

I Am – God’s Son

In these days after Easter, many people are still wondering who Jesus was and why billions of Christians around the world worship him. *What made Jesus so great?* We answer that question in this next series of devotions, as Jesus makes his **Great I Am** statements. As we take a look at how the Son of God reveals himself in Scripture in various ways, we see the many and great characteristics of our Savior and Lord.

It would not be incorrect to say, “Every religion in the world believes in Jesus.” But it would be incorrect to say, “Every religion in the world believes Jesus is God’s Son.” If the previous two statements were confusing, let me clarify. There is no religion in the world that denies Jesus did not exist, that he was a real man who walked upon the earth, that had once been a real living being. In fact, many of the world’s religions even say Jesus was a great man, a righteous man, a prophet, even a great teacher. There is no religion that denies Jesus’ humanity. But the line is drawn in the sand, as only Christians believe that Jesus was more than just a man, that he was also the very Son of God, and God himself. Only Christians believe in Jesus’ divinity.

The Gospel writers dedicate their first chapters to Jesus’ birth, because it is where Jesus’ divinity took on his humanity to become our Savior. We see this in the virgin birth as God would conceive in Mary a child and in Mary’s womb the child would develop human flesh and blood to be born into this world. God was Jesus’ Father. It had to be done this way so Jesus could be conceived without sin, born without sin, and go on to live a perfect life. A perfect life Jesus would eventually give on the cross for the sins of the world. Our salvation could only come as the very Son of God would give his life in exchange for our own. *“Since the children have flesh and blood, he too shared in their humanity so that by his death he might break the power of him who holds the power of death—that is, the devil” (Hebrews 2:14).*

At the beginning of Jesus’ ministry, the heavenly Father gave witness at Jesus’ baptism, *“This is my Son, whom I love, with him I am well pleased” (Matthew 3:17).* At the end of Jesus’ ministry, the heavenly Father would again give witness at Jesus’ transfiguration, *“This is my Son, whom I love. Listen to him” (Luke 9:7).* On the cross just before his death, Jesus would declare to the world that he was God’s Son, *“Father, into your hands I commit my spirit.” When he had said this, he breathed his last” (Luke 23:46).*

When a group of unbelieving Jews had one day gathered around Jesus, they wanted to know what Jesus claimed about himself. Even though they had seen Jesus’ miracles, heard his teaching with authority, saw his perfect and righteous life, they still rejected him. As Jesus talked about his divinity, the Jews became irate and wanted to stone him for blasphemy, claiming to be God. But Jesus would present to them the truth, “I Am God’s Son.” This is still the confession of the Christian church today. May it continue to be the confession of faithful Christians everywhere, Jesus is the Son of God, and himself the eternal God, one with the Father and the Spirit without end.

Read **John 10:22-42** as today’s Scripture Lesson.

Blessings to you and your families,

Pastor Matthew Guse