

# **What Think Ye Of Christ?**

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## I. Matthew 22:41-46.

A. Jesus Christ is Christianity, or Christianity is Christ.

1. Paul's epistle to the Romans begins with God's Son.

2. The origin of a church is not in an idea, but in a man.

a. Almost any religion can be traced back to an idea.

b. On the other hand, you can pinpoint generally the places that Christ actually walked and the historical people that He interacted with.

B. It is not the church that has kept the church alive, but Jesus who keeps the church alive.

C. The question of whether or not Jesus was the Christ or not was not settled at that time, but it is now with the resurrection.

## II. A practical question: what do you think of Christ?

A. We answer it by the response that you make to His gospel.

1. Jesus is a historical figure, and we have to do something about Him.

2. There is no middle ground: he that is not with Jesus is against him.

B. Responses.

1. A negative response.

a. Some ignore Jesus.

b. Although this may seem to be doing nothing, it is actually doing something.

2. An intellectual response.

a. Jesus was perfect and beautiful - no flaw is found in Him.

b. He stands out from all other figures in the Bible.

3. An emotional response.

a. One can become sentimentally religious and never have been born again.

4. The moral response.

- a. Some people believe in the morality of Jesus and in the high moral values of the church.
- b. They find that some of teachings are extreme, but they still see something beautiful about the high moral teachings.
- c. There is something altogether different about being a Christian and carrying your cross.

5. The spiritual response.

- a. The true Christian sees all other things that are beautiful about Jesus, but they see Him first through his own sin in a spiritual sense.
- b. There is first a recognition of sin and a proper response to it - true repentance.
- c. He breaks off with the sinning process, changes his life and becomes another man.
- d. He cries out to Jesus and surrenders himself to Jesus.
- e. He has seen the saving power of Jesus and attaches himself to Him.
- f. This is the only one that will be saved.

C. Without Jesus we lose, and with Him we win.

- 1. There has to be a radical breaking.
- 2. This is profound and eternal - may God help us to make the right response.

**Application questions.**

1. Why is the question of how you respond to Christ still relevant?

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2. Describe one or two of the responses that do not lead to salvation. What is so deceptive about these? Explain.

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3. Have you had a spiritual response to Jesus Christ in order that you would be born again? If so, does your response to Jesus continue to be spiritual? If not, what is keeping you from responding to Jesus right now?

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