

Scenes of Discipleship: "Who Do You Say That I Am?"

Western Christadelphian
Bible School
Day #2

Scenes of Discipleship



Who do
you say
I am?

"And having responded, Simon Peter said 'You are the **Christ**, the **Son** of the **living God**'" (Matt. 16:16 DLNT)

"So the Jews gathered around him and said to him, 'How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the **Christ**, tell us plainly.' Jesus answered them, 'I told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father's name bear witness about me, but you do not believe because you are not among my sheep'" (Jn. 10:24-26 ESV)

"And here he is, speaking openly, and they say nothing to him! Can it be that the authorities really know that this is the **Christ**?" (Jn. 7:26 ESV)

No need for Christ

"They answered him, 'We are offspring of Abraham and have never been enslaved to anyone. How is it that you say, 'You will become free'?' (Jn. 8:33 ESV)

Wrong Goal

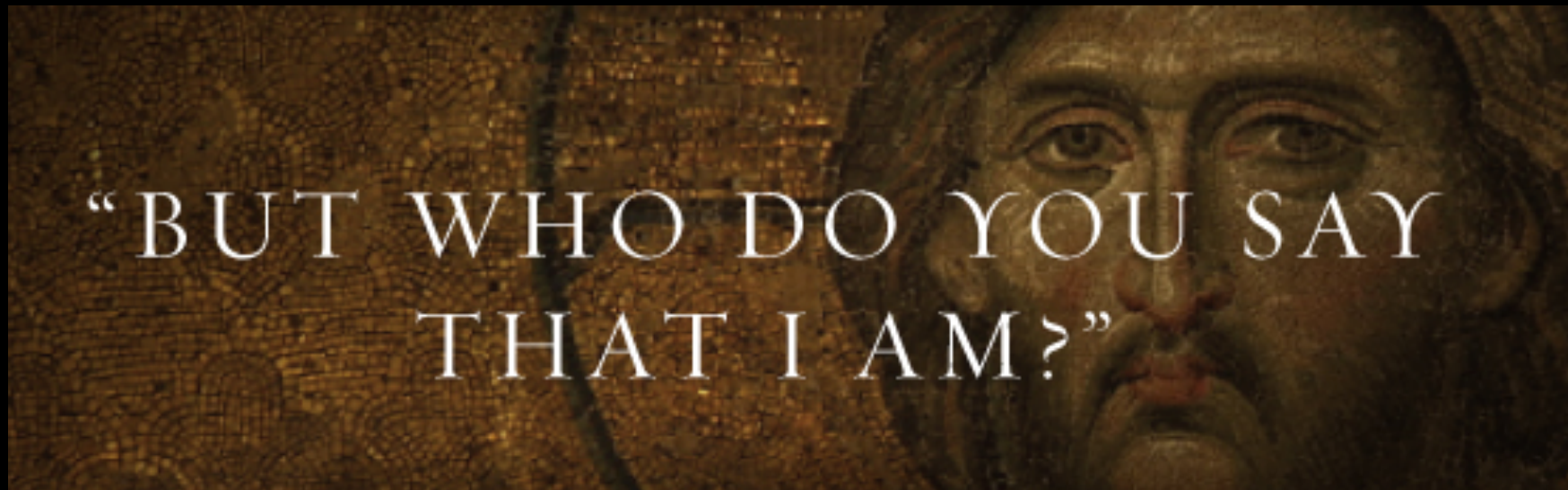
"They do all their deeds to be seen by others" (Matt. 23:5 ESV).

Familiarity Breeds Contempt

"No prophet is ever welcomed in his hometown" (Lk. 4:24 Message).

Disappointment with Reality

""And when his family heard it, they went out to seize him, for they were saying, 'He is out of his mind.'"" (Mk. 3:21 ESV)).



Why was this even a question for the 12?

John the Baptist

Signs performed

Not repentant

Head not heart

John 5

Scriptures

Moses

Receive glory from one another

Wrong foundation



For if you were
believing Moses, you
would be believing
Me, for that *one*
wrote about Me.

"Jesus did a very strange thing, which must have puzzled his supporters at the time...Traveling with only his closest *talmidim*, the Twelve, he continued north, towards Caesarea Philippi, built up by Herod Philip around the site of the temples to the god Pan and the emperor, and named by Philip to honor Caesar."

Bruce Chilton, *Rabbi Jesus*

"Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, 'Who do people say that the Son of Man is?' And they said, 'Some say John the Baptist, others say Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.' He said to them, 'But who do you say that I am?'" (Matt. 16:13-15 ESV)

Mark (8:27) suggests that Jesus asked the question on the way and individually.

Luke (9:18) states that Jesus was praying alone with his disciples when he asked the question.



The most important QUESTION

In the first century

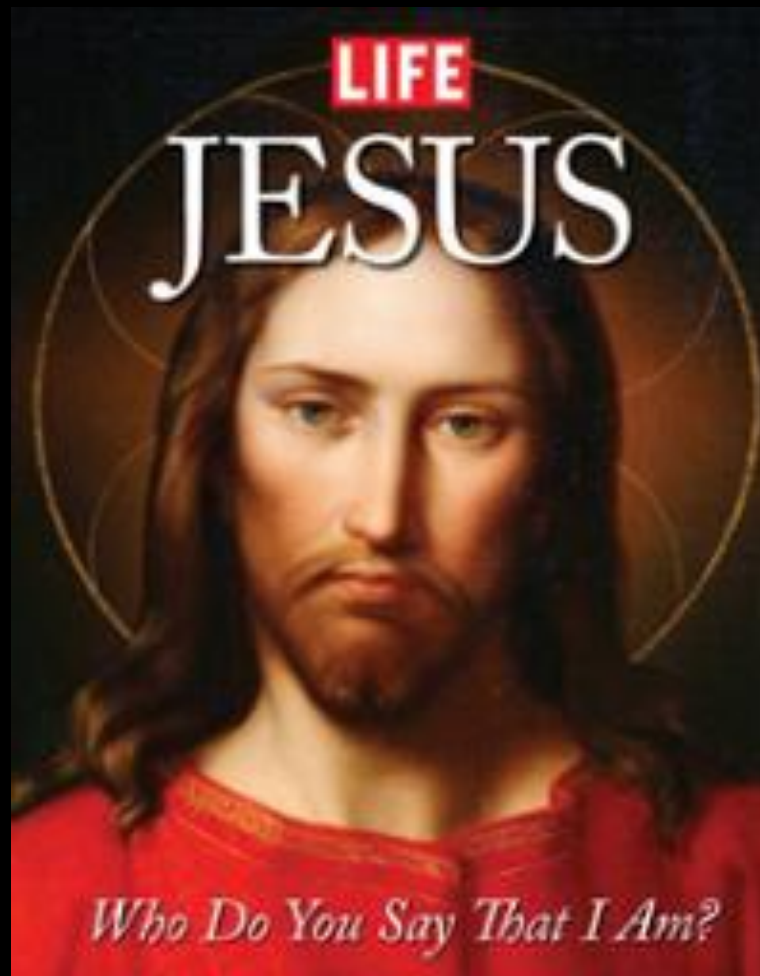
In the 21st century

21st Century

Just a man

God

A prophet



A great
teacher

A fiction

A magician

A revolutionary

1st Century

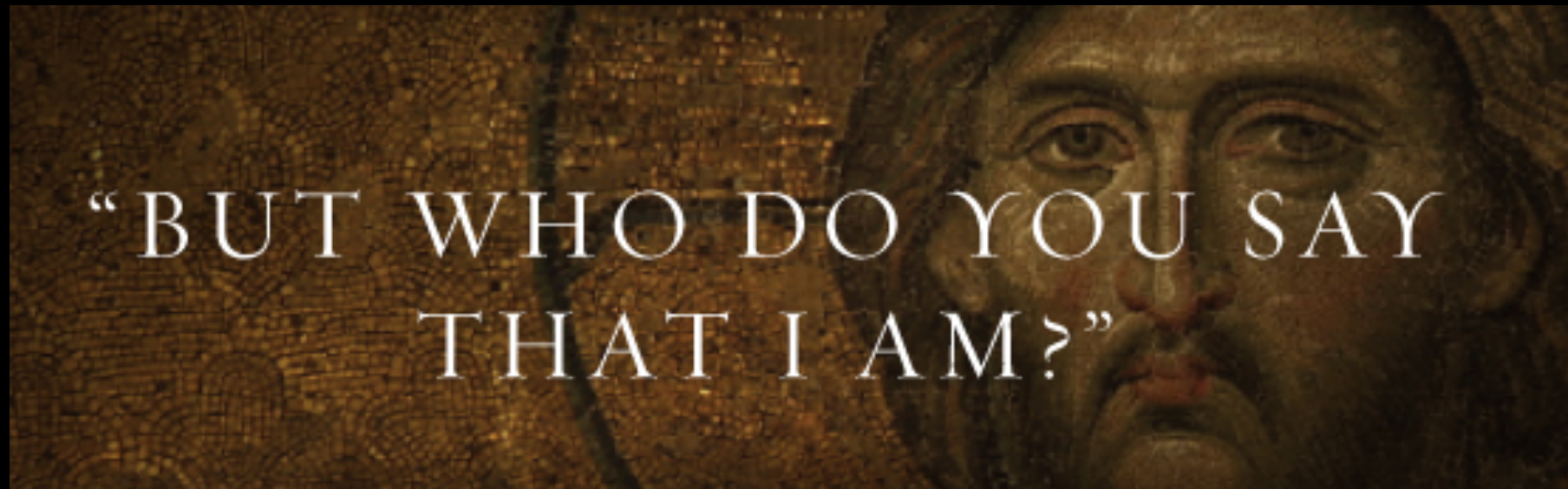
Son of Joseph and Mary

Son of no one

Son of David

Son of God

Son of Man



Nazarene

Tekton Teacher

Galilean

Prophet

Rebel Healer

Samaritan

Christ/Messiah/King

People
who didn't
know Jesus

People
who didn't
know Jesus



Demanding a sign

Matt. 12:38; Matt. 16:1ff.; Jn. 2:18; Jn. 6:30

"Now when he was in Jerusalem at the Passover Feast, many **believed** in his name when they saw the **signs** that he was doing" (Jn. 2:23 ESV).

"When the people saw that he had done a **miraculous sign**, they said, 'This is truly the **prophet** who is coming into the world'" (Jn. 6:14 CEB)

"Yet many in the crowd **believed** in him and were saying, 'When the **Messiah** comes, will he do more **signs** than this man has done?'" (Jn. 7:31 NRSV)

What are the **signs** that caused us to **believe**? To keep **believing**?



"Jesus had done many **miraculous signs** before the people, but they didn't **believe** in him" (Jn. 12:37 CEB)

**THERE ARE PLENTY OF
DIFFICULT OBSTACLES
IN YOUR PATH. DON'T
ALLOW YOURSELF TO
BECOME ONE OF THEM**

"Jesus answered them, 'Truly, truly, I say to you, you are seeking me, not because you saw signs, but because you **ate your fill of the loaves**'" (Jn. 6:26 ESV).

"Some Pharisees said, 'This man isn't from God, because he **breaks the Sabbath law**.' Others said, 'How can a sinner do miraculous signs like these?' So they were divided" (Jn. 9:16 CEB).

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"So the chief priests and the Pharisees gathered the council and said, 'What are we to do?' For this man performs many **signs**. If we let him go on like this, everyone will **believe** in him, and the Romans will come and take away both our place and our nation" (Jn. 11:47-48 ESV).

"(His parents said these things because they feared the Jews, for the Jews had already agreed that if anyone should confess Jesus to be **Christ**, he was to be put out of the synagogue). Therefore his parents said, 'He is of age; ask him'" (Jn. 9:20-23 ESV)



"They replied,
'Are you from
Galilee too?
Search and
see that no
prophet arises
from
Galilee'" (Jn.
7:52 ESV)

"Others said, 'This is the Christ.' But some said, 'Is the Christ to come from Galilee? Has not the Scripture said that the Christ comes from the offspring of David, and comes from Bethlehem, the village where David was?'" (Jn. 7:41-42 ESV).



"And he went and lived in a city called [Nazareth](#), so that what was spoken by the prophets might be fulfilled, that he would be called a [Nazarene](#)" (Matt. 2:23 ESV).

"Philip found Nathanael and said to him, 'We have found him of whom Moses in the Law and also the prophets wrote, Jesus of [Nazareth](#), the son of Joseph.' Nathanael said to him, 'Can anything good come out of [Nazareth](#)?' Philip said to him, 'Come and see'" (Jn. 1:45-46 ESV).



"Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward him and said of him, 'Behold, an Israelite indeed, in whom there is no deceit!' Nathanael said to him, 'How do you know me?' Jesus answered him, 'Before Philip called you, when you were under the fig tree, I saw you.' Nathanael answered him, 'Rabbi, you are the **Son of God**! You are the King of Israel!'" (Jn. 1:47-49 ESV)

What About People Who Knew Jesus?

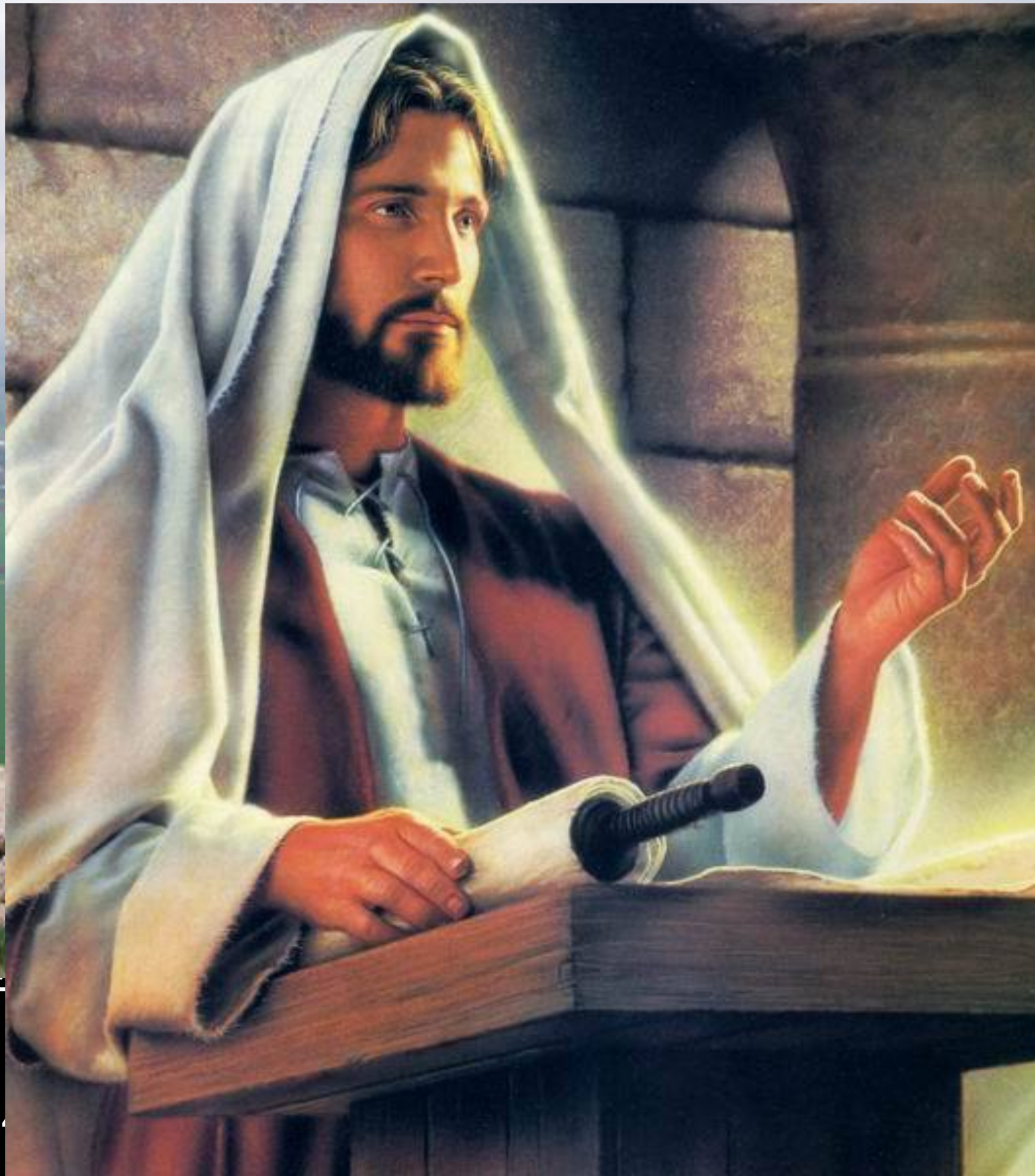
“He’s just a carpenter—
Mary’s boy. We’ve known him
since he was a kid. We know
his brothers, James, Justus,
Jude, and Simon, and his
sisters. Who does he think he
is?” (Mk. 6:3 Message)

“We’ve known
him since he
was a kid; he’s
the carpenter’s
son. We know
his mother,
Mary.” (Matt.
13:55 Message)

“Isn’t this
Joseph’s son,
the one we’ve
known since he
was a
youngster?” (Lk.
4:22 Message)

"Isn't this the son of
Joseph? Don't we
know his father?
Don't we know his
mother? How can
he now say, 'I came
down out of heaven'
and expect anyone
to believe him?" (Jn.
6:42 Message)

their
(Lk. 4)



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"And when his family heard it, they went out to seize him, for they were saying, 'He is out of his mind.'" (Mk. 3:21 ESV)



"The Jews answered him, 'Are we not right in saying that you are a Samaritan and have a demon?' Jesus answered, 'I do not have a demon, but I honor my Father, and you dishonor me.'" (Jn. 8:48-49 ESV)

"He would not go about in Judea, because the Jews were seeking to kill him...So his brothers said to him, 'Leave here and go to Judea, that your disciples also may see the works you are doing. For no one works in secret if he seeks to be known openly. If you do these things, show yourself to the world.' *For not even his brothers believed in him.*" (Jn. 7:1-5 ESV)

"I have become a stranger to my brothers, an alien to my mother's sons". Psalms 69:8

Jesus was from Nazareth in Galilee

The people's expectation: from Bethlehem in Judea

Jesus came to free the people from sin

The people's expectation: to free the people from Rome

Jesus was a carpenter

The people's expectation: a king, a rabbi, a warrior

Jesus was the son of Mary

The people's expectation: the son of David

Jesus was a revolutionary

The people's expectation: a reactionary

Jesus was a healer

The people's expectation: a killer



Jesus demanded that you give all

The people's expectation: to get all

"Simon Peter replied, 'You are the
Christ, the Son of the living
God.'" (Matt. 16:15 ESV)

Christ

Son of God

living God

"He first found his own brother Simon and said to him, 'We have found the Messiah' (which means Christ)" (Jn. 1:41 ESV).

"The woman said to him, 'I know that Messiah is coming (he who is called Christ). When he comes, he will tell us all things.' Jesus said to her, 'I who speak to you am he'" (Jn. 4:25-26 ESV).

"The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together, against the LORD and against his Anointed..." (Psa. 2:2 ESV)

"As for me, I have set my King on Zion, my holy hill.' I will tell of the decree: The LORD said to me, 'You are my Son; today I have begotten you'" (Psa. 2:6-7 ESV).

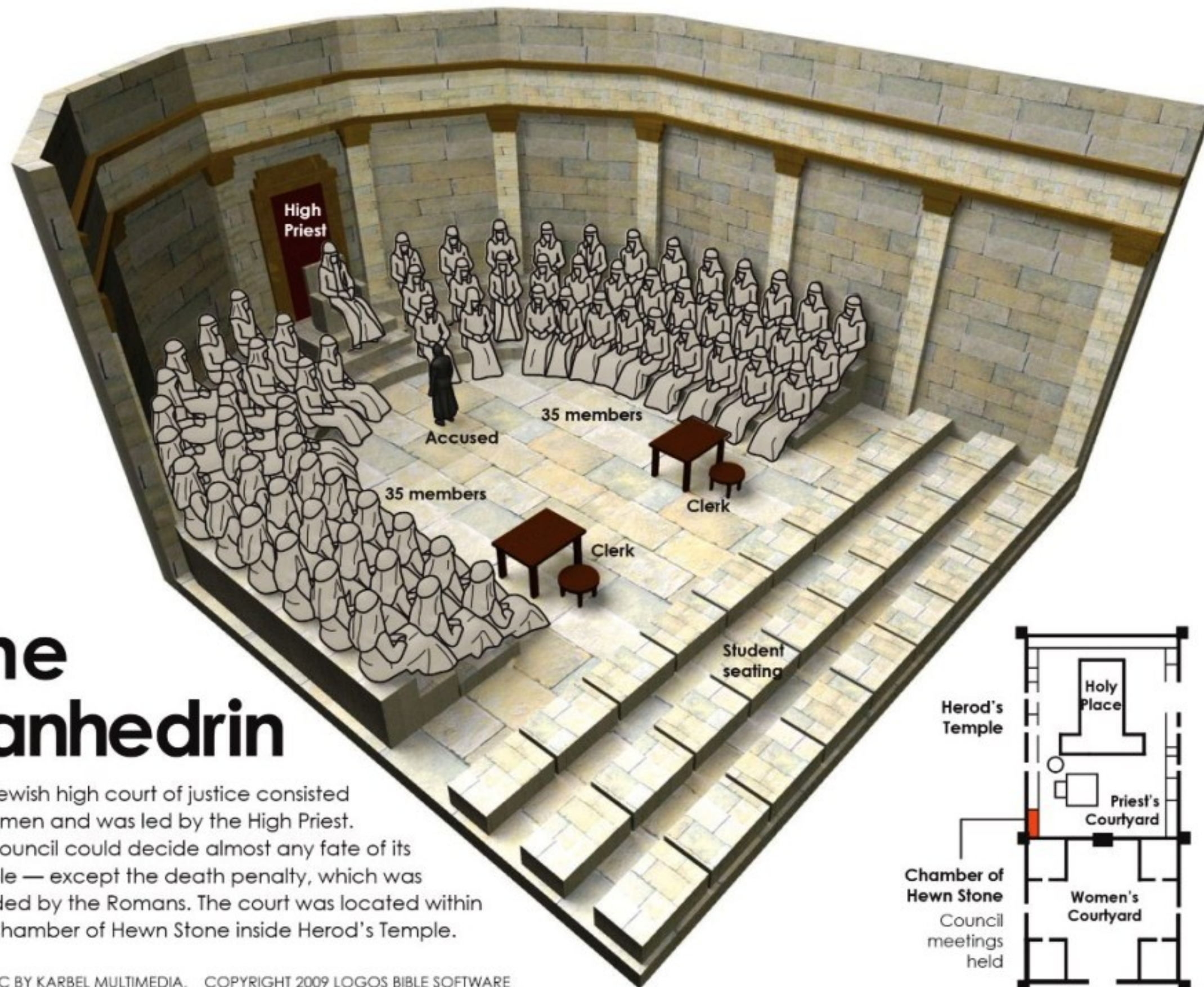
"The phrase '**son of God**' in a Jewish context in the first century could mean several things, from angel to king to righteous human being. It did not mean 'God the Son, the second person of the Trinity,' nor did it mean 'the offspring of divine procreation involving two deities or a deity and a human being.'"

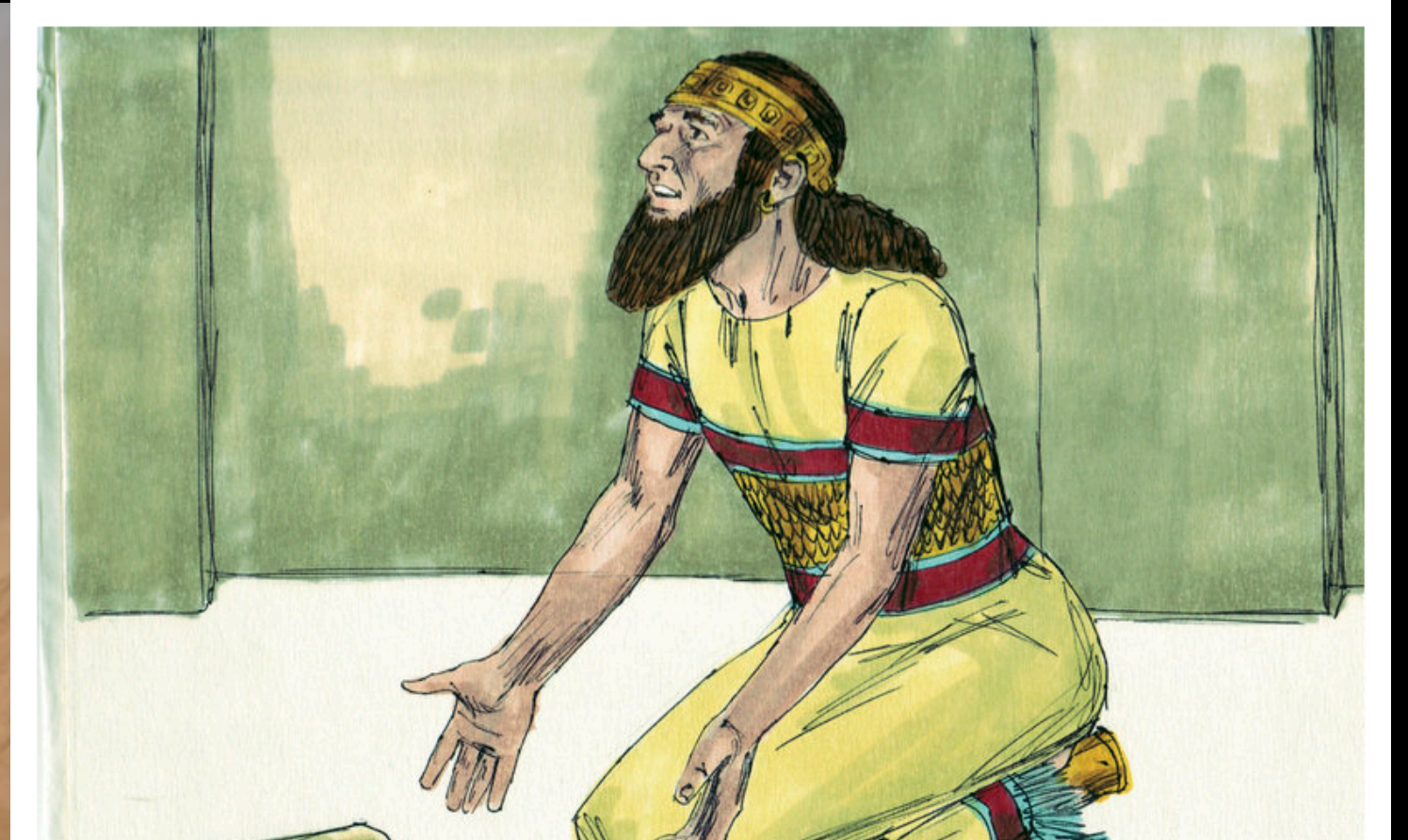
James F. McGrath

The Sanhedrin

The Jewish high court of justice consisted of 71 men and was led by the High Priest. The council could decide almost any fate of its people — except the death penalty, which was decided by the Romans. The court was located within the Chamber of Hewn Stone inside Herod's Temple.

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"Living God"

- Versus False Gods (Jer. 10:10; Acts 14:15; 1 Thessalonians 1:9; 2 Corinthians 6:16)
- A relationship with the living God (Deut. 5:26; Psa. 42:2; 84:2)
- A living family chosen by God (Hosea 1:10; Rom. 9:19-26) that makes up a living community (1 Tim. 3:15; 2 Cor. 3:3)
- Because we have a living relationship with the Son of living God, we are compelled to act (Heb. 9:14; Rom. 12:1-2)

"And Jesus answered him, 'Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father who is in heaven. And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock [*petra*] I will build my church..." (Matt. 16:17-18 ESV).

Son of Jonah

Revealed by God

Rock

No need for Christ

"They answered him, 'We are offspring of Abraham and have never been enslaved to anyone. How is it that you say, 'You will become free'?'
(Jn. 8:33 ESV)

Wrong Goal

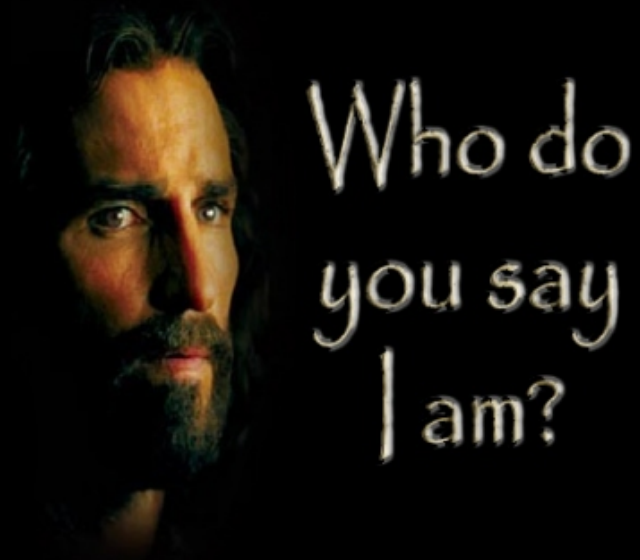
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Familiarity Breeds Contempt

"No prophet is ever welcomed in his hometown" (Lk. 4:24 Message).

Disappointment with Reality

"And when his family heard it, they went out to seize him, for they were saying, 'He is out of his mind.'" (Mk. 3:21 ESV).



"...no one can say,
'Jesus is Lord,' except
by the Holy Spirit"
(1 Cor.12:3 NET Bible)

We need Christ

"And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved" (Acts 4:12).

We have the right goal

"His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master'" (Matt. 25:21).

Familiarity breeds awestruck gratitude

"Indeed, I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord" (Phil. 3:8 ESV).

Submission to the reality of God's will

"I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me" (Gal. 2:20).