

The Uniqueness of Jesus

10 Basic Steps Intro

Matthew 16:13-17 P. 694

If we are going to take the basic steps of life and grow like we should we have to decide what to do with Jesus Christ. The uniqueness of Christianity, however, ultimately depends on the uniqueness of its central figure—the Lord Jesus Christ.

Mohammed was born in 570AD in Mecca and died in 632 A.D. and was buried.

Siddhartha Gautama was born about 560 B.C. at Lumbini and died around 486 B.C. and was buried.

Jesus was born around 3 or 4 BC in Bethlehem of Judea in Israel. He was raised in Nazareth and began his public ministry at age 30. There is a great deal of historical evidence for the existence of Jesus outside the Bible. Two Roman historians wrote about Jesus. One major Jewish historian wrote about Jesus. His name was Josephus. Jesus existence is a historical fact that is backed up by thousands of manuscripts that date back within a generation of his life.

He was a real person. He had a human body and was sometimes tired (John 4:6) and hungry (Matt. 4:2). He had human emotions; he was angry (Mark 11:15-17), he loved (Mark 10:21) and he was sad (John 11:35). He was tempted (Mark 1:13), he learned (Luke 2:52), he worked (Mark 6:3) and he obeyed his parents (Luke 2:51). He was a great teacher. Most people believe that. Many people quote him widely. The question that we must consider is this: *Was He more than a wonderful man and a great teacher?*

I. What Did Jesus say about Himself?

Did he ever claim to be God? Yes!

A. His Teaching Centered on Himself.

1. He used the Old Testament term for God “I Am”. John 6:35. John 8:12. John 11:25-26. John 14:6.
2. My Kingdom. Luke 22:30
3. Come to me. Matt, 11:28-29
4. Follow me. Mark 1:17
5. Receive me- receive God. Matt. 10:40
6. Welcome me-welcome God. Mark 9:37

7. See me-see God. John 14:9

B. His Indirect Claims – show us who he is.

1. To forgive sin. Mark 2:5
2. To judge the world. Matt. 25:31-32

C. His Direct Claims – which in his day deserved death.

1. The Messiah. Mark 14:61-62
2. The Son of God. Mark 14:61
3. God the Son. John 8:58, 10:28, 33.

II. What Evidence is there to Support what He Said?

A. His Teachings. Sermon on the Mount. Matt. 5-7

B. His Works. John 10:37-38

1. Water into wine. John 2:1-11
2. Fed thousands. Mark 6:30-44
3. Power over Nature. Mark 4:35-41
4. Power over Sickness. John 5:1-9
5. Power over demons. Mark 5:1-20
6. Power over death. John 11:38-44

C. His Character and Love. Luke 23:34

D. His fulfillment of Old Testament Prophecy

E. His Death and Resurrection

1. The empty tomb -
2. Appearance to the disciples. 550+
3. Immediate Effect on the disciples – changed.
4. Effect down through the ages.

What you think God is like will radically affect deeply how you live. Jesus taught that everyone is valuable to God. That everyone is deserving of being saved. So at age 33 He gave his life on the cross for them and us. Jesus was buried. But unlike Mohammed and Buddha we can't go to his grave because He is not there. He arose on the 3rd day. But you must experience Him for your self by deciding to become His follower.