

Who Is He?

by Bill Crews

Before His birth:

1. The angel, Gabriel, called Him the son of David, the Son of the Most High, the Son of God. His mother was Mary of Nazareth; she conceived Him by the power of the Most High. Luke 1:26-35
2. An angel informed Mary's husband-to-be, Joseph, that she had conceived a child by the power of the Holy Spirit, and that the child was to be called "*Jesus*" because He would save His people from their sins and "*Immanuel*" because He would be "*God with us*," God with men. Matthew 1: 18-23
3. Elisabeth, wife of Zacharias and kinswoman to Mary, called Him "*my Lord*." Luke 1:39-43 She freely acknowledged His superiority over her own son (John the Baptist).

Upon His birth:

4. An angel to the shepherds called Him "*a Savior, who is Christ the Lord*." Luke 2:8-11
5. Simeon, speaking to God in prayer, called Jesus God's "*salvation*," "*a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and the glory of Thy people Israel*." Luke 2:25-32
6. The wise men from the east called Him "*the king of the Jews*" and worshiped Him and gave Him gifts. Matthew 2:1-2, 11

As He began His ministry:

7. At His baptism by John the Father identified Him and approved of Him ("*this is my beloved Son in whom I am well pleased*"). Matthew 3:13-17
8. John the Baptist called Him "*the Lamb of God, that taketh away the sin of the world*" and testified of His superiority and His pre-earthly existence and called Him "*the Son of God*." He also corroborated the preceding point.
9. Andrew called Him "*the Messiah*" or "*the Christ*." John 1:40-41
10. Philip identified Him as "*him, of whom Moses in the law, and the prophets, wrote*." John 1:45
11. Nathanael called Him "*the Son of God*," "*the King of Israel*." John 1:49
12. Nicodemus called Him "*a teacher come from God*." John 3:1-2
13. The Samaritans called Him "*the Savior of the world*." They were convinced that He was the promised Messiah or Christ. John 4:39-42
14. Peter confessed Him to be "*the Christ, the Son of the living God*." Matthew 16:13-17
15. At His transfiguration the Father again spoke out of the heavens, confessed Him and endorsed Him ("*this is my beloved Son in whom I am well pleased; hear ye Him*") Matthew 17:1-5. Peter, who was there, years later adds his testimony to this. 2 Peter 1:16-18

16. Other testimonials:

- A. The blind man whom Jesus healed. He was asked, "*Dost thou believe on the Son of God?*" When Jesus identified Himself as the Son of God, he said, "*Lord, I believe*." Then he worshiped Jesus. John 9:35-38
 - B. Martha said, "Yea Lord; I have believed that thou art the Christ, the Son of God, even he that cometh into the world." John 11:27
 - C. Judas, who betrayed Him, confessed, "I have sinned in that I betrayed innocent blood." Matthew 27:3-4
 - D. Pilate had this inscription written above the head of the crucified Jesus: "This is Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews." Luke 23:4, 14-15; Matthew 27:24; John 19:4
 - E. The Centurion who was in charge of the three crucifixions said of Jesus, "Truly, this was the Son of God." Matthew 27:54
 - F. Thomas, one of the twelve apostles, when he finally saw the risen Jesus, said, "*My Lord, and my God*." John 20:28
17. To all of this we could add His own claims as to His identity, and the testimonial and preaching of the apostles and prophets in Acts and the epistles.
 18. The faith, trust, commitment, submission, loyalty of the apostles are shown by the lives they lived after His ascension and the descent of the Holy Spirit upon them. Each of them showed that he was willing to suffer and die for his testimony as to who Jesus was and is.