Barry G. Johnson, Sr. / www.BarrysBureau.com

Understanding Your Religion / Jesus; Religion; A Witness

The main subject of the Bible record is not only the story of Jesus Christ but also a presentation of the reasons why He is considered the divine Son of God.

Seven Major Doctrines to Help Us "Understand Our Religion"

- 1. Inspiration of the Bible
- 2. Deity of Christ
- 3. Original Goodness
- 4. Fall of Man
- 5. Restoration of Man
- 6. Kingdom of God
- 7. Second Coming of Christ

Many theories about Jesus

Jewish _____



- I. The Bible's Central Theme
- Jesus is the main theme **throughout the Bible.**
- 1. The ______ sets a stage for Jesus' coming into the world.
- 2. The four Gospels are the ______ of His life, death, and resurrection.
- 3. The New Testament is a record of the ______ of His Apostles and church.

1st step in establishing His Divinity: What does the Bible say about Him?

• The Bible speaks concerning Jesus:

- _____ ____

II. Who is Jesus?

- _____ figure (Josephus Flavius)
- _____ man who lived in Israel 2000 yrs ago.
- Claimed He was the Jewish _____.
- _____ by Roman government for insurrection.
- ______established the Christian church.

III. Witness of the Apostles

1. Peter

Matthew 16:16 ESV

¹⁶ Simon Peter replied, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God."

Acts 3:14-15 ESV

¹⁴ But you denied the Holy and Righteous One, and asked for a murderer to be granted to you, ¹⁵ and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses.

What Peter concluded about Jesus:

2. Thomas

John 20:24-28 ESV

²⁴ Now Thomas, one of the twelve, called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵ So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see in his hands the mark of the nails, and place my finger into the mark of the nails, and place my hand into his side, I will never believe."

²⁶ Eight days later, his disciples were inside again, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." ²⁷ Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here, and see my hands; and put out your hand, and place it in my side. Do not disbelieve, but believe." ²⁸ Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!"

Thomas' experience

•

•

3. Paul

Acts 22:1-16 ESV

¹ "Brothers and fathers, hear the defense that I now make before you."

² And when they heard that he was addressing them in the Hebrew language, they became even more quiet. And he said:

³ "I am a Jew, born in Tarsus in Cilicia, but brought up in this city, educated at the feet of Gamaliel according to the strict manner of the law of our fathers, being zealous for God as all of you are this day. ⁴ I persecuted this Way to the death, binding and delivering to prison both men and women, ⁵ as the high priest and the whole council of elders can bear me witness. From them I received letters to the brothers, and I journeyed toward Damascus to take those also who were there and bring them in bonds to Jerusalem to be punished.

⁶ "As I was on my way and drew near to Damascus, about noon a great light from heaven suddenly shone around me. ⁷ And I fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to me, 'Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me?' ⁸ And I answered, 'Who are you, Lord?' And he said to me, 'I am Jesus of Nazareth, whom you are persecuting.' ⁹ Now those who were with me saw the light but did not understand the voice of the one who was speaking to me. ¹⁰ And I said, 'What shall I do, Lord?' And the Lord said to me, 'Rise, and go into Damascus, and there you will be told all that is appointed for you to do.' ¹¹ And since I could not see because of the brightness

of that light, I was led by the hand by those who were with me, and came into Damascus.

¹² "And one Ananias, a devout man according to the law, well spoken of by all the Jews who lived there, ¹³ came to me, and standing by me said to me, 'Brother Saul, receive your sight.' And at that very hour I received my sight and saw him. ¹⁴ And he said, 'The God of our fathers appointed you to know his will, to see the Righteous One and to hear a voice from his mouth; ¹⁵ for you will be a witness for him to everyone of what you have seen and heard. ¹⁶ And now why do you wait? Rise and be baptized and wash away your sins, calling on his name.'

Colossians 1:15–18 ESV

¹⁵ He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. ¹⁶ For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through him and for him. ¹⁷ And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together. ¹⁸ And he is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything he might be preeminent.

What Paul says about Jesus:

 of God 	 Agent of 	 of the church the resurrection
IV. Testimony of Jesus		
1. To Samaritan Woman-	John 4:25-26	
2. To Peter- Matthew 16:	15-17	
3. To Apostles- <u>Matthew 3</u>	28:18-20	
Among other things the Bible teaches that Jesus is:		
The Jewish	•	
• The of God	•	
•	•	_of Church
•	•	Authority

John the Apostle

John 20:30 ESV

³⁰ Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book;

John 21:25 ESV

²⁵ Now there are also many other things that Jesus did. Were every one of them to be written, I suppose that the world itself could not contain the books that would be written.