

Jesus called himself: "Son of God"

Good morning! Let's get started.

If you have talked to many Muslims about Jesus you will know they view Jesus as a human prophet---nothing more. They believe Allah is One and cannot have a Son. They believe Jesus never claimed to be the Son of God---rather, his disciples must have claimed that for him after he was dead and buried.

SON OF GOD IN THE OLD TESTAMENT:

Let's begin with the Old Testament. Like son of man, "son of God" had human as well as Messianic meanings:

- A created human being or beings Luke 3:38
- The nation of Israel as the son of God Deuteronomy 1:30-31
- The Messianic king will be a descendant of David whom God calls "my son" 2 Samuel 7:11b-16

But in the New Testament, Jesus appears as the Son of God because he is God and partakes of the divine nature. 1

WHAT DID OTHERS SAY ABOUT JESUS AS THE SON OF GOD?

- The angel Gabriel: Luke 1:30- But the angel said to [Mary], "Do not be afraid, you have found favor with God. 31 You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you are to call him Jesus. 32 He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High.
- God the Father at Jesus' baptism: Matt 3:17- ... a voice from heaven said, "This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased."
- God the Father at Jesus' transfiguration: Luke 9:35- A voice came from the cloud, saying, "This is my Son, whom I have chosen...."
- God the Father in the Temple: John 12:28- ...a voice from heaven, "I have glorified it, and will glorify it again."
- John the Baptist: John 3:34- For the one whom God has sent speaks the words of God, for God gives the Spirit without limit.

 35 The Father loves the Son and has placed everything in his hands. 36 Whoever believes in the Son has eternal life, but whoever rejects the Son will not see life, for God's wrath remains on them.
- The Devil at Jesus' temptation: Matt 4:3- "If you are the Son of God...." Matt 4:6- "If you are the Son of God...."
- Demons cry as Jesus casts them out: Mark 5:7- "What do you want with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God?"; (see also Matthew 8:29. Also Mark 3:11.)
- His Disciples when Jesus walked on water: Matt 14:32- And when they climbed into the boat, the wind died down. 33 Then those...in the boat worshiped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God." And again: Matt 16:16- "You are the Messiah the Son of the living God."
- The Soldier at the Cross: Mark 15:39- And when the centurion, who stood there in front of Jesus, saw how he died, he said, "Surely this man was the Son of God!"

BUT WHAT DID JESUS SAY ABOUT HIMSELF?

In several of the items above, Jesus acknowledged that he is the Son of God and received worship from his followers.

Matthew 11:27- "All things have been committed to me by my Father. No one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and those to whom the Son chooses to reveal him."

Mark 13:32- "But about that day or hour no one knows, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father."

In his 'Parable of the tenants': Mark 12:6- "He had one left to send, a son, whom he loved. He sent him last of all, saying, 'They will respect my son.' ⁷ "But the tenants said to one another, 'This is the heir. Come, let's kill him, and the inheritance will be ours.' ⁸ So they took him and killed him, and threw him out of the vineyard."

Jesus to the high priest: John 8:23- "You are from below; I am from above. You are of this world; I am not of this world. ²⁴ I 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."

High priest to Jesus (at his trial): "Are you the Messiah, the Son of the Blessed One?" 62 "I am," said Jesus....
64 ...They all condemned him as worthy of death [for claiming to be God's Son].

CONCLUSION:

So Jesus claimed to be the Son of Man and the Son of God. And as we shall see in the future, Jesus is the first Son of many adopted sons of God to follow.

- Is this the Jesus you know?
- Is this the Jesus you serve and worship?
- Is this the Jesus who has forgiven your sin and gifted you with eternal life?
- Is this the Jesus who will raise you from the dead?

NEXT WEEK: Jesus makes an even more astonishing revelation about his identity.

God bless you-

Douglas

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Footnote:

1 from- A Theology of the New Testament, George E. Ladd, P 161; also see- Romans 8:3; Galatians 4:4; Hebrews 4:14