

BIBLE LIFE MESSAGES

Can It Be Proven - Jesus is God?

John 5:31-40

¹ Can it be proven that Jesus is God?

One of the best scripture passages to answer this question is found in the Gospel of John, chapter 5, verses 31 through 40. ²

If I testify about myself, my testimony is not valid. There is another who testifies in my favor, and I know that his testimony about me is valid. ¹ ³

You have sent to John and he has testified to the truth. Not that I accept human testimony; but I mention it that you may be saved. John was a lamp that burned and gave light, and you chose for a time to enjoy his light. ² ⁴

I have testimony weightier than that of John. For the very work that the Father has given me to finish, and which I am doing, testifies that the Father has sent me. And the Father who sent me has himself testified concerning me. You have never heard his voice nor

¹ John 5:31-32.

² John 5:33-35.

seen his form, nor does his word dwell in you, for you do not believe the one he sent. ³ ₅

You diligently study the Scriptures because you think that by them you possess eternal life. These are the Scriptures that testify about me, yet you refuse to come to me to have life. ₆

In a court of law, both ancient and modern, **four types of evidence can be entered for consideration: the testimony of an eyewitness, material evidence, the testimony of an authority and previously accepted truth.**

The fact that Lord Jesus was God in flesh can be supported by all four types of admissible evidence! ₇

The first admissible type of evidence is . . .

³ John 5:36-38.

I. An Eyewitness – John the Baptist – v33-35

An eyewitness, John the Baptist. ⁸

After the Lord was baptized . . . John gave this testimony: “I saw the Spirit come down from heaven as a dove and remain on him. I would not have known him, except that the one who sent me to baptize with water told me, ‘The man on whom you see the Spirit come down and remain is he who will baptize with the Holy Spirit. I have seen and I testify that this is the Son of God.’” ⁴ John was the eyewitness! ⁹

Although this evidence was admissible in a Jewish court of law, the religious leaders rejected it! It was rejected without any valid reason. ¹⁰

It was rejected only because it didn’t harmonize with their preconceived logic and traditions. ¹¹ It was also rejected because Lord Jesus was becoming a threat to their positions as religious authorities. He was

⁴ John 1:32-34.

gaining a large following, but He didn't agree with them! ¹²

If a statement doesn't make sense to you do you automatically reject it?

Each of us has our own bias. ¹³ For instance, to an evolutionist creation doesn't make sense. They claim that they have scientific evidence, mainly fossils, to prove that they are right. But they are opposed by equally credible scientists who believe in biblical creation. They can look at the same evidence and draw different conclusions. Each group interprets the evidence based on their preconceived bias. ¹⁴

To most of us, God's unconditional love for underserving mankind doesn't make sense. Does God's sacrifice of His only Son on the cross make sense? That is an expression of love far beyond the imagination of most of us! ¹⁵

There are some things in life that don't seem to make sense you just have to accept by faith! ¹⁶

The second admissible type of evidence is . . .

II. Concrete Evidence – The Miracles – v36

Concrete evidence, the miracles! ¹⁷

A prime example is John, chapter 5, verses 1 through 9, Some time later, Jesus went up to Jerusalem for a feast of the Jews. Now there is in Jerusalem near the Sheep Gate a pool, which in Aramaic is called Bethesda and which is surrounded by five covered colonnades. Here a great number of disabled people used to lie — the blind, the lame, the paralyzed. One who was there had been an invalid for thirty-eight years.⁵ ¹⁸

When Jesus saw him lying there and learned that he had been in this condition for a long time, he asked him, “Do you want to get well?” Sir,” the invalid replied, “I have no one to help me into the pool when the water is stirred. While I am trying to get in, someone else goes down ahead of me.” Then Jesus

⁵ John 5:1-6.

said to him, “Get up! Pick up your mat and walk.” At once the man was cured; he picked up his mat and walked. ⁶ ₁₉

Jesus had just performed a miracle the religious leaders couldn't deny. It was the healing of a local man who had been paralyzed thirty-eight years!

This miracle was concrete evidence! Couldn't it be recognized as admissible evidence in court? ²⁰ The purpose of miraculous signs was to give authority to Jesus and His message! ²¹

If the Bible is true, then Jesus did only things God could do! ²²

Only God can heal instantaneously! Medical doctors and pharmaceutical companies, as important as they are to us, may contribute to the healing process. But only God can do the actual healing.

Notice some of the instances in which Lord Jesus provided healing. ²³ He healed a man blind from birth

⁶ John 5:7-9.

instantly! ⁷ ₂₄ He healed an infirm woman instantly! ⁸ ₂₅

He healed the Centurion's servant instantly! ⁹ ₂₆

Only God can raise the dead! ₂₇

He raised the widow of Nain's son ¹⁰ and ₂₈ Lazarus! ¹¹

₂₉

The third admissible type of evidence is . . .

III. The Testimony of an Authority – The Heavenly Father – _{v37-38}

The testimony of an authority, the Heavenly Father! ₃₀

The Heavenly Father spoke at the Lord's baptism. As soon as Jesus was baptized, he went up out of the water. At that moment heaven was opened, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and lighting on him. And a voice from heaven said, "This

⁷ John 9:1-7.

⁸ Luke 8:40-48.

⁹ Luke 7:11-18.

¹⁰ Luke 7:11-18.

¹¹ John 11:38-44.

is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased.”¹²

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The Heavenly Father spoke at the Lord's transfiguration. While he was still speaking, a bright cloud enveloped them, and a voice from the cloud said, “This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased. Listen to him.”³²

In Hebrews, chapter 1, verse 5, in referring to Jesus, it says, For to which of the angels did God ever say, “You are my Son; today I have become your Father”? Or again, “I will be his Father, and he will be my Son”?³³ This is a reference to the prophecies in the Old Testament to the Heavenly Father's statements, I will proclaim the decree of the Lord: He said to me, “You are my Son; today I have become your Father,”¹³ ³⁴ I will be his father, and he will be my son,¹⁴ ³⁵ And I will be his father, and he will be my son.¹⁵ ³⁶

¹² Matthew 3:16-17.

¹³ Psalm 2:7.

¹⁴ II Samuel 7:14.

¹⁵ I Chronicles 17:13.

The fourth admissible type of evidence is . . .

IV. Previously Accepted Truth – The Bible –

v39-40

Previously accepted truth, the Bible. ³⁷

These religious leaders accepted the Old Testament section of the Bible as God's word. ³⁸ There are at least three hundred prophecies in the Old Testament concerning Jesus there. ³⁹ They were all fulfilled by Jesus before His death and resurrection! ⁴⁰

In addition, there was the Talmud. ⁴¹ This was the recognized authoritative Jewish commentary of the Old Testament. It came to be valued during ancient times as an authoritative extension of scripture. The rules and traditions in this document were taught and obeyed in addition to what the Bible itself prescribed. The Talmud's basic premise says, "Only knowledge of the Law can bring life". ⁴² These leaders believed God's life and direction came through scriptural knowledge. ⁴³

Lord Jesus said God's life comes through Him Whom the scriptures revealed. Himself! ¹⁶

Do you believe the Bible but haven't committed your life to the One the Bible reveals as Lord? ⁴⁴

Jesus is God. That's a fact! ⁴⁵

Why is this important? Because He Who made you wants you to choose a relationship with Him so badly that He suffered and died to make you His child! ⁴⁶

Do you care enough to give your life to Him?

<http://www.biblelifemessages.org>

¹⁶ John 5:39-40 - You diligently study the Scriptures because you think that by them you possess eternal life. These are the Scriptures that testify about me, yet you refuse to come to me to have life.