
WEEK 05: WHO DID JESUS CLAIM TO BE (SON OF GOD)

TOPIC TO BE COVERED:

- What did Jesus Christ say?
- What did Jesus Christ do?

CHRIST IN THE QURAN:

- Let us first look in the Quran to see what it says about Jesus.
- *They have certainly disbelieved who say that Allah is Christ, the son of Mary. Say,*
Sura 5:17
 - “They” is referring to Christians
 - The Quran mentions Christians by names several times.
- *The Messiah, son of Mary, was not but a messenger; [other] messengers have passed on before him. And his mother was a supporter of truth.* ***Sura 5:75***
 - As we have seen Jesus is a Messenger of God.
- *[The Day] when Allah will say, "O Jesus, Son of Mary, remember My favor upon you and upon your mother when I supported you with the Pure Spirit and you spoke to the people in the cradle and in maturity; and [remember] when I taught you writing and wisdom and the Torah and the Gospel;* ***Sura 5:110***
 - All of the things which Jesus did was with the command of Allah.
- *And [beware the Day] when Allah will say, "O Jesus, Son of Mary, did you say to the people, 'Take me and my mother as deities besides Allah ?'" He will say, "Exalted are You! It was not for me to say that to which I have no right. If I had said it, You would*

have known it. You know what is within myself, and I do not know what is within Yourself. Indeed, it is You who is Knower of the unseen. Sura 5:116

- This poses a theological problem.
 - Other prophets have sinned (i.e. David)
 - But their fall did not result from their obedience
- *I said not to them except what You commanded me - to worship Allah, my Lord and your Lord. And I was a witness over them as long as I was among them; but when You took me up, You were the Observer over them, and You are, over all things, Witness. Sura 5:117*
- *If You should punish them - indeed they are Your servants; but if You forgive them - indeed it is You who is the Exalted in Might, the Wise. Sura 5:118*

CHRIST – THE SON OF GOD

The Parables of the Tenants

- In this parable we can clearly see that Christ saw Himself as the Son of God

“He had one left to send, a son, whom he loved. He sent him last of all, saying, ‘They will respect my son.’” **Mark 12:1-9**

 - The symbolic meanings are as follows:
 - The vineyard = Israel
 - Owner = God
 - Tenants = Jewish religious leaders
 - Servants = prophets (prophets from the OT)
 - Beloved son = _____

- Ex: when we reject Jesus, we are the ones who are losing.

SON OF GOD VS GOD'S SONS

- We are all God's sons, but Christ is His Unique Son:
 - *Jesus replied, "If I glorify myself, my glory means nothing. My Father, whom you claim as your God, is the one who glorifies me. **John 8:54***
 - Christ acknowledges the "Father" as God
 - Notice: Christ says "My Father" but then responds by saying "your God"
 - *"The reason my Father loves me is that I lay down my life—only to take it up again." **John 10:17***
 - Continues to use the phrase "my Father" as opposed to "our father"

CHRIST AFFIRMING HIS DIVINITY

- People like Dr. Zakir Naik ask where in the bible does Christ mention that He is God.
 - Or a verse where He says: "Worship me"
 - Ex: what's the proper greeting?
- Sermon of the Mount (Matthew 5-7):
 - ***You have heard what was said** to people who lived long ago. They were told, 'Do not commit murder. Anyone who murders will be judged for it.'²² **But here is what I tell you.** Do not be angry with a brother or sister. **Matthew 5:21-22***
 - ***You have heard that it was said,** 'Do not commit adultery.'²⁸ **But here is what I tell you.** Do not even look at a woman in the wrong way. **Matthew 5:27-28***

- ***It has been said***, ‘Suppose a man divorces his wife. If he does, he must give her a letter of divorce.’³² ***But here is what I tell you***. Anyone who divorces his wife makes her a victim of adultery. **Matthew 5:31-32**
 - students speak on authority of teachers
 - Teachers speak on authority of prophets (who wrote the bible)
 - Prophets speak on authority of God
- Christ demanded that people follow/serve Him:
 - *Whoever serves me must follow me; and where I am, my servant also will be.* **John 12:26**
- He equates Himself with the Father:

Philip said to Him, “Lord, show us the Father, and it is sufficient for us.” Jesus said to him, “Have I been with you so long, and yet you have not known Me, Philip? He who has seen Me has seen the Father; so how can you say, ‘Show us the Father’? ¹⁰ ... Believe Me that I am in the Father and the Father in Me, or else believe Me for the sake of the works themselves. **John 14:8-11**

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

- If Christ is con-substantial with God the Father (He is equally divine as the Father) why did he say:
 - *I am going away and coming back to you.’ If you loved Me, you would rejoice because I said,^[e] ‘I am going to the Father,’ for My Father is greater than I.* **John 14:28**

- When He says “greater,” he indicates that his divinity can be equaled to that of the Father, **since he is of the same substance with him**, but the Father is **greater because the Son accepted a body**
- Let us acknowledge the twofold substance of Christ:
 - the divine -- He is equal with the Father,
 - the human - in respect to which the Father is greater.
 - And yet at the same time both are not two, for Christ is one.
- *“However, no one knows the day or hour when these things will happen, not even the angels in heaven or the Son himself. Only the Father knows.*

Matthew 24:36

- He is also showing His humanity by declaring that the Son does not know.
- Christ foresaw the questions in regards to the day of judgement
 - Ex: “something big will be happening”