



**LCS TALK 2:
THE GRACE OF JESUS**

A. INTRODUCTION



1. Jesus is manifestation of God's love for man.



2. As Christians, we derive our identity from a person, **Jesus**.

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a. Billions today claim to be His followers.

2. As Christians, we derive our identity from a person, **Jesus.**



b. Countless have been martyred for their faith in Him

2. As Christians, we derive our identity from a person, **Jesus**.



c. The Bible is the **no. 1 Bestseller**.

3. In Jesus, we have a new and full life.



4. Who is Jesus Christ?





B. The Uniqueness of Jesus Christ.



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1. The Son of God. (Mark 6:3)

B. The Uniqueness of Jesus Christ.



2. More than just a great religious man or moral teacher vs. Buddha, Confucius, Lao-Tze, Socrates or other wise men.

B. The Uniqueness of Jesus Christ.



3. Three things that make Jesus an absolutely unique figure in human history:

B. The Uniqueness of Jesus Christ.



- a. His coming was pre-announced (Old Testament).
- b. Split history into two periods – BC and AD.
- c. Came to earth to die to save mankind.



C. Some details about his life.

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1. What He did

- a. Humbled himself to be born in a manger in Bethlehem.
- b. A carpenter and a preacher.
- c. Never was 100 miles away from home in Nazareth.
- d. Crucified for stirring the people.
- e. Did not fade into complete oblivion - most famous, honored, and best-loved person who ever walked the earth.

C. Some details about his life.



2. What was he like?

- a. A very attractive personality. (Mark 9:15)
- b. Strong in mind and body. (Fasted for 40 days)
- c. Down-to-earth.
- d. A magnetic leader. (Mark 1:16-18, 20; Mark 2:14)
- e. A man of extraordinary authority.
- f. Not confused or unsure of himself or of his mission. (Mark 16:21-23)
- g. Very human. (Mark 3:5; Mark 10:21; Mark 1:41; Mark 14:34)



D. Jesus' claim to be God

D. Jesus' claim to be God



1. Jesus is totally unique from any other personality and so is clearly worth knowing.
 - Is Jesus worthy to be the center of my life?
 - He is worth paying more attention to than any other man.
BECAUSE HE IS GOD

D. Jesus' claim to be God



2. How do we know he is God?

- A man could work miracles and not be God. **Jn 14:12.**
- So how do we know? The answer simply is that Jesus himself told us so.

D. Jesus' claim to be God



3. Time and again throughout his public ministry, Jesus claimed to be God. (Mk 14:61-62; Jn 12:45, 10:30, 8:58.)

D. Jesus' claim to be God



4. Jesus' claim to divinity is a far different claim than Buddha or Confucius or Mohammed ever made. None of them ever claimed to be God.

D. Jesus' claim to be God



5. Jesus claimed that he could forgive sin. (Mk 2:3-12)



E. Liar, lunatic, or Lord.

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1. Jesus' claim to be God must be either **true** or **false**.

E. Liar, lunatic, or Lord.



2. Could Jesus have lied?

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- a) If he lied, then he would have been deliberately deceiving his followers. But not only would he have been a liar, he would also be:
- * A hypocrite, because he told others to be honest, whatever the cost, while he himself taught and lived a colossal lie.
 - * A demon, because he told others to trust him for their eternal destiny. If he could not back up his claims and knew it, then he was unspeakably evil.
 - * A fool, because it was his claim to being God that led to his crucifixion.

2. Could Jesus have lied?



- b) But we need only look at his person, his words and his work to conclude that he could not have been a liar.
- * Look at his moral purity, dignity, sound intellect, air of truth.
 - * Consider his character that is so original, consistent, perfect, high above human greatness.
 - * He carried out a plan of unparalleled beneficence, moral magnitude and sublimity, and sacrificed his own life for it. Would he die for a lie?
 - The results of his life and teachings have been lives changed for the better, thieves made honest, hateful individuals becoming channels of love, etc.
- c) Such a man cannot be a liar.

3. Could Jesus have been a lunatic?



- a) In Jesus we do not see any abnormalities or imbalance that usually go along with being deranged. In fact, his poise and composure would be amazing if he was insane.
- b) He spoke some of the most profound sayings ever recorded.
- c) Such a man cannot be a lunatic.



4. If not a liar or a lunatic, the only alternative left to us is that Jesus did speak the truth. He was, and is, the Son of God as he claimed.



5. Throughout scripture, we can read about a number of Jesus' contemporaries coming to the realization that he was God.
- a) Simon Peter. [Mt 16:13-16](#).
 - b) Martha. [Jn 11:27](#).
 - c) Nathanael. [Jn 1:49](#).
 - d) Thomas. [Jn 20:27-28](#).
 - e) The centurion. [Mt 27:54](#).
 - f) Even the evil spirits. [Mt 8:29](#), [Mk 1:24](#), [Mk 3:11](#), [Lk 4:41](#).



F. God confirmed Jesus' claim.

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1. As many as there were who accepted the divinity of Jesus, there were also others who refused to accept him. How can we have confirmation of Jesus' divinity?

F. God confirmed Jesus' claim.



2. God Himself confirmed it.

- a) In the miracle of the raising of Lazarus from the dead. **Jn 11:41-42.**
 - * Jesus was giving a demonstration.
 - * To the Jews, God alone was the one who had the prerogative to give life or to take away life.
- b) But the most conclusive proof is Jesus' own resurrection from the dead. The tombs of Buddha, Muhammed and the founders of all the great world religions are still with us. Only Jesus' tomb is empty.



G. Conclusion.

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1. Jesus is a man whose words and life demand a response from us. He is making claims that affect us.
 - a) If he is not God, then we should have nothing to do with him, because we do not want to be followers of a liar or a lunatic.
 - b) But if he is God, then we should seriously consider him. We should desire to know him more. Our response will have eternal consequences.

G. Conclusion.

2. Who is Jesus? Liar, lunatic or Lord? The choice is yours.

Group discussion



Discuss how you saw or thought of Jesus before, and what new insights you have gotten through the talk.

