1John 4:10 In this is <u>love</u>, not that we <u>loved</u> God, but that He <u>loved</u> us <u>and sent His Son *to be* the propitiation for our sins</u>. ¹¹ Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. ¹² No one has seen **God** at any time; if we love one another, God abides in us, and His love is perfected in us. ¹³ <u>By this we know that we abide in Him and He in us</u>, <u>because He has given us of His Spirit</u>. ¹⁴ We have seen and testify that the Father has sent the Son *to be* the Savior of the world.

WHO IS THE SAVIOR OF THE WORLD? (Jesus) WHO IS THE SAVIOR OF THE WORLD? (Jesus) WHO IS THE SAVIOR OF THE WORLD?... (Jesus) ARE YOU SURE? CAN YOU PROVE IT? LET'S DO IT TOGETHER ©

STEVE: BALANCE FROM SLIDES INTO COMMUNION

OUR CHALLENGE RIGHT UP FRONT...

CAN WE PROVE THAT JESUS IS GOD THE SAVIOR OF THE WORLD?

- 1. He was either a LIAR who wasn't God and deceived a countless multitude of people.
- 2. He was a LUNATIC...who thought He was God.
- 3. HE WAS WHO HE CLAIMED TO BE... GOD in the flesh, the Savior of the World!

Is Jesus a Liar?



His Claims Were FALSE

His Claims Were TRUE

He KNEW His claims were FALSE He made a deliberate misinterpretation He was a LIAR He was a HYPOCRITE He was a **DEMON** He was a LIAR and He died for it!

IF He DID NOT KNOW His claims were FALSE

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He was SINCERELY DELUDED
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He was a LUNATIC

HE IS THE LORD GOD THE SAVIOR OF THE WORLD

(Two Alternatives)





I. Is Jesus a LIAR?

- Jesus never contradicted Himself.
- A liar knows when to quit.
- His disciples would never die for a lie individually over time.

POINT 1.

A person who LIVED, TAUGHT, and DIED as Jesus did could not have been a LIAR.

II. Is Jesus a LUNATIC?

- Jesus never contradicted Himself...NOT ONCE!
- The disciples sealed their account of Jesus' claim to be God with martyrdom, individually over time, not in a mass purple Kool-Aid party.
- Jesus fulfilled over 300 prophecies He could NOT "self" orchestrate.

JESUS CLAIMED TO BE GOD!

John 10:24-33 The Jews gathered around him, saying, "How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Christ, tell us plainly." Jesus answered, "I did tell you, but you do not believe. The miracles I do in my Father's name speak for me, but you do not believe because you are not my sheep. My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; no one can snatch them out of my hand. My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all; no one can snatch them out of my Father's hand. I and the Father are one."

Again the Jews picked up stones to stone him, but Jesus said to them, "I have shown you many great miracles from the Father. For which of these do you stone me?" "We are not stoning you for any of these," replied the Jews, "<u>but for</u> blasphemy, because you, a mere man, claim to be God."

JESUS CLAIMED TO BE THE VISIBLE FATHER!

John 14:8-9 Philip said, "Lord, show us the Father and that will be enough for us." Jesus answered: "Don't you know me, Philip, even after I have been among you such a long time? Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, 'Show us the Father'?

JESUS CLAIMED TO BE GOD OF THE OLD TESTAMENT!

<u>John 8:58</u> "I tell you the truth," Jesus answered, "before Abraham was born, I am!"

Exodus and Moses — Exodus 3:14

In the Gospel of John Jesus uses the term "I Am" about Himself

 ACTIONS - Jesus spoke as God Matthew 5:20, 22, 26, 28, 32, 34, 44
"You have heard it said"

 Jesus said that we must worship "the Lord your God, and serve Him only." Yet...Jesus accepted worship.

Matthew 4:10, 8:2, 14:33; John 9:35-39

John 20:27-29 Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here; see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it into my side. Stop doubting and believe." Thomas said to him, "My Lord and my God!" Then Jesus told him, "Because you have seen me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed."

Forgiveness of sins against God - by Jesus

Mark 2:1-12; Luke 7:47-50

What His friends said:

Romans 9:5 *"Of whom (The Jewish people) are the fathers, and from whom is the Christ according to the flesh, who is over all, <u>the eternally blessed God.</u> <i>Amen."*

Philippians 2:6-11 And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. Therefore also God highly exalted Him, and bestowed on Him the name which is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those who are in heaven, and on earth, and under the earth, and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. Hebrews 1:8 But of the Son He (Father) says, <u>"Thy</u> <u>throne, O God</u>, is forever and ever, And the righteous scepter is the scepter of His kingdom.

I John 5:20 And we know that the Son of God has come, and has given us understanding, in order that we might know Him (Father) who is true, and we are in Him who is true, in His Son Jesus Christ. <u>This is the true God</u> and eternal life.

His FRIEND John the Apostle writes:

John 1:1-3 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and <u>the Word was God</u>. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being by Him, and apart from Him nothing came into being that has come into being.

John 1:18 No man has seen God at any time; <u>the only</u> <u>begotten God</u>, who is in the bosom of the Father, He (JESUS) has explained Him. The reason John writes his epistle: I John 5:13 I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God so that you may know that you have eternal life. The reason John writes his gospel: John 20:30-31 Therefore many other signs (MIRACLES) Jesus also performed in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; but these have been written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God' and that believing you may have life in His name.

The Apostle Paul States Jesus is "THE" GOD not "A" god: Romans 10:9 "If you confess with your mouth Jesus as Lord, on the other hand, believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved." Verse 13: "for WHOEVER WILL CALL ON THE NAME OF THE LORD WILL BE SAVED." (Quoted from Joel 2:32) Joel 2:27 "Thus you will know that I am in the midst of Israel, And that I am the LORD your God, And there is no other; And My people will never be put to shame. Joel 2:32 "And it will come about that whoever calls on the name of the LORD Will be delivered...

Luke the gospel writer:

Acts 4:12 Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to men by which we must be saved.

What His ENEMIES Said:

Of His Miracles

They never denied...they could only accuse Him of getting His power from Satan.

Of His Lifestyle

They could never find any sin, any lie, or any contradictory statement. They could only accuse Him of blasphemy, which only confirms His claims of deity. Absolved of any wrong by the courts (Pilate the Governor). *"This man is guilty of nothing."*

Concerning Scripture

Nothing to refute any of the New Testament authors writings, who wrote their accounts while the enemies of Jesus were still alive.

THE EVIDENCE

HIS DEATH Roman Efficiency

THE EMPTY TOMB Solid rock rolled into place

THE GUARD Four awake at all times

THE SEAL Crucifixion if tampered with

EMBALMING 70 pounds of spices and linen

MORE EVIDENCE - Sample Prophecies of Jesus' Birth

Prophecy	O.T. Prediction	N.T. Fulfillment
The Messiah would be the seed of a woman.	Genesis 3:15	Galatians 4:4
The Messiah would be a descendant of Abraham, who had two sons.	Genesis 12:3	Matthew 1:1
The Messiah would be a descendant of Isaac, who had two sons.	Genesis 17:19	Luke 3:34
The Messiah would be a descendant of Jacob, who had 12 sons, who each would become a tribe.	Numbers 24:17	Matthew 1:2
The Messiah would be from the tribe of Judah.	Genesis 49:10	Luke 3:33
The Messiah would be an heir to the throne of David.	Isaiah 9:7	Luke 1:32-33

MORE EVIDENCE - Sample Prophecies of Jesus' Birth

Prophecy	O.T. Prediction	N.T. Fulfillment
The Messiah would be anointed eternal.	Psalm 45:6-7	Hebrews 1:8-12
The Messiah would be born in Bethlehem.	Micah 5:2	Luke 2:4-7
The Messiah would be born of a virgin.	Isaiah 7:14	Luke 1:26-27; 30-31
The Messiah's birth would trigger a slaughter of children.	Jeremiah 31:15	Matthew 2:16-18
The Messiah would also come from Egypt.	Hosea 11:1	Matthew 2:14-15

MORE EVIDENCE - Sample Prophecies of Jesus' Death

Prophecy	O.T. Prediction	N.T. Fulfillment
He was betrayed by a friend.	Psalm 41:9	Matthew 10:4
He was sold for 30 pieces of silver.	Zechariah 11:12	Matthew 26:15
He was silent before accusers.	Isaiah 53:7	Matthew 27:12
He was wounded and bruised.	Isaiah 53:5	Matthew 27:26
He was beaten and spit upon.	Isaiah 50:6	Matthew 26:67
He was mocked.	Psalm 22:7-8	Matthew 27:31
His hands and feet pierced.	Psalm 22:16	Luke 23:33

MORE EVIDENCE - Sample Prophecies of Jesus' Death

Prophecy	O.T. Prediction	N.T. Fulfillment
He was crucified with thieves.	Isaiah 53:12	Matthew 27:38
He was rejected by His own people.	Isaiah 53:3	John 7:5, 48
His garments divided up.	Psalm 22:18	John 19:23-24
His bones were not broken.	Psalm 34:20	John 19:33
His side was pierced.	Zechariah 12:10	John 19:34
He was buried in a rich man's tomb.	Isaiah 53:9	Matthew 27:57-60

JESUS AS THE SAVIOR OF THE WORLD DEFIES MATHMATICAL PROBABILITY...

THE ODDS OF FULLFILLMENT FOR 8 MAJORS= 10₁₇

IF JESUS is <u>NOT</u> a liar and IF JESUS is <u>NOT</u> a lunatic, than HE <u>HAS TO BE GOD</u>, <u>HE HAS TO BE LORD AND HE IS THE ONLY</u> <u>SAVIOR OF THE WORLD</u>

Luke 19:10 For the Son of Man has come to seek and save that which was lost.