

Getting to Know Jesus Matthew 16:13-16

People have so many different ideas about Jesus' identity. Today people think Jesus was a great teacher; the founder of Christianity; a Jewish rabbi. There are religious groups that have certain beliefs about Jesus. **Jehovah Witnesses** believe *Jesus is Michael the arch angel*; **Mormons** view Jesus as a god, but again everyone can become a god in their theology. They also see Jesus as Satan's spiritual brother. **For Islam**, Jesus was a prophet like Muhammad;

In our society Jesus Christ has become a curse word. Many would call upon Him in frustration as if he is the one to blame for their misfortune. **Scientology** believes *Jesus was just a great leader who taught us how to be spiritually advanced*.

With so many beliefs about Jesus, don't you want to shout: Would the real Jesus please stand up?

People in Jesus's day also have different opinions about him. Some were just plainly confused about his true identity. ***The religious leaders of his days asked him who he was.*** **Mark 14:61** Are you the Messiah, the Son of the Blessed One.

A governor asked him to tell him who he was. **Luke 23:3** *Are you the king of the Jews?*

Some saw Jesus as a political leader, others saw him as a threat to their cause.

Who is this Jesus the Bible talks about? The Jesus of the Bible is different from the Jesus in the Book of Mormon and the Quran. One day, toward the end of his earthly ministry, Jesus himself asked his disciples. **Who do people say I am?** The answer revealed the public opinion of the day.

Matthew 16:13-16

Who do people say the Son of Man is? This is Jesus's favorite title for himself, which it is used 88 times in the NT. The Son of Man is a messianic title. **Dan.7:13** Jesus was known as the Son of Man. (God in the flesh)

Some say you are: John the Baptist, Elijah, Jeremiah or any of the prophets. **People viewed Jesus as a prophet.**

Then Jesus asked his closest followers. **Who do you say I am?** Peter replied: You are the Messiah, the Son of the Living God.

Jesus is the Christ, the expected Messiah. As Messiah, then he is more than a prophet.

Jesus is God. God exists in three persons, the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. That is what theologians call the "Trinity" The Godhead three in one (Father, Son and Spirit) Jesus Christ is God in human form. **John 1:1-3, 14** **He existed before time and space.**

Colossians 1:15-20

In him all things hold together. God was pleased to have all his fullness dwell on him. (he is 100% God)

Philip asked Jesus to show him the Father. (John 14:8) Whoever has seen me, has seen the Father.

Rev.1:8 *The Alpha and the Omega the one who is, and who was and who is to come, the Almighty. This is a phrased used in the Old Testament to refer to Yahweh.*

Rev.1:17

Rev.21:6 He said to me "It is done. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. To him who is thirsty I will give to drink without cost from the springs of the water of life.

Rev.22:12-13

Who is Jesus? He is the only way to eternal life. He is the only one by which people can be saved.

Acts 4:12 Jesus is the Savior of the world, but in order for him to save you. You must believe in him. **You and I need to proclaim him as Thomas did. "My Lord and my God."** **John 20:28.** I pray that you can make Jesus the Lord of your life. He will take you to heaven to be with him forever.