

June 23, 2019

## **Who is Jesus?**

We must believe the right things about Jesus.

What do you believe about Jesus?

A review of the tract **“Steps to Peace With God”**

1 John 2:18

2 Timothy 3:16-17

1 John 4:1-3

Acts 17:11

1 John 2:22-23

2 Peter 2:1

Jude 4

Titus 1:16

### Questions for discussion

1. Can you think of a time when you were warned by someone to avoid something dangerous? What happened? Did you follow the advice that you were given? What lesson/s did you learn from that experience?
2. What were some of the warnings given in the Bible considered in this message? How would you apply them to your own life?
3. How might you use what has been considered in this message in sharing the message of Jesus Christ with others?

Evaluate these statements: True or false.

**False 1). *Jesus is the human man and Christ is the divine idea.*** (Science and Health, 473:15-16) This lie is taught by Christian Science which has nothing to do with Christianity or science. This statement simply makes Christ a divine idea rather than recognize that Jesus Christ is the God-man (John 1:14).

**False 2). *Michael, the archangel, is none other than the only begotten Son of God, now Jesus Christ.*** Michael is an archangel (Jude 9), the highest rank of angelic beings which are created by God. Jesus Christ is the creator and not the first created being as taught by the Jehovah's Witness cult.

**False 3). *Jesus never claimed to be God manifest in the flesh and does not at present make that claim.*** Jesus made the claim to be God (John 5:17-18; 8:58; 10:30-33; 10:36). He manifested human limitations (thirsty-John 17:9; tiredness-4:6; 19:34-his body was pierced) and even His resurrection body could be touched (John 20:17). He did not cease to be God when He became a man. He did not cease to be man when He resumed the glory of God. He is the same blessed person (Hebrews 13:8).

**False 4). *Before Jesus was conceived by Mary, He was not the Son of God.*** This is a lie taught by Herbert W. Armstrong, Mr. Confusion. The Word, Jesus Christ, who is God the creator of all things became flesh and dwelt among us (John 1:1-14). Jesus Christ is God who took

upon Himself human flesh; became obedient unto death on a cross; who will receive the confession of every person that He is Lord to the glory of God the Father (Philippians 2:5-11).

**False 5).** *By His obedience and devotion, He (Jesus Christ) attained to the pinnacle of intelligence which ranked Him as God, even in his pre-existent state.* This lie is taught by the Mormon cult. Jesus Christ is Eternal God. He is not the offspring of Elohim and the virgin Mary. The Mormons teach that Jesus Christ earned His Godhood by obedience and devotion. This cult believes in the existence of many Gods (polytheism).

**True 6).** *Jesus Christ is fully (completely) human and fully (completely) divine.* This doctrine is proclaimed throughout the Bible.

**False 7).** *The theory of three persons in one God suggests polytheism (many gods) rather than the ever present "I am."* This lie is taught by the Christian Science cult. The Bible teaches that there is one God (Deuteronomy 6:4), existing eternally in three persons; Father, Son, and Holy Spirit (Matthew 3:16-17), being identical in essence (His Divine Nature) and equal in power and glory (John 6:27; Hebrews 1:8; Acts 5:3-4). The word "Trinity" does not appear in the Bible. The word was coined to describe what the Bible teaches-that there is only ONE God and that He exists eternally in THREE persons: Father, Son and the Holy Spirit. There is no human analogy which fully illustrates the doctrine of the tri-unity of God. It is denied by many cults and religions.

**False 8).** *You can become God.* This lie is taught by the Mormon cult and the New Age Movement. Our goal during this life here on earth is to become like Christ (Romans 8:29). In glory we will be like Him because we will see Him as He is (1 John 3:2). In eternity believers will be perfect, but we will never become God.

**False 9).** *The Father has a body of flesh and bones as tangible as man's.* This lie is taught by the Mormon cult. God is spirit, and His worshippers must worship Him in spirit and in truth (John 4:24). Jesus Christ is the only person of the godhead possessing a body. He is undiminished deity and perfect humanity forever in one person (hypostatic union).

**False 10).** *In his real nature, man is divine.* This lie is taught by the New Age Movement. All humans with the exception of Adam and Even who were created perfect but became sinners by disobedience (Genesis 3) are conceived in sin and thus have a sinful nature (Psalm 51:5) which expresses itself by committing sins (Romans 3:10-18; 23).

**False 11).** *We believe that through the atonement (payment of Christ's death on the cross), all human kind may be saved, by obedience to the laws and ordinances of the gospel.* This is another lie taught by the Mormon cult. No person is saved by the deeds of the law (Romans 3:20) or any good work (Ephesians 2:8-9).

**False 12).** *Jesus was not crucified, he did not die, nor did he experience resurrection. He was taken to heaven without dying and without suffering the pain of death.* This is the teaching (lie) of Islam. The Bible teaches clearly that Jesus suffered, died, and was resurrected on the third day (John; 1 Corinthians 15:3-8). *Christians and Muslims do not worship the same God.*

**False 13).** *There was no such person in the history of the world as Jesus Christ. The Bible is a fictional book.* Jon Murray, President of American Atheists wrote this obvious lie.

Let us follow the directive given by the Apostle John in 1 John 4:1 which states:

**Dear friends, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, because many false prophets have gone out into the world.**

Let us do as the Berean saints did as recorded in Acts 17:11:

**Now the Berean Jews were of more noble character than those in Thessalonica, for they received the message with great eagerness and examined the Scriptures every day to see if what Paul said was true.**

Jesus prayed, **Sanctify them by the truth; your word is truth** (John 17:17).