

Jesus, The Son of God

Introduction

Matthew 16:13-17

1. Public opinion about Jesus was mixed; His Divinity was unknown to many.
 - A. If you had heard this lowly Galilean carpenter in the first century, would you have believed Him to be the Son of God?
 - 1) Most would say OH YES, of course I would. But before you answer, remember that even Jesus' own brothers did not believe Him
John 7:1-5
 - B. If we, like Peter, were willing to admit our Lord's Deity, upon what basis would we have made our determination? What evidence would we use?
 - 1) When Jesus commended Peter for his affirmation of faith, our Lord said the Father had revealed to Peter that Christ was *"the Son of the living God"*.
 - a) Have you ever wondered how the Father revealed this fact to Peter?
 - b) Peter could certainly have known about the Deity of Christ and here's how.

The Prophecy He Fulfilled

1. There are over 300 prophecies in the Old Testament concerning Christ, made at least 400 – 750 years before His birth. Who else could have fulfilled these prophecies?
2. Matthew seems to write to prove that Jesus was the fulfillment of all messianic prophecy. He records minor events in Jesus' life and then quotes from the prophets to show that His actions were done to fulfill prophecy. Here are a few examples:

A. Christ would be born of a virgin.

(Fulfilled: Matthew 1:22-23)

Isaiah 7:14 Therefore the Lord Himself will give you a sign: Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a Son, and shall call His name Immanuel.

B. Christ would be born in Bethlehem.

(Fulfilled: Matthew 2:5-6)

Micah 5:2 But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, though you are little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of you shall come forth to Me the One to be Ruler in Israel, whose goings forth are from of old, from everlasting.

C. Christ would be "called out of Egypt".

(Fulfilled: Matthew 2:15)

Hosea 11:1 When Israel was a child, I loved him, and out of Egypt I called My son.

- D. There would be a massacre of innocent male children.**
(Fulfilled: Matthew 2:16-18)

Jeremiah 31:15 Thus says the LORD: "A voice was heard in Ramah, lamentation and bitter weeping, Rachel weeping for her children, refusing to be comforted for her children, because they are no more."

- E. Christ would be preceded by a messenger.**
(Fulfilled: Matthew 3:3)

Isaiah 40:3 The voice of one crying in the wilderness: "Prepare the way of the LORD; make straight in the desert a highway for our God."

- F. Christ's work would begin in Galilee.**
(Fulfilled: Matthew 4:12-16)

Isaiah 9:1-2 Nevertheless the gloom will not be upon her who is distressed, as when at first He lightly esteemed the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, and afterward more heavily oppressed her, by the way of the sea, beyond the Jordan, in Galilee of the Gentiles. The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in the land of the shadow of death, upon them a light has shined.

- G. Christ would take "our infirmities".**
(Fulfilled: Matthew 8:17)

Isaiah 53:4 Surely He has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows; yet we esteemed Him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted.

- H. Christ would teach by parables.**
(Fulfilled: Matthew 13:34-35)

Psalms 78:2 I will open my mouth in a parable; I will utter dark sayings of old,

- I. **Christ would enter Jerusalem on a donkey.**
(Fulfilled: Matthew 21:1-10)

Zechariah 9:9 "Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion! Shout, O daughter of Jerusalem! Behold, your King is coming to you; he is just and having salvation, lowly and riding on a donkey, a colt, the foal of a donkey.

- J. **Christ would be sold for 30 pieces of silver.**
(Fulfilled: Matthew 27:9)

Zechariah 11:12 Then I said to them, "If it is agreeable to you, give me my wages; and if not, refrain." So they weighed out for my wages thirty pieces of silver.

- K. **Lots would be cast for Jesus' clothing.**
(Fulfilled: Matthew 27:35)

Psalms 22:18 They divide My garments among them, and for My clothing they cast lots.

The Testimony of John

1. John when pressed "who he was" confessed that he was not the Christ, Elijah, nor the "prophet".

- A. After the baptism of Jesus, John said:
John 1:33-34

2. Later, when Jesus went to Jerusalem, He told the Jews:

John 5:33 "You have sent to John, and he has borne witness to the truth.

The Miracles He Performed

1. In Matthew 4:23-24 it says:

Matthew 4:23-24

A. Jesus visited many towns of Galilee, the caravans passing through the country carried reports of His works into the surrounding regions of *"Decapolis, Jerusalem, Judea, and beyond the Jordan"* (Matthew 4:25).

2. Jesus said His miracles were a greater witness to His Divinity than John himself.

John 5:31-36

• **"the very works that I do"** > not man, not the Holy Spirit.

A. This is because no one in history had ever claimed to be the Messiah and had the ability to perform genuine miracles.

1) The prophets in the Old Testament were able to perform miracles, but never claimed to be Jesus.

a) Other men have claimed to be Jesus, but could not ever perform genuine miracles as only the Son of God could do. Jesus even said that others would claim to say **"I am the Christ"**.

Matthew 24:5 For many will come in My name, saying, **'I am the Christ,'** and will deceive many.

The Testimony of the Father

1. Peter knew that at Jesus' baptism the Father spoke from heaven saying:

Matthew 3:17..."This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased."

2. On the mount of transfiguration, Peter would see a bright cloud overshadow them, and the Father would again testify of His Son, saying, *"This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased. Hear Him!"* (Matthew 17:5)

- A. This command contains the chief significance of the entire scene. Spoken in the presence of Moses and Elijah, it gave Jesus that pre-eminence which a son has over servants.
- B. Peter recognized Jesus as honored by the voice of the Father.

2 Peter 1:16-19 For we did not follow cunningly devised fables when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but were eyewitnesses of His majesty. For He received from God the Father honor and glory when such a voice came to Him from the Excellent Glory: "This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased." And we heard this voice which came from heaven when we were with Him on the holy mountain. And so we have the prophetic word confirmed, which you do well to heed as a light that shines in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts.

The Resurrection

1. Though Jesus had not yet gone to the cross when He asked His disciples about His identity, we can now look back to the resurrection as the crowning act in proving the Divinity of Jesus.

- A. The apostle Paul opens the Roman letter by pointing to

Romans 1:3-4Jesus Christ our Lord, who was born of the seed of David according to the flesh, **and declared to be the Son of God** with power according to the Spirit of holiness, by the resurrection from the dead.

2. The very foundation of the gospel rests upon the Lord's resurrection.

1 Corinthians 15:3-4 For I delivered to you first of all that which I also received: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, and that **He was buried, and that He rose again the third day** according to the Scriptures,

- A. In fact, if there was no resurrection, *"then our preaching is empty and your faith is also empty."* (1 Corinthians 15:14)

Conclusion

1. The Hebrew writer wrote:
Hebrews 1:1-4
2. Since Christ is God's final spokesman, if we neglect His message, we have missed the great salvation *"which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord, and was confirmed to us by those who heard Him,"* (Hebrews 2:3)
3. Peter could and did know for certain that Jesus was the Son of God.
 - A. We too can know for certain that Jesus is God's Son. The Bible is God's Holy inspired Word letting us know what we need to do in order to obtain salvation.
4. Peter believed and responded *"You are the Christ, the Son of the living God."*
 - A. Won't you believe and respond today?

