

# Learning To Listen To Jesus

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*Mark 9:2 (NIV) “After six days Jesus took Peter, James and John with him and led them up a high mountain, where they were all alone.(v.7) Then a cloud appeared and enveloped them, and a voice came from the cloud. ‘This is my Son whom I love. Listen To him!’”*

*John 10:27 “My sheep hear my voice and I know them, and they follow me”.*

*Luke 6:46 “And why call ye me, Lord, Lord, and do not the things that I say?”*

## **I. Introduction -**

Young man at wrecking yard **“Solomon just don’t believe like I do!” I believe just like Solomon...except--wives...Solomon was David’s great son! I am here to talk about David’s greater Son Jesus Christ...And I believe exactly like Jesus!**

### **Not all “Christians” do!**

D. James Kennedy “Many people today think that the essence of Christianity is Jesus’ teachings, but that is not so. Christianity centers not in the teachings of Jesus, but in the Person of Jesus as Incarnate God who came into the world to take upon Himself out guilt and die in our place.”

Les Feldick (radio) “The teachings of Jesus are not that relevant for us today, since he was speaking to Jews, who had the Law and the temple.”

Popular saying - **“If Jesus said it, I believe it, and that’s settles it! “But I say...”**

**Why? Because Jesus spoke the very words of God! For Proof:**

*(John 8:28) “...I do nothing of myself; but as my Father hath taught me, I speak these things”*

*(John 12:49) “For I have not spoken of myself; but the Father which sent me, he gave me a commandment, what I should say, and what I should speak”*

*(John 14:24) “...the word which ye hear is not mine, but the Father’s which sent me”*

*(John 12:48) “He that rejecteth me, and receiveth not my words, hath one that*

*judgeth him”*

*(Matthew 7:24) “Therefore whosoever heareth these sayings of mine, **and doeth them**, I will liken him unto a **wise man** which built his house upon a rock...”*

*(V.26) “ And every one that heareth these sayings of mine, **and doeth them not**, shall be likened unto a **foolish man...sand**”.*

**Look at this!** (*Road to Emmaus*)

*Luke 24:25* “Then he said unto them, O Fools and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken”. **Heart burn!**

**Look at - Mark 16:9-14 (v. 14)** “Afterward he appeared unto the eleven as they sat at meat, and upbraided them with their unbelief and hardness of heart, **because they believed not** them which had seen him after he was risen”. “**upbraid**” - Strong’s #3679 - “**rail**” rebuke severely - scold

## **II. A Follower of The Lamb**

*Revelations 14:1, 7* “And I looked, and lo a Lamb stood on Mount Zion, and with him 144,000, having his **Father’s name** written in their foreheads.’ (vs. 7) “There are they that follow the Lamb whithersoever he goeth”.

**What does it mean to be a follower of the Lamb?**

**Worship who he worships! Believe what he believed! Teach what he taught!**

**Martin Luther King** - 30ft. granite statue - Misquoted him! Fixed it!

**Those who loot- shoot police - shout “burn this sucker down!”** Not followers of his message of nonviolence.

**I am here to chisel away at doctrines that do not reflect the teachings of Jesus!**

**III. What Did Jesus Teach!** (Many times in N.T. called “teacher” or “Rabbi”.)

He spoke **1865** verses in N.T. - **not once** did he claim to be God.

184 times said “God” - **not once** was he speaking of himself. When I realized this--**I quit saying it!**

5 times he “gave thanks” for food. Who was he thanking?

**Pastor Bo Harris** (Oneness)- Luke 2:22 “to present him [Jesus] to the Lord”.

**But** - Most Trinitarians are really Oneness! Look at these statements:

(4-26-15) **Dr. Charles Stanley** - Preached on “The Great I Am!”-- **Jesus**

(3-30-15) **David Jeremiah** - (Radio) “The disciples knew the **Lord God** had come forth from the tomb”.

(2-6-15) **Franklin Graham** - on Hannity (twice) “The God I serve died on the cross for my sins”.

**Will Graham** (Franklin’s son) - (Radio) “God never told a lie - but he became a liar for me. God never killed anyone but he became a murderer for me. God became sin for me that I might become righteous”.

**Donnie Swaggart** “There is only one God and his name is Jesus Christ!”

**Baptizing drunk man!** “Did you find Jesus?” [**People need to find the Father of Jesus.**]

**Little girl** (new baby brother) “**I like him but his head is too loose!**”

**George B. Shaw** - “Beware of false information - It is more dangerous than ignorance!”

#### **IV. This is Serious Business - *Why?***

**II John 1:9 NIV** “**Anyone who runs ahead and does not continue in the teaching of Christ does not have God; whoever continues in the teaching has both the Father and the Son.**”

**Today's English Version** "Anyone who does not stay with the teachings of Christ, but goes beyond it, does not have God. Whoever does stay with the teaching has both the Father and the Son."

**James 3:1** "Brethren, not many of you should be teachers...more severely."

**Paul went to Jerusalem (after 14 years of ministry)**

**Galatians 2:1-2** "...lest by any means I had run in vain". **How Paul Saw Our Task**

*II Cor. 10:4-5* "For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strongholds; casting down **imagination**s, and every **high thing** that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the **obedience of Christ**".

*New English Bible* "...we demolish **sophistries** ("unsound - misleading but clever arguments") and **all** that rears its **proud head** against the knowledge of God (**Phillips** - "**true knowledge of God**"); We compel every human thought ("perception": - "belief") to **surrender in obedience to Christ**".

**Chisel!** Note - "every **high thing**".

## **V. What Jesus Said About:**

### **A. God -**

**Mark 12:29** "**Hear**, O Israel; The Lord our God...". **Hebrew Shama** (shaw-mah) Strong's #8085 - "**listen intelligently**"

*John 17:1, 3* "Father...the only true God".

*Matt. 18:10* "the **face** of my Father, which is in heaven"

*Matt. 5:8* "they shall **see** God".

**Jesus wants you to know his God!**

Why? *Job 22:21-29 (Read)*

**B. Himself - John 14:28** "...my Father is **greater** than I".

*John 15:1* "I am the true vine, and my Father is the husbandman".

*John 5:19* "the Son can do nothing of himself...". (v.30) "I can of mine own self do nothing". (v.31) "If I hear witness of myself, my witness is **not true**".

**John 4:26** "Messiah"

**80 times** Jesus said "Son of Man" **Anthropos** - "a human being".

Why? a miraculous "**Conception**" *Isaiah 7:14, Matt. 1:20, Luke 1:31, Luke 2:21*

**Harper - Collins Bible Dictionary** -- "It is only with the Fathers of the Church in the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> centuries that a full fledged theory of the Incarnation develops" (p.452-453).

**C. The Holy Spirit**

*Matt. 10:20* "**Spirit of your Father**"

*John 15:26* "proceedeth forth from the Father"

*Acts 1:5* "ye shall be baptized" (*Joel 2:28, Acts 2:17*) Something "poured out".

**D. Worship** (Jesus mentioned only on four occasions during his earthly ministry.)

1. *Matt. 4:10 - Luke 4:8* "It is written..."

2. *Mark 7:7* God through *Isaiah* "**In vain**..."

3. *John 4:23* "the true worshipers shall worship the **Father**" (Jesus' greatest lesson)

4. *Luke 14:10* (secondary worship) "then **thou shalt have worship**..." *I Chron. 29:20*

*Then in Revelation 3:9* (to saints) "**worship before thy feet**"

*John 5:41* “ I receive not **honor** from men”. Shocking!

*NIV* “I do not accept **praise** from men”

*God’s Word* - (Billy Graham Evang. Assn. Edition) - “**I don’t accept praise from humans**”.

*Holman CSB* “**I don not accept glory from men...**”

“**Worship**” (Not used once regarding Jesus **after** his ascension to heaven.)

**Worshiping God in the presence of Jesus!** Consider this:

4 places - *Revelation 5:14* (see 4:11); *7:11*; *11:15-17*; *19:4*

**E. Creation:** What Jesus said:

*Mark 10:6* “**God** made them...”

*Mark 13:19* “the Creation which **God** created”.

*Matthew 6:26* “**your heavenly Father** clothes the lilies”.

**F. The “word” Of God** - Jesus **never** once referred to himself as “the **incarnate word**”! What Jesus taught:

“The sower soweth the **word**. And these are they by the wayside, where the **word** is sown; but when they have **heard**, Satan cometh immediately, and taketh away the **word** that was **sown** in their hearts. And these are they likewise which are sown on stony ground; who when they have **heard the word**, immediately receive it with gladness... . And these are they which are sown among thorns; such as **hear the word**, and the cares of this world, and the deceitfulness, and the lusts of other things entering in, choke the word, and it becometh unfruitful. And these are they which are sown on good ground; such as **hear the word**, and receive it, and bring forth fruit...” (Mark 4:14-20).

**G. Prayer**

*Luke 11:2* “When you pray, **say, our Father...**” Not optional.

*Matt. 6:6* “**pray to thy Father** which is in secret...”

*John 16:16, 23 “And in that day ye shall ask me nothing”*

*Luke 22:32 “I have prayed for you, Simon...”*

## IV. Summary

### *Learning About God From Jesus*

- The following is a summary of what Jesus’ words and actions teach us regarding the identity of God.
- If Mary and Joseph took the baby Jesus to the temple “*to present him to the Lord* [God],” then he himself cannot be God (*Luke 2:22*).
- If Jesus as a boy “*increased...in favor with God*,” then he cannot be God (*Luke 2:52*).
- If Jesus said his Father is “*the only true God*” then he himself cannot be God. (*John 17:3*).
- If Jesus said “*Why callest thou me good, there is none good but one, that is God*,” he cannot be God (*Matt. 19:17*).
- If Jesus said “*I can of mine own self do nothing...If I bear witness of myself, my witness is not true*,” then he cannot be God (*John 5:30-31*).
- If Jesus said “*my Father is greater than I*,” he cannot be God, because **none can be “greater” than God** (*John 14:28*).
- If Jesus said “*I...am set down with my Father in his throne*” then he cannot be God (*Rev. 3:21*).
- If Jesus said, when Lazarus died in Bethany “*I was not there*,” then he cannot be God, for God is **omnipresent** (*John 11:15*). *God was there - but Jesus wasn’t!*
- If Jesus claimed the Father as “*my God*” **seven times in the N.T.**, he himself cannot be God (*Matt. 27:46; John 20:17; Rev. 3:12*). If Jesus claimed to be a “*man*” (Greek - anthropos “*a human being*”), again and again in Scripture, he cannot be God (*John 8:28, 40; 12:23*).
- If Jesus was “*driven by the Spirit into the wilderness*” and was “*forty days, tempted of Satan*” (*Mark 1:12-13*), then he cannot be God, for “*God cannot be tempted*” (*James 1:13*). If Jesus went to **his home town of**

**Nazareth** “*and he could there do no mighty work*” because of their unbelief, he cannot be God (*Mark 6:5-6*).

- If Jesus went to a **fig tree** seeing leaves, but not knowing if it had figs, then he cannot be God because **God knows all** (*Mark 11:13*).
- If Jesus did not have the authority to decide who would sit on his **right or left hand in his own kingdom**, and said it “*is not mine to give,*” then he cannot be God (*Matt. 20:23*).
- If Jesus did not have “*the times or the seasons*” in his power, then he cannot be God (*Acts 1:7*).
- If Jesus **left planet earth** to go to the Father, not knowing when he would return, then he cannot be God (*Matt. 24:36; Mark 13:32*).
- If Jesus did not know the **end-time events** as recorded in *Revelation*, until after he ascended to the Father and **God revealed them to him**, then he cannot be God (*Rev. 1:1*).
- **Every Christian** that says Jesus died on the cross is saying he is not God, because **God cannot die!** God is “*immortal*” which means “*deathless, incapable of dying.*” Jesus was mortal, “*appointed to death*” (*Heb. 9:27-28*). Ten thousand atomic bombs could not kill God!
- If **the disciples** who saw Jesus ascend to heaven in Acts chapter one, **did not pray to him in Acts chapter four**, then he cannot be God (*Acts 4:24-30*).
- If Jesus said “*I am the vine, ye are the branches*” and “*my Father is the husbandman*” [i.e. the farmer, owner of the vineyard], then he himself cannot be God (*John 15:1, 5*).
- If Jesus referred to himself as the “*Amen, the faithful and true witness, the beginning of the creation of God,*” then he cannot be God (*Rev. 3:14*).

## **VII. Conclusion: Why should we do this?**

**For our Father!** Rescued me in 1986!

*Malachi 1:6* “*A son honoreth his father and a servant honors his master: if I then be a father, where is mine honor...saith the Lord of hosts?*”

*Rom. 15:6* “That ye with **one mind and one mouth** glory God, even the Father of...”

*Eph. 5:19-20* “Giving thanks **always for all things** unto God and the Father in the name...”

### **For Jesus!**

*John 14:15* “If ye love me, keep my commandments”

I hear people **preaching** and **singing** about how they **love Jesus!**

**Let’s love him enough to do what he said!**

### **It will fix the world!**

*Fear of God!* (“Reverence which leads to obedience”)

*Psalms 111:10* “The fear of the Lord is the beginning of **wisdom**”

*Proverbs 1:7* “The fear of the Lord is the beginning of **knowledge**”.

*Proverbs 8:13* “The fear of the Lord is to **hate evil**”.

*Romans 3:18* “There is no **fear of God** before their eyes”.

Christianity has tried to convince the world that “God” is about six feet tall! “**No Fear**”

### **The Glory of God**

*Habakkuk 2:14* “For the earth shall be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the Lord (God), as the water cover the sea”.

*II Cor. 2:15* will be fulfilled! “For we are unto God **a sweet aroma of Christ...**”.

Note: “**Don’t judge each day by the harvest you reap - but by the seeds that you plant**”. - Robert Louis Stevenson