

SENT TO SERVE

Seeing Jesus in the Gospel of Mark



Who is Jesus, Really?

Mark Chapters 2-4; et al.

The person and work of Jesus Christ is crucial to the Christian faith. It is the basis of our salvation, and the means by which we understand how we enter into a new relation with God, and into everlasting life. However, the nature of Jesus Christ has been one of the most controversial doctrines in the history of the church. People today still question his deity, and others still question his humanity.

I. HOW DO WE KNOW THAT JESUS IS FULLY GOD?

A. Jesus displayed _____

1. He had the authority to raise the dead (John 6:39-40, 54; 10:17-18)
2. He had the authority to forgive sins (Mark 2:10)
3. He has the authority to judge men (John 5:22)

B. Jesus possessed _____

1. He demonstrated power over nature (Mark 4:39)
2. He demonstrated power over physical disease (Mark 3:10)
3. He demonstrated power over demons (Luke 4:35-36)
4. He demonstrated power over death (John 11:43-44)
5. He is omnipotent (Matt. 28:18)
6. He is omniscient (Mark 2:8; John 2:25)
7. He is omnipresent (Matt. 28:20)
8. Jesus claimed his deity (John 10:30)
9. He claimed to be the Messiah (Matt. 26:63-64)
10. He claimed his equality with God the Father (John 5:18, 10:30)
11. He claimed to be the "I am" of Exodus 3:14 (John 8:58)

C. Jesus' Messiahship is confirmed through _____

1. The Old Testament contains 332 distinct predictions of the Messiah that were perfectly fulfilled in Christ.
2. But some may object to these prophecies suggesting that these fulfilled prophecies were deliberately engineered by Jesus. The response to this objection is to point out that many of these prophecies were completely beyond his control. These include the place of his birth, the time of his birth, the manner of his death and more.

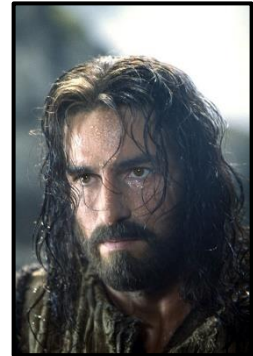
3. Josh McDowell describes the chances of any man that might have lived to the present day and fulfilling all eight prophecies is 1 in 10^{17} (1 chance in 100,000,000,000,000,000). To illustrate this, imagine the state of Texas covered with silver dollars two feet deep, and asking a blindfolded man to pick a previously marked silver dollar in one try. That's the probability of this happening.



II. HOW DO WE KNOW THAT JESUS IS FULLY HUMAN?

A. Jesus had a _____

1. He had a human birth but by a divine conception (Luke 2:7)
2. He showed human growth (Luke 2:40, 52)
3. He got tired like we do (John 4:6, Matt. 8:24)
4. He got thirsty like we do (John 19:28)
5. He got hungry like we do (Matt. 4:2)
6. He died like we will (Luke 23:46)
7. His human body ceased to have life in it and ceased to function, just as ours does
8. Jesus rose from the dead in a physical, human body--though one that was made perfect and was no longer subject to weakness, disease, or death.
9. His resurrected body had flesh and bones and could be touched physically (Luke 24:39).
10. He had the scars and nail prints from his crucifixion (John 20:25-27).
11. He ate food after his resurrection (Luke 24:41-43).
12. Our resurrected bodies will be like his (I Cor. 15:42-49).
13. He ascended into heaven in a resurrected body (Acts 1:9-11), and continues to exist in that same resurrected body in heaven as the ascension is designed to teach us.



B. Jesus had a _____

1. He learned like we do (Luke 2:52).
2. He learned obedience like we do (Heb. 5:8).
3. With each increasingly difficult task, even when it involved some suffering, Jesus' moral ability, his ability to obey under more and more difficult circumstances, increased.

C. Jesus had a _____

1. He experienced and expressed love (Matt. 9:36).
2. He experienced wonder (Matt. 8:10).
3. He experienced anger (Matt. 21:12-13).
4. He experienced temptation (Matt. 4:1-11; Heb. 4:15-16).
5. He experienced grief (John 11:35).
6. He experienced distress (Matt. 26:37-38; Luke 22:44; John 12:27).

III. THE BOTTOM LINE

JESUS IS _____ GOD AND _____ MAN!