

The Gospel According to John

“Who is He?”

John 10:22-42



John 10:22-24

At that time the Feast of the Dedication took place at Jerusalem; it was winter, and Jesus was walking in the temple in the portico of Solomon.

The Jews then gathered around Him, and were saying to Him, “How long will You keep us in suspense? If You are the Christ, tell us plainly.”

John 10:25-30

Jesus answered them, “I told you, and you do not believe; the works that I do in My Father’s name, these testify of Me.

But you do not believe because you are not of My sheep.

My sheep hear My voice, and I know them,
and they follow Me; and I give eternal life to them,
and they will never perish;

and no one will snatch them out of My hand.

My Father, who has given them to Me, is greater than all;
and no one is able to snatch them out of the Father’s hand.

I and the Father are one.”

John 10:31-33

The Jews picked up stones again to stone Him.

Jesus answered them, “I showed you many good works from the Father; for which of them are you stoning Me?”

The Jews answered Him, “For a good work we do not stone You, but for blasphemy; and because You, being a man, make Yourself out to be God.”

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Jesus answered them, “Has it not been written in your Law, ‘*I said, you are gods*’? If he called them gods, to whom the word of God came (and the Scripture cannot be broken), do you say of Him, whom the Father sanctified and sent into the world, ‘You are blaspheming,’ because I said, ‘I am the Son of God’? If I do not do the works of My Father, do not believe Me; but if I do them, though you do not believe Me, believe the works, so that you may know and understand that the Father is in Me, and I in the Father.”

John 10:39-42

Therefore they were seeking again to seize Him,
and He eluded their grasp.

And He went away again beyond the Jordan to the place
where John was first baptizing, and He was staying there.

Many came to Him and were saying,
“While John performed no sign,
yet everything John said about this man was true.”
Many believed in Him there.

Main Idea

Jesus clearly declared and displayed His identity, but many do not believe because they are not of His sheep and do not hear His voice, and they will perish.

Background

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“How long will You keep us in suspense?”

If You are the Christ, tell us plainly.”

Who is He?

How had Jesus made His identity known?



John 10:24-25

“How long will You keep us in suspense?
If You are the Christ, tell us plainly.”

Jesus' identity made clear.

He had declared His identity by His words.

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“I told you, and you do not believe;
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Jesus had not *explicitly* told them that He is the Messiah because this would have been counter-productive to His mission.

But He had told them, and in ways far more profound and rich with meaning than simple pronouncements.

What had He said?

“I am the source of living water.” (4:10)

“I am the bread of life.” (6:35)

“I am the Light of the world.” (8:12)

“I am from above.” (8:23)

“Before Abraham came to be, I am.” (8:58)

“I am the door of the sheep.” (10:7)

“I am the good Shepherd.” (10:11)

All of these statements not only identified Him as the promised Messiah, but they identified Him with God Himself.

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He had declared His identity by His words.

He had displayed His identity by His works.

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If You are the Christ, tell us plainly.”
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“I told you, and you do not believe;

**the works that I do in My father’s name,
these **testify of Me.**”**

All the works that Jesus had done were signs powerfully pointing to the prophetic promises of God's deliverance through His Anointed, His consecrated Servant.

What works had He done?

He turned water into wine.

He cleansed the temple.

He healed a royal official's son from a distance with a word.

He made a lame man well with a word.

He fed thousands of people in the wilderness.

He walked on water and calmed the storm.

He restored sight to a man born blind.

Their response?

John 10:24-25

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If You are the Christ, tell us plainly.”

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He had declared and displayed His identity!

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Is it any different today?

Christ has made Himself known
yet people refuse to believe.

Who is He?

How had Jesus made His identity known?

What did Jesus claim about Himself?



What did Jesus claim?

“I and the Father are one.”

John 10:28-30

“My sheep hear My voice, and I know them,
and they follow Me; and I give eternal life to them,
and they will never perish;

and no one will snatch them out of My hand.

My Father, who has given them to Me, is greater than all;
and no one is able to snatch them out of the Father’s hand.
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The form of the word “one” that John used does not indicate “one person” but allows for distinction between the Son and the Father.

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Jesus was claiming a oneness of purpose,
of will, and work.

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and **no one is able to snatch them out of
the Father’s hand.**

I and the Father are one.”

Jesus was claiming a oneness of purpose,
of will, and work.

While Jesus was pointing them
to shared purposes and work,
it cannot be missed that these are
divine purposes and *divine* works.

No mere man could claim to be one
with the Father in this way!

What the Jews understood...

John 10:31

The Jews picked up stones again to stone Him.

Jesus answered them, “I showed you many good works from the Father; for which of them are you stoning Me?”

The Jews answered Him, “For a good work we do not stone You, but for blasphemy; and because **You**, being a man, **make Yourself out to be God.**”

What did Jesus claim?

“I and the Father are one.”

“I was sanctified and sent by the Father.”

John 10:34-36

Jesus answered them, “Has it not been written in your Law, ‘*I said, you are gods*’? If he called them gods, to whom the word of God came (and the Scripture cannot be broken), do you say of Him, whom the Father sanctified and sent into the world, ‘You are blaspheming,’ because I said, ‘I am the Son of God’?”

Background

Psalm 82:1-4

God takes His stand in His own congregation;
He judges in the midst of the rulers [gods].

How long will you judge unjustly
And show partiality to the wicked? Selah.

Vindicate the weak and fatherless;
Do justice to the afflicted and destitute.

Rescue the weak and needy;
Deliver them out of the hand of the wicked.

Background

Psalm 82:5-7

They do not know nor do they understand;

They walk about in darkness;

All the foundations of the earth are shaken.

I said, “You are gods,

And all of you are sons of the Most High.”

Nevertheless you will die like men

And fall like any one of the princes.

The LORD called those to whom He had given His Law and whom He had appointed as ministers of justice, “gods” and “sons of the Most High.”

Jesus' argument...

John 10:35-36

If he called them gods, to whom the word of God came
(and the Scripture cannot be broken), do you say of Him,
whom the Father sanctified and sent into the world,
‘You are blaspheming,’ because I said,
‘I am the Son of God’?

Jesus' argument...

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If he called them gods, to whom the word of God came
(and the Scripture cannot be broken), do you say of Him,
whom the Father sanctified and sent into the world,
'You are blaspheming,' because I said,
'I am the Son of God'?

“If God, in the Scriptures you know are infallible,
called those who had received His word ‘gods,’
how is it that you are charging me, one sanctified
and sent by God, with blasphemy when I say,
‘I am the Son of God?’”

Note Jesus' claims...

John 10:34-36

[I am] Him, whom the Father sanctified
and sent into the world.

Note Jesus' claims...

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[*I am*] Him, whom the Father **sanctified**
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[*I am*] Him, whom the Father sanctified
and **sent into the world.**

What did Jesus claim?

“I and the Father are one.”

“I was sanctified and sent by the Father.”

“I am the Son of God.”

Note what else Jesus claimed...

John 10:36

I said, 'I am the Son of God'?

Jesus' challenge to them...

John 10:37-38

“If I do not do the works of My Father, do not believe Me; but if I do them, though you do not believe Me, believe the works, so that you may know and understand that the Father is in Me, and I in the Father.”

Jesus' challenge to them...

John 10:37-38

**“If I do not do the works of My Father,
do not believe Me;**

but if I do them, though you do not believe Me,
believe the works, so that you may know and understand
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To deny Christ's identity as the Son of God requires a denial, not only of the words He spoke, but of the works He did.

What did Jesus claim?

“I and the Father are one.”

“I was sanctified and sent by the Father.”

“I am the Son of God.”

“The Father is in Me, and I am in the Father.”

The Dispute

John 10:19-21

A division occurred again among the Jews because of these words. Many of them were saying, “He has a demon and is insane. Why do you listen to Him?” Others were saying, “These are not the sayings of one demon-possessed. A demon cannot open the eyes of the blind, can he?”

Jesus' Argument

If I do the works of My Father,
believe what the works are telling you.

John 10:37-38

“If I do not do the works of My Father, do not believe Me;

but if I do them, though you do not believe Me,
believe the works, so that you may know and understand
that the Father is in Me, and I in the Father.”

Jesus' Argument

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“If I do not do the works of My Father, do not believe Me;
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“If I do not do the works of My Father, do not believe Me;
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Jesus' works proved, not only that He was not demon possessed, but that He was so identified with the Father as to be able to claim perfect unity with Him.

Who is He?

How had Jesus made His identity known?

What did Jesus claim about Himself?

Why didn't they believe Him?



John 10:25

Jesus answered them,

“I told you, **and [*yet*] you do not believe;**

the works that I do in My father’s name,
these testify of Me.”

Why?

Why didn't they believe Him?

Because they were not of His sheep.

John 10:26-27

“But **you do not believe**

because you are not of My sheep.

My sheep hear My voice, and I know them,
and they follow Me.”

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Their persistent disbelief demonstrated
that they did not belong to His fold.

Why didn't they believe Him?

Because they were not of His sheep.

Because they were deaf to His voice.

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and they follow Me.”

Matthew 11:15

“He who has ears to hear, let him hear.”

Psalm 40:6

“My ears You have opened.”

Isaiah 35:5

“Then the eyes of the blind will be opened
And **the ears of the deaf will be unstopped.**”

They did not believe because
they did not have ears to hear.

Who is He?

How had Jesus made His identity known?

What did Jesus claim about Himself?

Why didn't they believe Him?

What will happen to them?



John 10:27

“My sheep hear My voice, and I know them,
and they follow me; and I give eternal life to them,
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and they follow me; and I give eternal life to them,
and they **will never perish.**”

Those who are not His sheep,
who do not believe, ***will perish!***

Just as the joys of this life are
foretastes of heaven, so the
horrors are foretastes of hell.

Concluding Questions

Do you believe that Jesus is the Christ,
the Son of the living God?

Are you listening to Him
and following Him?

Listen to Him! Follow Him!

He will not turn you away!