

# WHO IS THIS MAN CALLED JESUS?

## INTRODUCTION

1. Text: Acts 10:38-44.
2. Who is the man called Jesus Christ?  
*“That a few simple men should in one generation have invented so powerful and appealing a personality, so lofty an ethic and so inspiring a vision of brotherhood, would be a miracle far more incredible than any recorded in the Gospels.”* — Will Durant
3. One thing that cannot be denied, even by modern scholarship, is that Jesus of Nazareth is a real historical character.
  - a. Roman historians of the day (Thallus, Tacitus, Pliny, and Seutonius) all make reference to Jesus of Nazareth.
  - b. The Jewish Talmud makes several references to “Yeshu’a of Nazareth,” although in a negative light.
  - c. Josephus – “And there arose about this time Jesus, a wise man, if indeed we should call him a man; for he was a doer of marvelous deeds, a teacher of men who receive the truth with pleasure. He drew over to him both many of the Jews and many of the Gentiles. And when Pilate, at the suggestion of the principle men among us, had condemned him to the cross, those who loved him at the first ceased not to do so. And the race of Christians, so named from him, are not extinct, even now.”
5. *“I know men; and I tell you that Jesus Christ is no man. Superficial minds see a resemblance between Christ and the founders of empires, and the gods of other religions. That resemblance does not exist. There is between Christianity and whatever other religions the distance of infinity...”* — Napoleon Bonaparte
6. “What do you think of Christ?” – Matthew 22:42.
7. **LEAD STATEMENT: FROM THE TEXT, WE OBSERVE...**

## I. THE PERSONAL TESTIMONY OF THE SAINTS

- A. v. 39 – “we are witnesses...”
  1. Of what did they testify?
  1. His Virtuous Life – v. 34-38.
  2. His Vicarious Death – v. 39.
  3. His Victorious Resurrection – v. 40-41.

## II. THE PROPHETIC WITNESS OF THE SCRIPTURES

- A. v. 43.
- B. The Old Testament was written by many different authors, over a period of 1500 years, but there is an amazing cohesion, and His name is Jesus!

- C. Luke 24:44 – “*all things which are written about Me in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms must be fulfilled.*”
- D. Peter Stoner (10<sup>17</sup>).

### **III. THE POWERFUL CONFIRMATION OF THE SPIRIT**

- A. v. 44ff.
- B. Jesus’ miracles were performed by the Spirit of God – Matthew 12:28.
- C. Acts 2:22 + John 20:30-31.

### **CONCLUSION**

1. Colossians 1:15-19.
  - a. Jesus alone Reveals the Father (1:15).
  - b. Jesus alone Rules the Universe (1:16-17).
  - c. Jesus alone Reconciles the Lost (1:19).
2. You can trust in Jesus!
3. Do you believe that Jesus Christ is the only way to heaven?
4. Appeal.