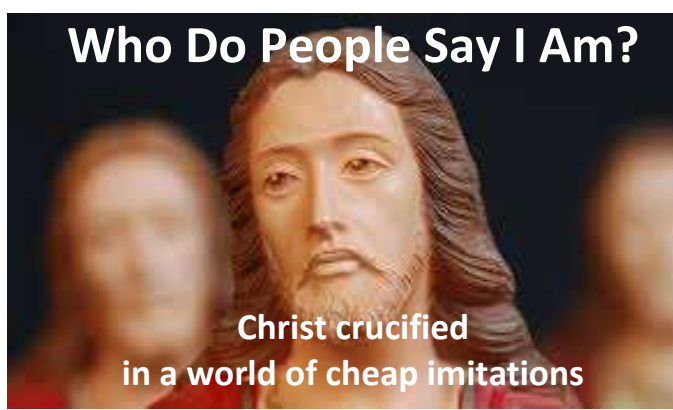


Who Do People Say I Am?



October 18
The Way
(part 2)

Jesus is: Christ, Son of God, Son of Man, Savior/Redeemer

Worldview – what glasses are you wearing?

“What is truth?” – Pontius Pilate John 18:38

A person’s “worldview” is formed by how they answer:

How do you know what truth is?

Is truth the same for everyone?

How do you make decisions? (What is good / bad?)

How do you know what is good/bad?

Is good/bad the same for everyone?

Religious differences

A “religion” is a set of beliefs about god(s), people, and their relationships

Those who claim to “not subscribe to religion” are making up their own religion...

All people acknowledge that what we experience in life is not perfect.

A “Religion of Law” asks “what must I do to make things right?”

Examples: Islam, modern Judaism, Hindu, etc.

A “Religion of Gospel” asks “What has God done to make things right?”

Christianity is the only “religion of Gospel”

¹⁸The wrath of God is being revealed from heaven against all the godlessness and wickedness of people, who suppress the truth by their wickedness, ¹⁹since what may be known about God is plain to them, because God has made it plain to them. ²⁰For since the creation of the world God’s invisible qualities—his eternal power and divine nature—have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that people are without excuse. (Romans 1:18-20)

Indeed, when Gentiles, who do not have the law, do by nature things required by the law ...

¹⁵They show that the requirements of the law are written on their hearts. (Romans 2:14-15)

For I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God that brings salvation to everyone who believes: first to the Jew, then to the Gentile. (Romans 1:16)

“I am The Way and The Truth and The Life.

No one comes to the Father except through me.” – Jesus John 14:6

All people operate by a system of ethics

“Ethics” – a process to decide actions based on what is “right” and “wrong”.

“Universal” ethical systems apply to all people (whether they agree or not)

Must come from outside

From a higher position

“god” – what we look to for direction, meaning, etc.

“Relative” ethical systems vary from person to person

Must come from inside

From the individual (the individual is “god”)

Apply only to the individual by choice

++ Watch for relativism to creep into a Christian’s worldview++

Either Jesus is “your own personal Jesus”

- His authority only comes from the individual
- The Word (Law and Gospel) is not for everyone

OR

Jesus is The Way, Truth, and Life

- for all people
- The only way, even for those who reject

Speak, Live, and Share the Truth in Love. Ephesians 4:15; 1 Peter 3:15

How might we share Jesus with those who are “spiritual, not religious”

By being church, not just attending church weekly....

What is the Church?

God’s people (not an impersonal organization of rituals, but a family of people)

Why do God’s people gather?

Why do God’s people often use universal language, actions, etc.? (Creeds, praise, prayer, liturgy, etc.)