

He Shall Be Called “Jesus”

1. What attitudes did the Jews have toward Jesus? What attitudes have you noticed that people have toward Jesus around Christmas time?
2. What does this passage teach about the relationship between Jesus and the Father? What does this tell you about Jesus’ deity? How does Christmas treat the deity of Christ?
3. Jesus refers to those who make a case for His position. How can we use the Christmas season to make a case for Jesus? What truths from this passage would be applicable?
4. The Jews had searched the Scriptures for eternal life (v. 39). What should they have discovered from the Scriptures? Have you encountered people who have searched the Scriptures and come up with the wrong conclusion?
5. Why do you think some people don’t honor Jesus (v. 41- 44)?
6. Jesus claimed that even Moses was a witness for Jesus. What are some things Moses wrote about Jesus?
7. How can the Christmas season be a testimony about Jesus?

¹⁶For this reason the Jews persecuted Jesus, and sought to kill Him, because He had done these things on the Sabbath. ¹⁷But Jesus answered them, “My Father has been working until now, and I have been working.”

¹⁸Therefore the Jews sought all the more to kill Him, because He not only broke the Sabbath, but also said that God was His Father, making Himself equal with God. ¹⁹Then Jesus answered and said to them, “Most assuredly, I say to you, the Son can do nothing of Himself, but what He sees the Father do; for whatever He does, the Son also does in like manner. ²⁰For the Father loves the Son, and shows Him all things that He Himself does; and He will show Him greater works than these, that you may marvel. ²¹For as the Father raises the dead and gives life to them, even so the Son gives life to whom He will. ²²For the Father judges no one, but has committed all judgment to the Son, ²³that all should honor the Son just as they honor the Father. He who does not honor the Son does not honor the Father who sent Him.

²⁴Most assuredly, I say to you, he who hears My word and believes in Him who sent Me has everlasting life, and shall not come into judgment, but has passed from death into life. ²⁵Most assuredly, I say to you, the hour is coming, and now is, when the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God; and those who hear will live. ²⁶For as the Father has life in Himself, so He has granted the Son to have life in Himself, ²⁷and has given Him authority to execute judgment also, because He is the Son of Man. ²⁸Do not marvel at this; for the hour is coming in which all who are in the graves will hear His voice ²⁹and come forth—those who have done good, to the resurrection of life, and those who have done evil, to the resurrection of condemnation. ³⁰I can of Myself do nothing. As I hear, I judge; and My judgment is righteous, because I do not seek My own will but the will of the Father who sent Me.

³¹If I bear witness of Myself, My witness is not true. ³²There is another who bears witness of Me, and I know that the witness which He witnesses of Me is true. ³³You have sent to John, and he has borne witness to the truth. ³⁴Yet I do not receive testimony from man, but I say these things that you may be saved. ³⁵He was the burning and shining lamp, and you were willing for a time to rejoice in his light. ³⁶But I have a greater witness than John’s; for the works which the Father has given Me to finish—the very works that I do—bear witness of Me, that the Father has sent Me. ³⁷And the Father Himself, who sent Me, has testified of Me. You have neither heard His voice at any time, nor seen His form. ³⁸But you do not have His word abiding in you, because whom He sent, Him you do not believe. ³⁹You search the Scriptures, for in them you think you have eternal life; and these are they which testify of Me. ⁴⁰But you are not willing to come to Me that you may have life.

⁴¹I do not receive honor from men. ⁴²But I know you, that you do not have the love of God in you. ⁴³I have come in My Father’s name, and you do not receive Me; if another comes in his own name, him you will receive. ⁴⁴How can you believe, who receive honor from one another, and do not seek the honor that comes from the only God? ⁴⁵Do not think that I shall accuse you to the Father; there is one who accuses you—Moses, in whom you trust. ⁴⁶For if you believed Moses, you would believe Me; for he wrote about Me. ⁴⁷But if you do not believe his writings, how will you believe My words?”

Christmas Drama: *An Unexpected Gift***Read: Matt. 1:18-2:12; Luke 2:1-20****Monday**

Matt. 1:18-23 — What unexpected thing did God do here? What thoughts do you imagine went through the minds of this couple? Do you think people were ready for God to be with them?

Tuesday

Lk. 2:1-7; Matt. 1:24,25 — What unexpected thing did God do here? What are other situations where God used unbelievers in His plan? Why did God move this couple to Bethlehem? Was it easy for Joseph to be obedient? What are some difficult tasks that God has asked of *you*?

Wednesday

Lk. 2:8-14 — What unexpected thing did God do here? Why did God give a sign to shepherds? What is the “peace” and “goodwill” the earth is to experience? Will it be experienced in the way people would expect?

Thursday

Lk. 2:15-20 — What unexpected thing did God do here? Would shepherds be likely messengers? How about you—what makes you a likely messenger? What do you think Mary “pondered in her heart”? What about the Christmas story causes you to ponder?

Friday

Matt. 2:1-6 — What unexpected thing did God do here? What did the religious leaders discover? Why is Bethlehem not the logical place for a king? What would a ruler/shepherd (v. 6) look like?

Saturday

Matt. 2:7-12 — What unexpected thing did God do here? Why do you think Herod wanted to know the location of the child? Whom did the Wise Men worship? What was unusual about their gifts? God used a star to get them to Bethlehem and a dream to send them back another way. Think about how creative God is.