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Mark 8:38 Whosoever shall be ashamed of me Romans 14:11 every knee shall bow to me Acts 5:20 Go, stand and speak Luke 12:49 I am come to cause division 1 Timothy 3:16 God was manifest in the flesh Psalm 103:3 Who forgives all your sins 1 Corinthians 10:31 Do all to the glory of God Hebrews 5:9 author of eternal salvation John 6:68 Lord, to whom shall we go?

1 We all can say of Jesus what the apostle said— AV Matthew 16:16 "Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God"

2 But if we say that and believe that, we must also *prove* that we *know* Him by the *words* we use and the *treatment* we give others.

3 Knowing who Jesus is goes beyond just giving our opinion of Him-because really knowing He is the Son of the living God means trusting Him in faith to heal us, deliver, protect, and change our attitudes to be what He wants us to

be. He gave His life on the cross, so our life would be different in this world.

4 Jesus promised AV Matthew 12:20 A bruised reed shall he not break, but He will restore us when we feel dejected and depressed; And smoking flax shall he not quench, but He will ignite our energy and strength when we feel unable to go on.

5 Stating in words who we believe Jesus to be, can inform others who Jesus is, and then we can prove that our acting faith in the Son of the living God is valid trust on His divine power!

6 We should not be ashamed of our faith in Jesus but be ready to prove by our life that He is Lord and Master of it! NKJV Matthew 10:33 "But whoever denies Me before men, him I will also deny before My Father who is in heaven."

7 If we are not alert, we can, all too quickly, deny Jesus by how we treat someone or what we say to them. NIV James 3:5 "The tongue is a small part of the body, but it makes great boasts. Consider what a great forest is set on fire by a small spark."

8 He goes on to say 6 "The tongue also is a fire, a world of evil among the parts of the body. It corrupts the whole person, sets the whole course of his life on fire, and is itself set on fire by hell."

9 Jesus asked His disciples AV Mark 8:27 "Whom do men say that I am?" because He knows that everyone will have to answer that question at some point-either here or on the other side.

10 AV Romans 14:11 "As I live, saith the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall confess to God. 12 So then every one of us shall give account of himself to God."

11 Not many in this world make the choice to accept Jesus; not many want to obey Him, and even fewer are willing to surrender their life and attitudes to Him. Many factors can make people hesitate in saying who Jesus is-being fearful of criticism or being left out.

**12** NKJV Matthew 10:34 "Do not think that I came to bring peace on earth. I did not come to bring peace but a sword." NKJV Luke 12:51 "Do you suppose that I came to give peace on earth? I tell you, not at all, but rather division."

13 True faith and trust in Jesus will cause *strife* and division among people. Not everyone wants to obey Him and not many are willing to surrender their life to Him-but everyone will decide one way or the other at some point.

14 When Jesus asked His disciples AV Matthew 16:15 "Whom say ye that I am?"—it became personal-no sitting on the fence-either they really knew who He was and were willing to obey and follow Him, or they didn't really know Him and would have to *learn* more.

15 Jesus had asked the group who He was, but Simon Peter is the one that speaks up. Simon knew there is a time to stand up and speak up for the Lord, as there is a time to let our belief in Jesus be heard by our words or seen by our actions.

16 When the angel released Simon Peter from prison, he told him AV Acts 5:20 "Go, stand and speak in the temple to the people all the words of this life."

17 When the apostle said *Jesus is the Christ*, he was pointing out His divinity-as God incarnate who took on flesh to pay our sin-debt at Calvary. That is a *major* point, because Satan has many false messiahs speaking false messages today.

**18** There is only *One Jesus* who is the *One God* of the universe. AV **1** Timothy **3:16** "*Without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: God was manifest in the flesh, justified in the Spirit, seen of angels, preached unto the Gentiles, believed on in the world, received up into glory."* 

**19** The resurrection of Jesus is *central* to our faith in God. We must always be *alert*, because walking away from the Lord has happened before. We are either walking *toward* the cross or walking *away* from it. AV John 6:66 *"From that time many of his disciples went back, and walked no more with him."* 

**20** If we are to *prove* He is the Messiah and the Lord of our life, we will have to *live* by His Words and *prove* that His power will heal, deliver, protect, and guide the believer today.

**21** Since His disciples *knew* He was *the Son of the living God*, they would *not* walk away but would *stay* and *listen* and *live* the Truth He spoke. It takes *real faith* to do that—and to *prove* He is God Incarnate.

**22** We must *never* turn back to the world's way of living and talking and responding to people. AV Luke 9:62 "*No man, having put his hand to the plough, and looking back, is fit for the kingdom of God.*"

**23** It does *not* matter what *others* think of us, but it *does* matter who *we* think *Jesus* is! At some time, everyone will stand before the *Judge* of all—*the Son of the living God*—and it is *not* a time to be giving *wrong* answers.

**24** We might give wrong answers on a test, but when meeting one-on-one with the Lord Jesus, the *correct* answer is paramount! God is helping

us *know* who Jesus is—and when we *know* Him, we will see *changes* in our *attitudes* and changes in how we *treat* people.

**25** A Christlike attitude is the *gauge* and the *indicator* to show if we are following Christ and proving our sincerity to AV 1 Corinthians 10:31 "Do all to the glory of God."

**26** Jesus asked the question of His disciples because the Cross was just ahead, and He didn't want them walking away *after* the crucifixion. Jesus was so much *more* than a prophet—He was *God* taking *everyone*'s place on the cross, to forgive everyone's sins in the world.

**27** The question: *Who Do You Say Jesus Is*—searches our heart and *compels* us to *accept* Him and *obey* Him as Lord or deny Him and follow the world in unbelief. But Jesus AV **Hebrews 5:9** *"Being made perfect, he became the author of eternal salvation unto all them that obey him."* 

**28** The prophet explains that Jesus is the Christ, the Anointed One, and long-awaited Messiah. AV Isaiah 9:6 *"His name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God."* 

**29** He it is NIV **Psalm 103:3** *"Who forgives all your sins and heals all your diseases, 4 who redeems your life from the pit and crowns you with love and compassion."* 

**30** Knowing who Jesus is and accepting His Gospel message as our doctrine for this life, enables us to say AV Matthew 16:16 "*Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God*"—who *forgives* you, *heals* you, *redeems* your soul, and *gives* you a crown of righteousness!

**31** The resurrection of Jesus sets Him apart from all other religious leaders. NIV **1** Corinthians 15:20

"Christ has indeed been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep."

**32** When Jesus asked His disciples if *they* too wanted to leave Him AV John 6:68 "Simon Peter answered him, Lord, to whom shall we go? thou hast the words of eternal life. 69 And we believe and are sure that thou art that Christ, the Son of the living God."

**33** When we really *know* who Jesus is—big *changes* in our life will be seen, and *huge* changes in our attitudes will be obvious.

**34** How we conduct ourselves around others is to be a *witness* for the Lord Jesus and an *indicator* of the truthfulness of our statement: *Thou art that Christ, the Son of the living God!* 

**35** *Knowing* Him and *proving* He is our Savior and King is the first step to moving into our *eternal residence*!



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