

"What think ye of Christ?" - Mt. 22:42

Introduction: The average man of the streets doesn't ordinarily care to be bothered with theological questions. It is easy to ~~shrug~~ the shoulders and say, "What's the difference whether or not Jesus Christ was actually God or only a man?" Well, let's see, just what difference it really does make.

I. It Makes a Very Great Difference in the Trustworthiness of Jesus Christ.

A. Jesus claimed divine prerogatives.

1. He claimed to be able to forgive sins
2. He retained worship as God.
3. He exercised divine power & claimed omnipotence.
4. He said He always existed. "Before ab. was I am."
5. He said He was coming to judge the world at the end of the age.

8. He claimed to be God.

- He claimed to be God.
1. "But thou the Christ, the Son of the Blessed?"
Jesus said, "I am." — "Ye have heard His blasphemy."
2. Mt. 19:17. "What manner?"
"Why callest thou me good?"
"there is none good but one, that is, God."

C. 17 He was not mad, He was a liar, deceiver, dejected man, or a demon, and in any case, not to be trusted. Case 10 v. 45

1. Quote C.S. Lewis, Case for Xty, p. 45
2. a deceiver or a demon could never be the author and influencer of so much goodness.

II. It makes a very great difference in the dependability of the Holy Scriptures.

7. The Bible teaches the deity of Jesus Christ
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- The Bible teaches the deity of Jesus Christ
1. John 1:1, 14: "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth."
 2. John 1:18: "No man hath seen God at any time; the only begotten God... hath declared him." (many ancient authorities)

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3. Romans 9:5 - "Whose are the fathers, and of whom as concerning the flesh Christ came, who is ever God blessed for ever."
 4. Titus 2:13: "Looking for the blessed hope and glorious appearing of our great God and Saviour Jesus Christ."
 5. Hebrews 1:2-3 - "God... hath in these last days spoken unto us by His Son, whom He hath appointed heir of all things, by whom also He made the worlds; who being the brightness of His glory, and the express image of His person, and upholding all things by the word of His power."
 6. Hebrews 1:8: "Unto the Son he saith, 'thy throne, O God, is for ever and ever.'"
- B. If Jesus Christ isn't really God, then all these statements are erroneous, and the Bible is not worthy of our belief.

- III. It Makes a Very Great Difference in His Power to Save Us from our Sin.
- A. The death of a mere man would serve only as a martyr or example, but not as a Saviour.
 - B. God, the Judge Himself, must pay the price for man's sin in order for the guilty sinner to be pardoned.
 - C. Great scientist said, "The greatest discovery I ever made was that Jesus Christ is my personal Saviour."

Conclusion: "My Lord and My God."