

Who Do You Say Jesus Is – 07 10 05

- Joshua Daniel

The gospel according to St. Mathew and the 16th chapter, 13th verse: When Jesus came into the costs of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, saying, whom do men say that I the son of man am?

And they said, some say that thou art John the Baptist: some, Elias; and others, Jeremiahs, or one of the prophets.

He saith unto them, but whom say you that I am?

And Simon Peter answered and said, thou are the Christ, the son of the living god.

Jesus answered and said unto him, blessed art thou, Simon Barjona: for flesh and blood has not revealed it unto you but my father which is in heaven.

And I say also unto you, that art peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.

And I will give unto you the keys of this kingdom of heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and what so ever though shalt loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.

Then charged he his disciples that they should tell no man that he was Jesus the Christ.

Now here was the big debate around the identity of the lord Jesus. Who is he? And you know the debate is once again brought into focus by magazines and so on at Christmas time, at Easter time. Is this real? Is this true? Is this Jesus? The Jewish nation will tell you NO. the Islamic people will tell you No, there is nothing like the son of god. The heathen will say oh we have got umpteen gods so do the spirit worshipers but the devils will say Jesus is the son of god because they believe and tremble. The identity! You know when I first saw my dad casting out evil spirits, when he would command them in the name of Jesus Christ to leave the person into what convulsions the person possessed of evil spirits would fall! Some would swoon, some would faint and then he would say, say victory to the blood of Jesus, the demon filled people would stutter and try to formulate the word Jesus blood but then they would be chocked. They would fall back chocking. As soon as they said those words they would be released, the demons would flee. If people

will not declare Jesus, the stones will cry out. The demons will have no difficulty in identifying the lord Jesus. You know the lord Jesus told us when an evil spirit leaves a person and that place is kept clean but empty, he goeth and taketh seven other spirits worse than the first and says Let us return to our home. Let us go home and when they come they find the place swept and garnished and they take possession of the person. Mission fields which never saw revival where Christ was never declared, where concessions were made even by missionaries to aboriginal practices like water divining things like that. But you know my dear friends, where ever the name of Jesus goes demons and all the accompanying works of darkness must flee. They have no other option. But here we are so feeble and fickle, you know easily distracted and as soon as some of our preachers receive a small measure of god's grace or gifts they become so complete in themselves, they detract from the glory of god and then seven other spirits worse than the first can take hold of them also. I find it very difficult to find folks who are really humble at heart, nothing in my hands I bring, simply to thy cross I cling, naked come to thee for dress, helpless look to thee for grace, foul I to the fountain fly, wash me savior or I die. You know we don't see our foulness and our wildness and we seem to be like little children gotten hold of a new toy. And we toy with a new toy for a while, that's all it is. So I have seen people lose their power, I have seen people depart from the word of god, I have seen people going to heathenism after once declaring Jesus. I can't believe it. All I can say is evidently it was self-interest or greed or something else which motivated them right from the beginning. That's it. No man can serve two masters! that settled. Jesus said it and whenever anybody attempts to do that he is going to flounder. The devil will torpedo him. Who do men say that I am? Jeremiahs, Elias or some of the prophet so on and so forth. But who do you say that I am. You know my dear friends, in declaring you are the Christ the son of the living god, you know you are confessing a truth which grips you, and you know it's not just an intellectual idea. Today most religion appears to be some kind of intellectual mishmash or even hogwash, just a bunch of rubbish put together and they call it religion. Let me tell you, religion has real marks, the first mark of god, the living god, this age has rejected including the Christian church. I'm talking about a church at large. What is it? Holiness! When you reject holiness unto god, you have rejected god. That is clear. You know people want to experiment with all kinds of things including a variety of wives, that's it. A man said to me when I was preaching in one city, he said I've got a wife and I found a teacher here and I married her. There are any number of women today who will grab a man and there are any number of men today who will use a woman and this seems to be alright

and anybody who raises up any objections to this kind of philandering and promiscuous living is supposed to be a phony, a fake. Now my dear friends any religious pretense without holiness is fake. When you acknowledge the lord Jesus, you immediately turn away from the heathen way of life. The religion seems to be appealing very much to many people today, well, they claim it's a fastest growing and so on, what is the fastest growing religion? The religion of the devil. But I don't see why the religion of a devil where people are in total misery and are oppressed beyond all the powers of human endurance. I can't see how anybody can be satisfied with the religion of the devil. Whom do men say that I am. Whom do you say that I am? Thou art Christ, thou art the king of kings, thou art the savior of the world, Thou art the one in whom I have redemption, without whom I am lost. When we acknowledge Jesus we acknowledge him with half our hearts. You know when I acknowledge Jesus, he is all that I want to live for and die for. Either you are a disciple who acknowledges your life, your salvation, your soul to the savior and owe him your all or otherwise you have some other lords. Other lords ruled over us, says the bible. Many other lords. Whom do you say that I am? Thou art the Christ. Thou art the one for whom I have been waiting, thou art the one for whom the ages have waited. Thou art the redeemer; thou art the one that has come to rescue me from my self, from my pride, from my arrogance. You have come for me. you are my lord.