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WHY SHOULD I BELIEVE JESUS IS GOD?

John 18:12-38

1 Peter 3:15, But in your hearts revere Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have.

* Revere – *hagiazo* - to consecrate or set apart
* We are called to live with \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_in our hearts for God! And to know the reasons for our reverence!
* Pluralism - a theory that there are more than one or more than two kinds of ultimate reality - Merriam Webster’s Dictionary

John 14:1-4, 1 “Do not let your hearts be troubled. You believe in God; believe also in me. 2My Father’s house has many rooms; if that were not so, would I have told you that I am going there to prepare a place for you? . . . 4You know the way to the place where I am going.”

John 14:5-6, 5 Thomas said to him, “Lord, we don’t know where you are going, so how can we know the way?” 6 Jesus answered, “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.”

What do Americans Believe about Jesus?

Five Popular Beliefs - The Barna Group

1. The vast majority of Americans believe Jesus was a real person.
2. Younger generations are increasingly less likely to believe Jesus is God.
3. Americans are divided on whether Jesus was sinless.
4. Most Americans say they have made a commitment to Jesus Christ.
5. People are conflicted between “Jesus” and “good works” as the way to heaven.

Matthew 7:13-14, 13 Enter through the narrow gate. For wide is the gate and broad is the road that leads to destruction, and many enter through it. 14But small is the gate and narrow the road that leads to life, and only a few find it.

Pontius Pilate’s View of Jesus

John 18:28-34; Luke 23:4, 14, 22

John 18:34-38, 34 “Is that your own idea,” Jesus asked, “or did others talk to you about me?” 35“Am I a Jew?” Pilate replied. “Your own people and chief priests handed you over to me. What is it you have done?” 36Jesus said, “My kingdom is not of this world. If it were, my servants would fight to prevent my arrest by the Jewish leaders. But now my kingdom is from another place.” 37“You are a king, then!” said Pilate. Jesus answered, “You say that I am a king. In fact, the reason I was born and came into the world is to testify to the truth. Everyone on the side of truth listens to me.” 38“What is truth?” retorted Pilate. With this he went out again to the Jews gathered there and said, “I find no basis for a charge against him.”

Why should we Believe Jesus is God?

1. Jesus claimed to be the Jewish \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

Luke 4:14-30

Luke 4:20-21, 20 Then he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant and sat down. The eyes of everyone in the synagogue were fastened on him. 21He began by saying to them, “Today this scripture is fulfilled in your hearing.”

Micah 5:2; Isaiah 7:14; Zechariah 11:11-13; Psalm 22:17-18

1. Jesus clearly said He was God.

John 8:23-24, 23 But he (Jesus) continued, “You are from below; I am from above. You are of this world; I am not of this world. 24I told you that you would die in your sins; if you do not believe that I am he, you will indeed die in your sins.”

Acts 4:12, “Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to mankind by which we must be saved.” - The Apostle Peter

Answers: reverence, Messiah

