

# Jesus Is the Christ? Prove It! by John T Polk II

All Scriptures and comments are based on the **New King James Version**, unless otherwise noted.

Just because some Jewish religious person had many followers in the 1st Century, doesn't mean He was who He claimed to be. Jesus warned of those who would come without God's endorsement but, only by his own authority ("in his own name," John 5:43). No one should be satisfied with what some TV commercials promise: "a certificate of authenticity," by which we are promised that we are receiving what the claimer claims to send! The anticipation both of Jews and Samaritans made them eager to follow whomever would claim to be The One. Jesus taught: "For many will come in My name, saying, 'I am He,' and will deceive many" (Mark 13:6). Also:

"For false christs and false prophets will rise and show great signs and wonders to deceive, if possible, even the elect. See, I have told you beforehand." (Matthew 24:24-25)

Self-proclaiming is not the same as The Holy Spirit-pronouncing! "For not he who commends himself is approved, but whom the Lord commends" (2 Corinthians 10:18).

In **John 5:31-47**, Jesus refers to four witnesses who establish evidence that Jesus is "The Christ." Jesus stated:

"If I bear witness of Myself, My witness is not true. There is another who bears witness of Me, and I know that the witness which He witnesses of Me is true." (John 5:31-32)

Jesus was living under the Law of Moses, to which He later appeals,

"It is also written in your law that the testimony of two men is true. I am One who bears witness of Myself, and the Father who sent Me bears witness of Me" (John 8:17-18).

Jesus claims His Father in Heaven stands behind the proof.

#### 1) John the Baptist. In verses 33-35:

"You have sent to John, and he has borne witness to the truth. Yet I do not receive testimony from man, but I say these things that you may be saved. He was the burning and shining lamp, and you were willing for a time to rejoice in his light." (John 5:33-35)

"The word of God came to John the son of Zacharias in the wilderness" (Luke 3:3).

John came baptizing in the wilderness and preaching a baptism of repentance for the remission of sins. Then all the land of Judea, and those from Jerusalem, went out to him and were all baptized by him in the Jordan River, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel's hair and with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. (Mark 1:4-6)

He looked like a prophet, preached like a prophet, and had the response a prophet would have had. When asked,

"Who are you?" He confessed, and did not deny, but confessed, "I am not the Christ." And they asked him, "What then? Are you Elijah?" He said, "I am not." "Are you the Prophet?" And he answered, "No." Then they said to him, "Who are you, that we may give an answer to those who sent us? What do you say about yourself?" He said, "I am 'The voice of one crying in the wilderness: Make straight the way of the Lord,' as the prophet Isaiah said." (John 1:19-23, quoting Isaiah 40:3).

John said of Jesus, "I did not know Him; but that He should be revealed to Israel, therefore I came baptizing with water" (John 1:31), "And I have seen and testified that this is the 'Son of God' (John 1:34), and again, "Behold the Lamb of God" (John 1:36). The people claimed, "John performed no sign" (John 10:41), meaning he accomplished this by his God-given message, not by miraculous deeds. Jesus said of John, "Assuredly, I say to you, among those born of women there has not risen one greater than John the Baptist" (Matthew 11:11). Even Herod "feared the multitude, because they counted him as a prophet" (Matthew 14:5).

#### 2) Miracles. In verse 36:

"But I have a greater witness than John's; for the works which the Father has given Me to finish — the very works that I do — bear witness of Me, that the Father has sent Me." (John 5:36)

#### His miracles accompanied His message:

And Jesus went about all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing all kinds of sickness and all kinds of disease among the people. Then His fame went throughout all Syria; and they brought to Him all sick people who were afflicted with various diseases and torments, and those who were demon-possessed, epileptics, and paralytics; and He healed them. (Matthew 4:23-24).

Miracles were temporary proof that God endorsed His message.

**His miracles demonstrated God's approval**: Pharisee Nicodemus said, "Rabbi, we know that You are a teacher come from God; for no one can do these signs that You do unless God is with him" (John 3:2).

And truly Jesus did many other signs in the presence of His disciples, which are not written in this book; but these are written that you may

believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in His name. (John 20:30-31)

# His miracles make Him stand out:

### a) With Quantity.

And many of the people believed in Him, and said, "When the Christ comes, will He do more signs than these which this Man has done?" (John 7:31).

And there are also many other things that Jesus did, which if they were written one by one, I suppose that even the world itself could not contain the books that would be written. Amen. (John 21:25)

# b) With Variety.

At evening, when the sun had set, they brought to Him all who were sick and those who were demon-possessed. And the whole city was gathered together at the door. Then He healed many who were sick with various diseases, and cast out many demons; and He did not allow the demons to speak, because they knew Him. (Mark 1:32-34)

### c) With Uniqueness. Now healed, the once-blind man said:

"Since the world began it has been unheard of that anyone opened the eyes of one who was born blind. If this Man were not from God, He could do nothing." (John 9:32-33)

# d) Over Death.

Then He came and touched the open coffin, and those who carried him stood still. And He said, "Young man, I say to you, arise." So he who was dead sat up and began to speak. And He presented him to his mother.

Then fear came upon all, and they glorified God, saying, "A great prophet has risen up among us," and, "God has visited His people." (Luke 7:14-16)

# 3) God's Voice. In verses 37-44:

"And the Father Himself, who sent Me, has testified of Me. You have neither heard His voice at any time, nor seen His form. But you do not have His word abiding in you, because whom He sent, Him you do not believe. You search the Scriptures, for in them you think you have eternal life; and these are they which testify of Me. But you are not willing to come to Me that you may have life. I do not receive honor from men. But I know you, that you do not have the love of God in you. I have come in My Father's name, and you do not receive Me; if another comes in his own name, him you will receive. How can you believe, who receive honor from one another, and do not seek the honor that comes from the only God?" (John 5:37-44)

#### God testified Vocally.

# God testified Scripturally. God testified Visually.

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God... And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth...No one has seen God at any time. The only begotten Son, who is in the bosom of the Father, He has declared Him...He who has seen Me has seen the Father; so how can you say, "Show us the Father?" (John 1:1, 14, 18; 14:9)

4) Moses' Prophecies. In verses 45-47:

"Do not think that I shall accuse you to the Father; there is one who accuses you — Moses, in whom you trust. For if you believed Moses, you would believe Me; for he wrote about Me. "But if you do not believe his writings, how will you believe My words?" Moses prophesied there would come a prophet "like me" (John 5:45-47, quoting Deuteronomy 18:15-19).

Jesus was "like Moses."

---- John T Polk II