

Who is Jesus Really?

Part 1, Logos

Pastor Miles McPherson – April 1, 2005

John 1:1



The “*Who is Jesus Really?*” series is designed to maximize the ability of people at the Rock to understand and defend the identity of Christ as outlined in the Bible. Confidence in the complete reliability of God’s Word is critical.

Uniqueness of the Bible: It consists of 66 books written over 1500 years by over 40 authors in 3 different continents about hundreds of topics.

There are four types of tests used to determine the accuracy and reliability of the Bible:

1. **Bibliographical Test:** Ancient manuscripts are considered if there are 7-10 copies within 1000 years of the event. New Testament – 31,000 manuscripts all within 1000 years – closest – 15 years. More than any other 10 ancient writings combined.

2. **External Test:** Is scripture supported by outside documents such as archeology or other ancient historical writings? YES!

Church Fathers: The entire New Testament can be rewritten by their letters.

3. **Internal Test:** Did the authors believe they were writing history? YES! (Luke 1:1, John 20:31, Acts 1:1) Matthew makes 120 Old Testament references connecting his gospel to past teachings.

The Canon or “standard measurement” was established based on four criteria:

- a. It was used by the church.
- b. It is authoritative and feels like scripture.
- c. It is consistent with the Old Testament.
- d. The author was an eye witness or a close associate of one.

4. **Supernatural Test:** Can Logos change your life?

- It is the rational expression of the Truth of God.
- It is Jesus Himself. (John 1:1-3)
- It is alive and interactive. (Hebrews 4:12-13)
- It is useful for training in holiness. (2 Timothy 3:16-17)
- It is liberating. (John 8:31-32)

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