



Who is Jesus?

There are only a limited number of responses given to this important question. Almost all the responses would be covered by the following choices, only one of which is really reasonable!

1. ***"He is the only begotten Son of God, God who came in the flesh, who arose from the dead, who lives and to whom I have given my life as my Lord and Master."***
[This is really the only reasonable answer!]
2. ***"He is the only begotten Son of God, God who came in the flesh, who arose from the dead, who lives--but I am not yet willing to submit to His Lordship."***
[But is it really rational to say, "I believe He has the power, love, and wisdom to do what's best for me (after all, He is God!), but I'd rather go through life living it my own blind, ignorant, powerless, foolish way?" If He is God, do we really believe we know better than He does what is best for us?]
3. ***"He did rise from the dead, but He is not really the Creator God."***
[Does it make sense to accept what the Bible has to say about His resurrection, but to reject what the Bible has to say about His Deity?]
4. ***"He was a great teacher, a good man, and a powerful moral leader. But even though he was a great leader, he was only a man. He died like any other mortal. When he died, he stayed dead."***
[Could he really be great and good and moral and still claim: to have power to forgive sins; power to give eternal life; to have existed before Abraham; that He will return on clouds of glory; that He would rise from the dead; and other such things which would have to be the words of a madman or liar if not true?]
5. ***"He was a bit of a kook. He was probably a fanatic and an egomaniac. He died like any other mortal. When he died, he stayed dead."***
[But how could it be that He is acknowledged, even by unbelievers, as one of the greatest teachers who ever existed? How could His followers have done so much good in the world (hospitals, orphanages, schools, changed lives, etc) by claiming to be following His example and teachings? How could He have changed the world for good more than any other person who ever lived?]
6. ***"There is really no way to know who He was. He may not have even existed. Our concepts of Him are based on myths constructed by the early church, probably a few hundred years after His death (if He ever really lived)."***
[But how do I explain away the historical accuracy of the New Testament and the existence of early manuscripts? And how do I explain the willingness of His early followers to go to horrendous deaths rather than admit that He was really not alive?]

"And [Jesus] saith unto them, But whom say ye that I am?" (Mark 8:29)