

## **Jesus Is the Son of God – True or False? Matthew 26:57-68**

### **Jesus was a historical figure – TRUE or FALSE?**

Historians that affirm the reality of Jesus:

1. Josephus – Jewish historian born in 37 A.D.
2. Cornelius Tacitus – Roman historian in 112 A.D.

### **Jesus was a historical figure - TRUE**

### **Jesus claimed to be the Son of God – TRUE or FALSE?**

*Matthew 26:57-68*

*57 Then those who had seized Jesus led him to Caiaphas the high priest, where the scribes and the elders had gathered. 58 And Peter was following him at a distance, as far as the courtyard of the high priest, and going inside he sat with the guards to see the end. 59 Now the chief priests and the whole council<sup>[a]</sup> were seeking false testimony against Jesus that they might put him to death, 60 but they found none, though many false witnesses came forward. At last two came forward 61 and said, “This man said, ‘I am able to destroy the temple of God, and to rebuild it in three days.’” 62 And the high priest stood up and said, “Have you no answer to make? What is it that these men testify against you?”<sup>[b]</sup> 63 But Jesus remained silent. And the high priest said to him, “I adjure you by the living God, tell us if you are the Christ, the Son of God.” 64 Jesus said to him, “You have said so. But I tell you, from now on you will see the Son of Man seated at the right hand of Power and coming on the clouds of heaven.” 65 Then the high priest tore his robes and said, “He has uttered blasphemy. What further witnesses do we need? You have now heard his blasphemy. 66 What is your judgment?” They answered, “He deserves death.” 67 Then they spit in his face and struck him. And some slapped him, 68 saying, “Prophecy to us, you Christ! Who is it that struck you?”*

*Matthew 26:64, “Jesus said to him, ‘You have said so. But I tell you, from now on you will see the Son of Man seated at the right hand of Power and coming on the clouds of heaven’.”*

*Daniel 7:13-14, "In my vision at night I looked, and there before me was one like a **son of man, coming with the clouds of heaven**. He approached the Ancient of Days and was led into his presence. He was given **authority, glory and sovereign power**; all peoples, nations and men of every language worshiped him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion that will not pass away, and his kingdom is one that will never be destroyed.”*

### **Jesus claimed to be the Son of God - TRUE**

**Options for Jesus' claim to be the Son of God:**

- 1. Liar – Jesus knew he was not the Son of God**
- 2. Lunatic – Jesus thought he was the Son of God but was not**
- 3. Lord – Jesus actually is the Son of God as He claimed**

**Jesus was just a good moral teacher is NOT an option.**

**Options for Jesus' claim to be the Son of God:**

- 1. He was a liar – He knew His claims were untrue. If so:**
  - a) He made a deliberate misrepresentation of whom He was
  - b) He was a hypocrite
  - c) He was unspeakably evil deceiving people about eternity
  - d) He was a fool because he died for a lie

**Way He lived, taught and died proved that Jesus was NOT a liar**

- 2. He was a lunatic – He did not know His claims were false**

**Character, conduct, consistency proves that Jesus was NOT a lunatic**

- 3. He is Lord – His claims to be the Son of God were true**

A. His life – lived a perfect, sinless life

(vs. 59-60) – *“The chief priests and the whole Sanhedrin were looking for **false** evidence against Jesus so that they could put him to death. But they did not find any, though many false witnesses came forward”*

*“He was in all points tempted as we are, yet without sin” (Hebrews 4:15).*

*“He committed no sin, nor was deceit found in His mouth” (1 Peter 2:22).*

B. His miracles – signs pointing to his divinity

*Luke 7:22, “So he replied to the messengers, ‘Go back and report to John what you have seen and heard: The blind receive sight, the lame walk, those who have leprosy are cured, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the good news is preached to the poor.’”*

C. His prophecies fulfilled – over 60 major prophecies

Chances of 8 prophecies fulfilled are 10 to the 17<sup>th</sup> power:

- 100,000,000,000,000,000
- One hundred quadrillion

D. His death – supernatural events (Matthew 27:45-54)

E. His resurrection – empty tomb; appeared to over 500 people

**Jesus IS the Son of God and He IS Lord**

(Review slide)

**Jesus is a historical figure – TRUE**

**Jesus claimed to be the Son of God – TRUE**

**Jesus is the Son of God and He is Lord – TRUE**

**Since Jesus is the Son of God, as He claimed, what are you to do?**

*Acts 2:36-38*

*<sup>36</sup> “So let everyone in Israel know for certain that God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, to be both Lord and Messiah!”*

*<sup>37</sup> Peter’s words pierced their hearts, and they said to him and to the other apostles, “Brothers, what should we do?”*

*<sup>38</sup> Peter replied, “Each of you must **repent of your sins** and **turn to God**, and **be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ** for the forgiveness of your sins. Then you will **receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.**”*