

Christianity 101
Jesus, Source of Truth and Freedom

Christianity 101: Two Parts

#1 Who Is Jesus? Can we trust Jesus to teach us the “truth” about a reality we do not see?

Jesus’ Credentials: “Three Integrated Arguments”

- Jesus’ FIVE TYPES of Supernatural Displayed Authority PROVE His Prophetically Revealed Messianic Authority (Genesis 49:10; II Samuel 7:12-17; Ps. 2; Isaiah 9:6-7; 11:1-10)
- Jesus’ Voluntary Surrender to Rejection and Death PROVE His Prophetically Revealed authority as the “Suffering Servant” (Psalm 2; Isaiah 52:12-53:12; 42:1-9; 49:1-8; 50:6-10; 110; 118:22-25)
- Jesus’ Self-Revelations about Who He was and what He is able to do for us into eternity (John 3)

Nicodemus (John 3:1-9) “Must be born of God’s Spirit”

Jesus is the “Son of Man” who will die and be given authority over everything in the world (John 3:10-15; Daniel 7:9-14; Numbers 21:9)

#2 What Does Jesus Teach? Only matters if we believe in Him!!!

The reality Jesus teaches involves a reality most people do not want to know or understand.

Jesus is the World’s Only Reliable Source of Truth

1. Jesus was born for the purpose of representing truth.

John 18:33-40 Jesus affirmed He was the Messiah
Jesus taught that this world was not His kingdom
Jesus described His purpose as representing truth
Jesus taught that only some people would care
Pilate represented the world’s value of Jesus

2. Jesus taught that “the truth” will liberate people from an unseen bondage in their life.

John 8:31-32 Jesus stressed we absolutely need Him

John 8:33 His listeners did not believe they were slaves in need of help

John 8:34-36 Jesus described enslavement as evident in everyone’s life when they do anything sinful.

3. Cause for Deep Thinking:

• **What is sin in the eyes of Jesus? Is Jesus right?**

Sin is the intrusion of evil in the goodness of God’s creation. It involves anything we do that hurts, tears down, fails to build up and encourage. It is opposition to everything good in thought and in deed. (Genesis 2:17; 5:5-6; Matthew 5)

• **What are the causes of my sin? What is true freedom?**

Can We identify the sources? Sensory Gratification? Emotion? Anger? Depression? Ignorance of implications of words spoken and behavior? My heart? Self-justifying reasoning?

Do We Need Jesus to Teach Us Truth?

- Maybe we are slaves to influences in our lives that are opposed to God and hurt both self and the good of others?
- Maybe we need to trust that Jesus knows us better than we know ourselves.
- Maybe we need to trust Jesus to do for us things that will guarantee the healing of our soul.

“The Prodigal Son” Luke 15