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THE CLAIMS OF CHRIST

Reed John 5:19-27  
!

I. CLAIMS FOR HIMSELF

1. He claims the same honor we give to the Father, Jn 5:23

A. Made himself equal with God, Jn. 5:18

B. Eternal preexistence, Jn. 17:5 and Heb. 7:3

2. All power, Omnipotence, Mt. 28:18

3. Power to forgive sins, Mk. 2:10

4. Power to give eternal life, Jn. 17:2 & 11:26

5. Power to lay his life down & to take it again, Jn 10:18

6. Authority to execute judgment, Jn. 5:26, 27

7. A supreme Name before which all shall bow, Phil. 2:10

II. Claims to the Lost

(for all time)

1. That He is able to save to the uttermost, Heb. 7:25

2. Come & I will give rest for your souls, Mt. 11:28

3. Come for the water of Life, Rev. 22:17

4. Open the door & I will come in, Rev. 3:20

5. He claims our faith, of belief. Jn. 16:9

III. Claims to the Saved

1. Follow me & I will make you fishers of men, Mt. 4:18, 19

2. That nothing can separate us from his love, Rom. 8:39

3. Claims our devotion - (Our Heart/Selves)

A. Forsake all & follow him, Lk. 5:11

B. Deny self, take up cross, Mk. 8:34

C. Preeminent love for him, Mt. 10:37

4. Claims our loyalty - (Our Service) *see III by Man of Impulse*

A. Col. 3:17, Whatsoever ye do, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus

B. A prisoner of Jesus Christ, Philemon v.1

C. Ye call me Master & Lord; and ye say well, for so I am, Jn. 13:13

*no man can serve two masters.*

<sup>possessions</sup>  
5. Claims our obedience (See II by Plan as by Impulse)

Bk. Jn. 14:23, If a man love me,  
he will keep my words

A.E. Bringing every thought into captivity  
to the obedience of Christ, 2 Cor. 10:5.

(1) → obedience is the proof of love, v. 21

(2) there must be a change of heart  
before there is a change of life.

(3) God's friendship must come before  
God's service.

### CONCLUSION:

Will you claim Him as your  
Savior and Lord?

Don't make excuses, but come and  
receive Him and claim Him.  
(illustration of 33 men of crew  
of the submarine Squalus)

1st Lt. Bde. H. Ben. 28 May '61  
Gateway B.C. St. Pete. 22 Feb '81

Years ago the submarine Squalus sank and lay helpless at the bottom of the Atlantic Ocean, 240 feet below the surface. The crew sent up smoke flares and a buoy. They wondered if one of their sister ships might find them and rescue them. Their help must come from ABOVE? In agonizing silence they waited.

Soon after that fatal dive the submarine Sculpin set out in search. First the red smudge was found, then the buoy. But 24 hours passed before actual rescue work could be started. A giant ten-ton diving bell dipped and rose again and again, each time taking several men alive from those awful depths, until all 33 men who were alive in the submarine had been rescued.

When that huge diving bell came down for the Squalus crew, not one sailor refused to be rescued, but all gladly accepted the way to safety.

When the Sculpin sent down the ten-ton diving bell, not one of the 33 men said, "I will think it over," or "There are hypocrites on the Sculpin, AND I want nothing to do with them," or "I will wait for a more convenient season," Not one said, "I am in a good condition as I am," or "I will wait until I get married," or "There is too much to give up." Not one said, "I am waiting for a loved one or a friend," or "I do not understand the workings of the diving bell," or "Sometime I will," or "I don't feel like being rescued" or "Tomorrow I will ask rescue." Not one of them found fault with the Sculpin crew -- as some find fault with the preacher --. Not one of them said, "I can't hold out" or "Next year will be soon enough." All gladly accepted the way to safety.