

**WHAT THINK YE OF CHRIST?
(Matthew 22:41-46)**

I. Jesus is the Son of God based on prophecy.

- A. Bible students have found over 330 Old Testament prophecies of the coming Messiah and Jesus fulfills everyone of them.
- B. We won't list all 330 of them but we do need to look at some.
- C. Jesus was born of the seed of David (2 Samuel 7:12 - Matthew 1:6).
- D. Jesus was born in of a virgin (Isaiah 7:14 - Luke 1:34).
- E. Jesus was born in Bethlehem (Micah 5:2 - Luke 2:4-7).
- F. Jesus entered as a king into Jerusalem (Zechariah 9:9 - John 12:12-16).
- G. Jesus was crucified (Psalm 22:16 - Matthew 27:35).
- H. The clothes of Jesus were parted and they cast lots for His cloak or vesture (Psalm 22:1 - Matthew 27:35) - statistical probability.
- I. These are just a sample of the over 330 prophecies which prove that Jesus was the Messiah promised in the Old Testament.

II. Jesus is the Son of God based on His preaching.

- A. Have you ever sat down and read straight through the Sermon on the Mount?
 - 1. Have you then thought about how different it was than what those Jews had been hearing?
 - 2. No wonder they were astonished at His teaching (Matthew 7:28).
- B. Jesus had not been to any of the religious schools or been trained at the feet of the rabbis that we know of.
 - 1. He was different than any of teachers of His day.
 - 2. Only thirty years old at the time of the delivery of this sermon.
- C. One writer said, "The one sentence, 'Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God,' is sufficient to place its author beside any famous writer."
 - 1. This was said because effort had been and always will be made to find out how to be happy.
 - a. Strength, sex, drugs, money, things have all been tried to bring happiness.
 - b. None of them bring the happiness sought.
 - 2. Jesus pointed out the way to be happy is to be good.
- D. If you had to have great skill in an area or be very brave or rich few could find this happiness.
 - 1. Since it is pure life that brings it, anyone can achieve it.
 - 2. Sadly, many choose the very opposite of God's plan to find happiness only to find grief..
- E. No one has been successful in challenging the principles taught in the Sermon on the Mount.
- F. What this sermon did was sound the death knell of Judaism and trumpeted a new system that was soon to be in place.

III. Jesus is the Son of God based on His perception.

- A. Just as there are different ideas about Jesus, there are various ideas

about God.

1. Some stress the justice of God, while others His mercy.
 2. Some send babies crashing into hell, while others have everyone to be saved.
- B. Jesus is the only one that has ever had a perfect perception of Who and What God is.
- C. How did Jesus get this perception - the only answer is the one Peter gave by inspiration - "Though art the Christ, the Son of the Living God."
- D. Truly, Jesus is the express image of His person (Hebrews 1:3).
- E. Jesus reveals God to mankind in a way that no one has ever done.
1. He reveals His characteristics.
 2. He reveals His mercy and justice.
 3. He reveals His grace and righteous anger.
- F. Left to ourselves, man creates images of God that fall terribly short of all that God is, but Jesus brought God to us because He is the Messiah, the Son of God (John 1:1).
- G. Not only did Jesus have a great perception of God, but also of human nature (John 2:25).
1. Hebrews 4:13.
 2. To know man's heart the way Jesus did, one must be deity.
- H. Jesus also possessed a perfect perception of the Law of Moses.
1. Jesus knew the sacrifices, the types and shadows, how it revealed the coming New Testament.
 2. Jesus completely knew the design or purpose of the Law.
- I. Jesus had a perfect perception of His kingdom, the church.
1. He knew that He was not there to restore a physical kingdom but usher in a new, spiritual kingdom (John 18:36).
 2. The knowledge Jesus had shows that He is divine.

IV. Jesus is the Son of God based on His perfection.

- A. Jesus never committed a sin (John 8:46; 1 Peter 2:22).
- B. He never did or said anything for which He needed to repent.
- C. He was free from worldly aims, prejudice or sectarianism.
- D. Jesus dealt with the most profound questions man can ask without hesitating to answer.
 1. The life that Jesus led was above reproach.
 2. Jesus lived to do the will of the Father and it only.

V. Jesus is the Son of God based on the problem for skeptics.

- A. The biggest problem skeptics face is the resurrection of Jesus.
 1. Somehow, they have to account for the empty tomb.
 2. Many have tried, but all their attempts fall far short of accomplishing the destruction of Jesus.
- B. The Bible states it as fact and proves it.
 1. It was foreshadowed by Jonah according to Jesus (Luke 11:29-30).
 2. Many saw the resurrected Christ (1 Corinthians 15:5-8).
 3. The enemies of Jesus did not deny the tomb was empty, but claimed that the disciples stole the body, which was a ridiculous

defense.

- 4. The angels attested to the fact (Luke 24:4-7).
- C. It is the resurrection on which the hope of heaven hangs.
 - 1. If Jesus was resurrected, then there is great hope.
 - 2. If He was not, we are of all men most miserable.
- D. The fact is, Jesus was resurrected as He said He would be and this was done to prove Who He was.