

# Who Jesus Is and Is Not Who John Is and Is Not

John 1:19-34

January 18, 2026

## I. Introduction

- A. Warning! Failure to identify Jesus properly will cost you more than you can afford. Failure to identify John the Baptizer correctly will confuse you greatly.
- B. Promise: To identify Jesus properly will lead to an abundant life and eternal life (John 10:10). John the Baptizer teaches us humility and illustrates our humanity in his doubts.

1. Matthew 11:1-14

## II. Who John the Baptizer Was and Was Not

- A. Who he was not
  - 1. John (the apostle) said John the Baptizer was not "*the light*" (i.e. Jesus) – v. 8
  - 2. John said he was not "*the Christ*" (verse 20), "*Elijah*" (Malachi 4:5) or the prophet (Deuteronomy 18:15); Acts 3:19-22) – v. 21
- B. Who he was
  - 1. "*A voice of one crying in the wilderness . . .*" (Isaiah 40:3) – v. 23
  - 2. A doubter like you and I (Matthew 1:1-15), yet "*Elijah*" as promised in Malachi 4:5, 6

## III. Who Jesus Was and What He Was Not

- A. False (rude) statements about Jesus
  - 1. He is demon possessed
    - a. Mark 3:22
  - 2. He has a devil and is insane
    - a. John 10:20
  - 3. He is an illegitimate child
    - a. John 8:41
  - 4. He is merely a carpenter's son
    - a. Mark 6:1-6
  - 5. He is a prophet
    - a. John 4:19

## 6. He is the first born of God

- a. Colossians 1:15
  - i. This is a proper title, but some take it to mean that Jesus had a beginning, thus He is better than all other men but less than God

## 7. C. S. Lewis said He is either lunatic, liar or Lord

### B. How the Bible identifies Jesus

Our challenge: John says, "*no one has seen God at any time*" (John 1:18) yet Jesus said, "*He who has seen Me has seen the Father*" (John 14:9).

- 1. Equal to but separate from the Father
  - a. John 1:1, 2
- 2. Taking on human flesh
  - a. John 1:14; Galatians 4:4
- 3. The Christ. The promised Messiah.
  - a. John 1:20
- 4. "*the Lamb of God*" – v. 29
- 5. "*the Son of God*" – v. 34

## IV. Conclusion

- A. Salvation is a gift to be received not an award to earn
  - 1. John 4:10
- B. Although salvation is a gift to be received, your faith in Christ may cost you everything as it did Him to give it to you.