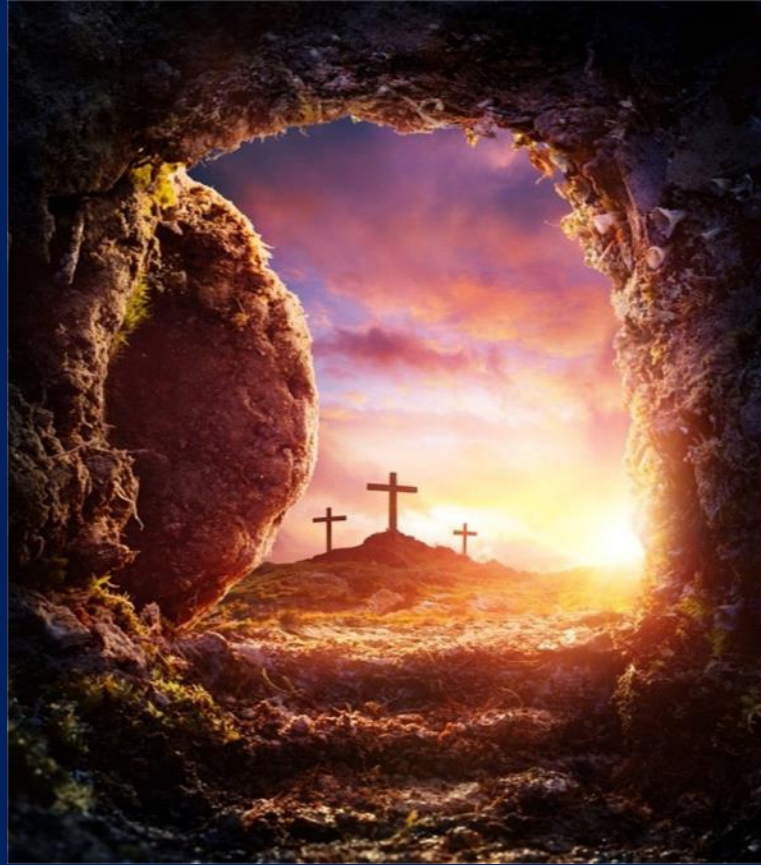


Jesus: One of a Kind



Dr. Andy Woods



Senior Pastor – Sugar Land Bible Church
President – Chafer Theological Seminary

John 1:14

“And the Word became flesh, and dwelt among us, and we saw His glory, glory as of the only begotten [*monogenēs*] from the Father, full of grace and truth.”



The Uniqueness of Jesus Christ

1. A man of verifiable history
2. A man of fulfilled prophecy
3. A man of predictive prophecy
4. A man of unimpeachable morality
5. A man of profound teaching
6. A man of authentic miracles
7. A man of bodily resurrection



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Christopher Hitchens

(AD 1949–2011)



“Jesus of Nazareth is not a figure in history...There is no reason at all to believe that the so-called Jesus of Nazareth ever existed.”

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zBxvLmRsKiw>

Author	Date Written	Earliest MSS	Time Span	No. MSS
Caesar	100–44 BC	AD 900	1,000 yrs	10
Plato	427–347 BC	900 AD	1,200 yrs	7
Thucydides	460–400 BC	AD 900	1,300 yrs	8
Tacitus	AD 100	AD 1100	1,000 yrs	20
Suetonius	AD 75–160	AD 950	800 yrs	8
Homer (<i>Iliad</i>)	900 BC	400 BC	500 yrs	643
<i>New Testament</i>	AD 40–100	AD 125	25–50 yrs	>24,000!

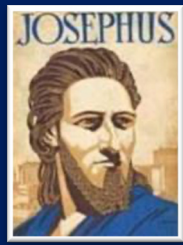


Cornelius Tacitus

(AD 55–120)

Annals XV, 44

“Consequently, to get rid of the report, Nero fastened the guilt and inflicted the most exquisite tortures on a class hated for their abominations, called Christians by the populace. Christus, from whom the name had its origin, suffered the extreme penalty during the reign of Tiberius at the hands of one of our procurators, Pontius Pilatus, and a most mischievous superstition, thus checked for the moment, again broke out not only in Judea, the first source of the evil, but even in Rome, where all things hideous and shameful from every part of the world find their centre and become popular.”



Josephus

Antiquities 18.3.3

“About this time there lived Jesus, a wise man, if indeed one ought to call him a man. For he was one who performed surprising deeds and was a teacher of such people as accept the truth gladly. He won over many Jews and many of the Greeks. He was the Christ. And when, upon the accusation of the principal men among us, Pilate had condemned him to a cross, those who had first come to love him did not cease. He appeared to them spending a third day restored to life, for the prophets of God had foretold these things and a thousand other marvels about him. And the tribe of the Christians, so called after him, has still to this day not disappeared.”

Secular Historians Mentioning Christ

Secular Historian	Date
Tacitus	AD 55–120
Lucian	AD Second Century
Suetonius	AD 69–122
Pliny the Younger	AD 112
Thallus	AD 52
Mar Bar Serapion	AD 70
Josephus	AD 78

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John 5:39, 46

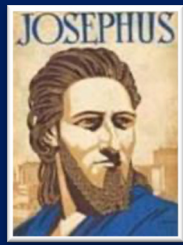
“³⁹ You search the Scriptures because you think that in them you have eternal life; it is these that testify about Me...⁴⁶ For if you believed Moses, you would believe Me, for he wrote about Me.”



Luke 24:44

“²⁷ Then beginning with Moses and with all the prophets, He explained to them the things concerning Himself in all the Scriptures...⁴⁴ Now He said to them, ‘These are My words which I spoke to you while I was still with you, that all things which are written about Me in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms must be fulfilled.’”





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OT Prophecies About Christ

Prophecy	Scripture	Years in Advance
Manner of Birth	Isaiah 7:14	700 years
Place of Birth	Micah 5:2	700 years
Nationality	Numbers 24:17	1400 years
Tribe	Genesis 49:10	1800 years
Time of & Response to His Messiahship	Dan. 9:25-26	600 years

OT Prophecies About Christ

Prophecy	Scripture	Years in Advance
Crucified Between Thieves	Isaiah 53:9	700 years
Pierced	Isaiah 53:5	700 years
No Broken Bones	Psalms 22:17	1000 years
Gamble for His Clothing	Psalms 22:18	1000 years
Buried in Rich Man's Tomb	Isaiah 53:9	700 years

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John 13:19; 14:29

“¹⁹ From now on I am telling you before *it* comes to pass, so that when it does occur, you may believe that I am *He*... ^{14:29} Now I have told you before it happens, so that when it happens, you may believe.”



Christ's Short-Term Predictions

Prophecy

Scripture

Betrayal by a Friend

John 13:21

Three-fold Denial by Peter

Matthew 26:34, 75

Manner of His Own Death

Matthew 20:18-19

Manner of Disciples' Deaths

John 21:18-22

AD 70 Events

Luke 19:41-44

Tertullian

Prescription Against Heretics, 36



“...where the Apostle John was first plunged, unhurt, into boiling oil, and thence remitted to his island-exile!”

The 7 Churches in Revelation

Rev. 1:11



Luke 19:41-44

⁴¹ “When He approached Jerusalem, He saw the city and wept over it, ⁴² saying, “If you had known in this day, even you, the things which make for peace! But now they have been hidden from your eyes. ⁴³ For the days will come upon you when your enemies will throw up a barricade against you, and surround you and hem you in on . . .



Luke 19:41-44

. . . every side,⁴⁴ and they will level you to the ground and your children within you, and they will not leave in you one stone upon another, because you did not recognize the time of your visitation.”

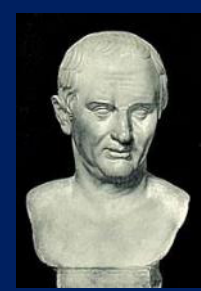




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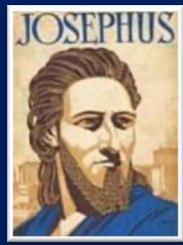


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“(Po)ntius Pilatus, the prefect of
Judaea, (erected) a (building dedicated)
to (the emperor) Tiberius”.



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The Incomparable Christ

Anonymous

“He never wrote a book, and yet all the libraries of the country could not hold the books that have been written about Him. He never wrote a song, and yet He has furnished the theme for more songs than all the song writers combined. He never founded a college, but all the schools put together cannot boast of having as many students. He never marshaled an army, nor drafted a soldier, nor fired a gun; and yet no leader ever had more volunteers who have, under His orders, made more rebels stack arms and surrender without a shot fired. He never practiced psychiatry, and yet He healed more broken hearts than all the doctors far and near.”

Matthew 5:21-22

“²¹ “You have heard that the ancients were told, ‘You shall not commit murder’ and ‘Whoever commits murder shall be liable to the court.’ ²² But I say to you that everyone who is angry with his brother shall be guilty before the court; and whoever says to his brother, ‘You good-for-nothing,’ shall be guilty before the supreme court; and whoever says, ‘You fool,’ shall be guilty enough to go into the fiery hell.”



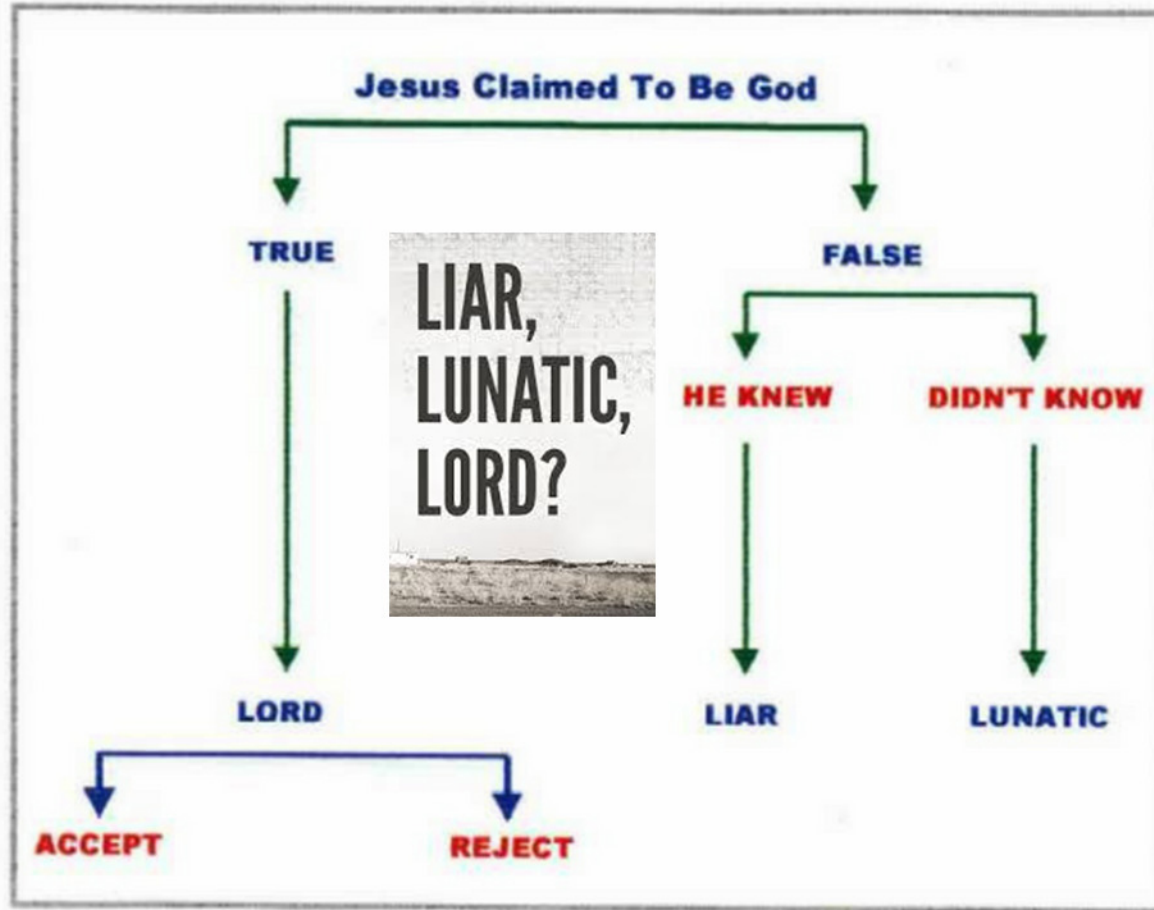
Matthew 5:27-28

“²⁷ You have heard that it was said, ‘You shall not commit adultery’; ²⁸ but I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman with lust for her has already committed adultery with her in his heart.”



Who is Jesus to you?

Logical Syllogism: Tri-Lemma



Campus Kairos

The University movement of Campus Crusade for Christ, Jamaica
Your Best Opportunity on Campus!

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John 3:2

“this man came to Jesus by night and said to Him, “Rabbi, we know that You have come from God as a teacher; for no one can do these signs that You do unless God is with him.”



Matthew 11:2-6

“² Now when John, while imprisoned, heard of the works of Christ, he sent word by his disciples ³ and said to Him, ‘Are You the Expected One, or shall we look for someone else?’ ⁴ Jesus answered and said to them, ‘Go and report to John what you hear and see: ⁵ the blind receive sight and the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed and the deaf hear . . .



Matthew 11:2-6

. . .the dead are raised up, and the poor have the gospel preached to them. ⁶ And blessed is he who does not take offense at Me.”



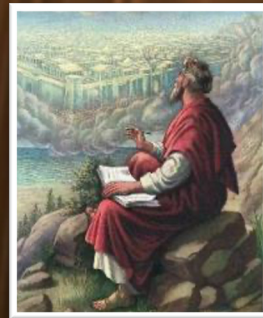
Acts 2:22

“Men of Israel, listen to these words: Jesus the Nazarene, a man attested to you by God with miracles and wonders and signs which God performed through Him in your midst, just as you yourselves know.”



John 20:30-31

“Therefore many other signs Jesus also performed in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; but these have been written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing you may have life in His name.”



“SEVEN SIGNS” in Gospel of John



Changing Water into Wine

2:11



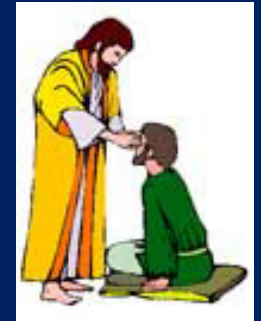
Healing official's son

4:46-54



Healing an invalid at the Pool of Bethesda

5:1-18



Feeding the 5,000

6:5-14

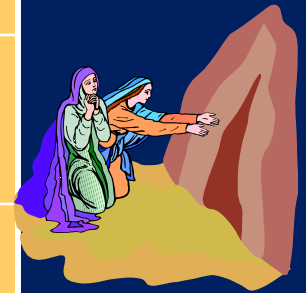


Walking on water

6:16-21

Healing a blind man

9:1-7



Raising dead Lazarus

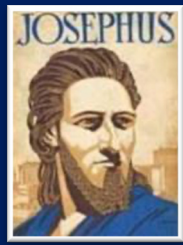
11:1-45



Matthew 12:24

“But when the Pharisees heard *this*, they said, ‘This man casts out demons only by Beelzebul the ruler of the demons.’”

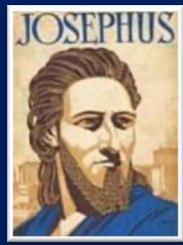




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1 Corinthians 15:6-7

“⁶ After that He appeared to more than five hundred brethren at one time, most of whom remain until now, but some have fallen asleep; ⁷ then He appeared to James, then to all the apostles...”



Naturalistic Theories

1. Swoon theory
2. Theft theory
3. Hallucination theory
4. Wrong tomb theory



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2. Theft Theories



A. Rome



B. Jews



C. Disciples



2. Theft Theories



A. Rome



B. Jews



C. Disciples



2. Theft Theories



A. Rome



B. Jews



C. Disciples



2. Theft Theories



A. Rome



B. Jews



C. Disciples



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How Does Jesus Compare?

Deity	Tomb Status
Confucius	Occupied
Buddha	Occupied
Mohammed	Occupied
Jesus	***EMPTY***

G.B. Hardy, *Countdown*

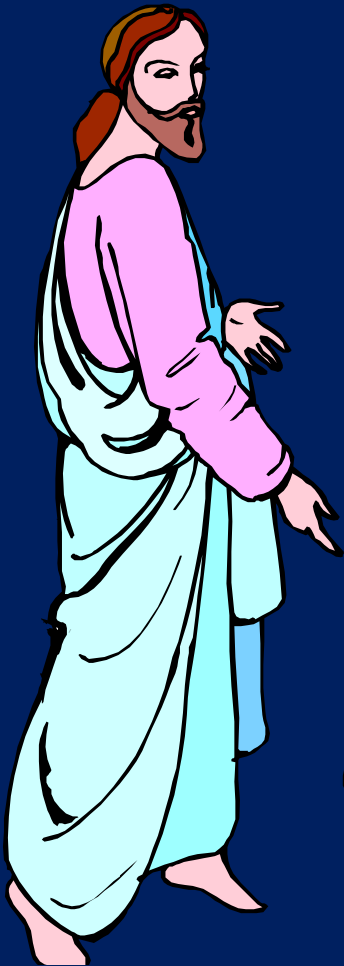
Conclusion

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Seven “I AM” statements in John



I am the Bread of Life

6:35

I am the Light of the world

8:12

I am the Gate for the sheep

10:7; cf. v.9

I am the Good Shepherd

10:11,14

I am the Resurrection and the Life

11:25

I am the Way and the Truth and the Life

14:6

I am the true Vine

15:1; cf. v.5

John 11:25-27

“²⁵ Jesus said to her, ‘I am the resurrection and the life; he who believes in Me will live even if he dies, ²⁶ and everyone who lives and believes in Me will never die. Do you believe this?’ ²⁷ She said to Him, ‘Yes, Lord; I have believed that You are the Christ, the Son of God, *even* He who comes into the world.’”





“The LORD bless you and keep you; the LORD make his face shine on you and be gracious to you; the LORD turn his face toward you and give you peace.” (NIV)