

John 6:69
Matt. 16:13-20; Mk. 8:27-30; Lk. 9:18-21.
Rome Georgia
April 5, 1987
June 15, 2014

Subject: The Confession Of Peter.

Theme: The true identification of Jesus.

Proposition: Who do YOU say that Jesus is?

Read Jn. 6:66-69. Then Matt. 16:13-20.

Joh 6:66 From that *time* many of his disciples went back, and walked no more with him.

Joh 6:67 Then said Jesus unto the twelve, **Will ye also go away?**

Joh 6:68 Then Simon **Peter** answered him, **Lord, to whom shall we go? thou hast the words of eternal life.**

Joh 6:69 And **we believe and are sure** (*believe and knowNKJV*) that **thou art that Christ, the Son of the living God.**

(see **Joh 6:57** As the **living Father** sent Me, and I **live** because of the Father, so **he who feeds on Me will live** because of Me.)

Peter in 68-9 speaks of "we" meaning the 12 disciples. In v. 70-71, Jesus corrects this assumption: "It is true that the Lord had **chosen** the **twelve** disciples, but **one of** them was a **devil**. There was one in the company who did not share Peter's views concerning the Lord Jesus Christ." BBC

Mat 16:13 When Jesus came into the coasts of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, saying, **Whom do men say that I the Son of man am?**

Mat 16:14 And they said, Some *say that thou art* John the Baptist: some, Elias; and others, Jeremias, or one of the prophets.

Mat 16:15 He saith unto them, **But whom say ye that I am?**

Mat 16:16 And Simon Peter answered and said, **Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God.**

Mat 16:17 And Jesus answered and said unto him, **Blessed art thou, Simon Barjona: for flesh and blood hath not revealed *it* unto thee, but **my Father which is in heaven**.**

Mat 16:18 And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.

Mat 16:19 And I will give unto thee the keys of the kingdom of heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.

Mat 16:20 Then charged he his disciples that they should **tell no man that he was Jesus the Christ**.

I. WHO DO MEN SAY THAT I AM

13-14 "AND THEY ANSWERED"

1. **JOHN THE BAPTIST** [perhaps to continue the work "cut short" by Herod.]
2. **ELIJAH** [to prepare the way for the Lord **Mal. 4:5.**]
3. **JEREMIAH** [one of the prophets. He was not related to the coming of the Lord at all.]
4. **ONE OF THE PROPHETS**

Most likely these views were **the ones being expressed by the Pharisees of the day** because they were the only ones **believing in a resurrection** and all those who were mentioned would have to have been raised from the dead.

Though not specifically recorded in this passage, the NT informs us of **many who held less kind opinions** about Jesus. Because of His actions He was called:

An **ALLY OF THE DEVIL** **Matt. 12:24** casting out devils by the power of Beelzebub

FRIEND OF SINNERS **Matt. 11:19** “. . . . Behold a man gluttonous, and a winebibber, a friend of publicans and sinners. . . .

A **BLASPHEMER** **Matt. 9:3** certain of the scribes said within themselves, This *man* blasphemeth.

Opinions as to His character and Identification abounded even unto the cross of Calvary.

PILATE said of HIM "I find no fault in Him."

JUDAS said, I have betrayed innocent blood."

CENTURION AT THE CROSS "Truly this was the Son of God."

And even TODAY men are still seeking to form some opinion about Jesus.
Liberal Modernistic "theologians":

1. **A GREAT TEACHER - a GREAT MAN.** Entirely human, but not divine. Due the same respect as other great men. To be FOLLOWED NOT WORSHIPED!
2. **A good MAN.** Sincere to the end. He had the courage to die for His convictions. Makes Christ one of many good and sincere men.
3. **A GOOD MODEL or EXAMPLE** for other men. **Human, not divine.** New standard in nobility. Ahead of His time in the evolutionary process.

OTHERS TODAY:

Still view Christ as a **Babe in the Manger.**

A FIGURE on a Cross. (*Briarwood girl* who thought they put Him on a cross so everyone could see Him after His death. She used to see a big crucifix in the mountains and had to deduce what it meant in her own childish way.)

SOME of these have an element of truth to them, but none fully answer the question in the way that Christ desires for it to be answered.

So He asks those who knew Him best.

II. WHO DO YOU SAY THAT I AM

Peter, the spokesman for the group, had already made up his mind. His answer was short and to the point. There was no mincing of words.

"THOU ART THE CHRIST, THE SON OF THE LIVING GOD!" (Matt. 16:16.)

He could have said:

A **priest** like **Melchizedek**

A **Champion** like **Joshua**

A **King** like **David**

A **counselor** like **Solomon**

The **Passover Lamb** or the **Lion of Judah**

ALL WOULD HAVE BEEN TRUE

But **Peter** who knew Him best, **saw Him for who He was**, that which allows Him to be all **else THE CHRIST, THE SON OF THE LIVING GOD!**

Not just "a son" but "The Son"

It was for this very "point of identification" that the Jews sought to slay Him!

John 10:30-31 & 33. TURN HERE.

Joh 10:30 I and my Father are one.

Joh 10:31 Then the Jews took up stones again to stone him.

" I and my father are one. Then the Jews took up stones again to stone Him."

JESUS BOTH CLAIMED AND CONFIRMED HIS MESSIAHSHIP AND EQUALITY WITH THE FATHER.

God also bore Him witness at the **Baptism of Jesus** when He said, " **THIS IS MY BELOVED SON** in whom I am well pleased."

He is the **ANOINTED ONE**, the **PROMISED ONE**, the **REDEEMER** that was to come.

JTB said of Jesus, "**Behold the Lamb of God who taketh away the sin of the world.**"

PETER IN **JN. 6:68 READ 6:68** What does Peter mean when he confessed that Jesus "hast the words of Eternal life"

Joh 6:68 Then Simon Peter answered him, Lord, to whom shall we go? **thou hast the words of eternal life.**

JESUS HAD SAID, "**I AM the BREAD of life.** He that cometh to me shall never hunger, and He that believeth on me shall never thirst." 6:35

Throughout the Gospel of John, Jesus continues to speak the WORDS OF LIFE...

8:12 "I AM the light of the world. He that followeth me shall not walk in darkness but shall have the LIGHT OF LIFE."

10:9 "I AM the door; by me if any man enter in, HE SHALL BE SAVED and shall go in and out, and find pasture!"

10:11 "I AM the good shepherd;
the good shepherd giveth his life for the sheep."

11:25 "I AM the resurrection and the life; he that believeth in me, though he were dead, YET SHALL HE LIVE."

14:26 "I AM the way, the truth and the life; No man cometh unto the Father, but by ME." CF. 6:45
"...Every man therefore that hath heard and hath learned of the Father, cometh unto Me."

15:1&5 "I AM the true vine...ye are the branches

6:35 "I AM the bread of life

Each of these revelations of Christ are sufficient in and of themselves to provide life to the hearers. Not a life based on fully understanding, but a life based on faith! Trusting, believing, receiving, Jesus Christ. He is Life!

HE CAME FIRST TO THE JEW, **Jn. 1:11**

HE CAME ALSO FOR ALL OF MANKIND AND TO AS MANY AS RECEIVED HIM **JN. 1:12.**

Have you received Christ?

There are in our midst this morning several who have come to Truly Know the Savior and to partake of the Gift of Eternal Life and they wish at this time to give public testimony to this fact by the ordinance of water baptism this morning. But perhaps you are here this morning and you have never received the LIFE that God Offers through His Son Jesus Christ.....Invitation.

WHO DO YOU SAY THAT JESUS CHRIST IS TODAY?

A GOOD MAN? A PROPHET? or YOUR SAVIOR?