

RUSSIA SEMINAR TALKS, SEEKERS TRACK
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LECTURE 5: WHO IS JESUS?

INTRODUCTION

Jesus is God's solution to what is wrong with mankind. He is not only our example of how humans ought to live, he is also the one whose life provides the obedience we are not capable of, and whose death pays the penalty for all that we have done wrong and will do wrong until the time when we will be perfected. And he also gives us the ability to begin to be what we ought to be.

HIS CLAIMS:

Jesus claimed to be:

- Sent from God (Mt 10:40; Lk 4:18; Jn 10:36)
- Existing from before Abraham's time (Jn 8:58)
- One with God the Father (Jn 10:30; Mt 11:27)
- Always doing everything the Father does (Jn 5:19-23)
- Able to forgive sin (Mk 2:5-12 and pars.)
- Unique (Mt 5:12; 11:25-30; Jn 10:7-10)
- The one who will rule the world in the future (meaning of term "Messiah" or "Christ")
- The one who will judge all mankind after this life (Mt 25:31-46; Jn 5:22-30)

HIS MIRACLES:

Jesus is reported to have:

- Changed water into wine (Jn 2:1-11)
- Fed thousands of people by multiplying a small amount of food (Mk 6:30-44; 8:1-13)
- Walked on water (Mk 6:45-52)
- Stopped a storm by a command (Mk 4:35-41)
- Healed hundreds to thousands of people
- Raised several people from the dead (Mt 9:18-25; Lk 7:11-15; Jn 11:1-44), including himself (Jn 10:17-18)

PROPHECIES ABOUT HIM:

If the Messiah has come, he is Jesus:

- (1) Light to Gentiles (Isa 42:6-7; 49:5-6)
- (2) Born yet Pre-existent (Mic 5:2; Isa 9:6-7)
- (3) Humble yet Exalted (Dan 7:13-14; Zech 9:9)
- (4) Suffering yet Reigning (Zech 12:10; Isa 53)
- (5) King yet Priest (Ps 110)

The Messiah has come:

- (1) To come while Judah had own rulers (Gen 49:10)