

Christianity 101
Becoming A Sincere Christian- Pt. 2

Learning to Love, Respect and Appreciate Jesus

Last Week: It has more to do with Jesus than Christian beliefs, comparative religions, whether or not we like what He says, or understanding the entire Bible. It's about "Who Jesus Is"!

*What we believe is true about Jesus
will determine the degree to which respect Him,
listen to Him and do what He asks us to do.*

Christianity 101: Two Parts

#1 The Foundation of Being a Christian

*Do we really agree with assertions
made about Jesus almost 2,000 years ago?*

By the Apostle John:

John 1:1-3, 14

By the Apostle Paul:

Romans 1:1-4

Colossians 1:12-23

By the Unreferenced Author

Hebrews 1:1-14

Self-Assessing: *Would we truly invest our lives in learning from Jesus and living as He taught if we agreed? Why or why not?*

#2 The Substance of Life According to Jesus

*How to live life relationally and
righteously with God and people.*

The Struggle to Know Jesus

1. The gospels represent the human struggle to understand who Jesus was when He was alive.

John 10:37-38 Jesus knew His teachings were challenging.

Jesus legitimized rejection apart from **His works**.

John 20:30-31 John described Jesus' works as "**signs**" sufficient to persuade us to believe.

2. Jesus' "works" are "signs" that deserve careful analysis in order to inform reasonable conclusions.

John 3:2 Was Jesus a great teacher with God's support?

John 6:26 Are people more concerned with what they get?

John 7:31 Could Jesus be greater than "the Messiah"?

John 9:16 Could Jesus display signs if He were a sinner?

John 12:37 Why don't people believe the signs?

3. Some "signs" challenge reality beyond anything we have known or imagined as supernaturally possible.

Luke 8:23-25 Controlling Nature

Matthew 9:18 Controlling Death

What Keeps us from Recognizing the Signs?

- **We have the tendency to choose beliefs that diminish the need for investigating facts rather than investing in self.**

*These stories are impossible so must be human fabrications.
Probability argumentation suggests they are not worthy of our time.*

I am enjoying my life as it is, why rock the boat.

Maybe, if I was unhappy enough, It would be worth exploring.

Are our chosen beliefs objectively determined?

- **We have the capacity to choose an informed posture toward life based upon known facts about Jesus.**

John 3:1-3 Nicodemus was guarded and apprehensive.

Nicodemus was committed to knowing truth.

What is at the root of my unwillingness to engage?