



CAPITOL COMMISSION™

The Most Important Question

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In the Gospel According to Luke (AD 60-61), Luke, a Gentile, is writing to Theophilus so that he would know the exact truth and record regarding the things he had been taught about Jesus the Messiah. Luke provided numerous testimonies of Jesus' identity as the Savior and Messiah. Jesus, during His ministry, traveled to many cities sharing scripture, teaching, forgiving sin, physically healing people of demons and disease, and raising the dead. Jesus began to challenge the religious rituals of the day and most importantly preached the Kingdom of God. Jesus is nearly half way through His 3 year ministry when He sends His select 12 common men to heal and preach. Jesus' impact became known to the common and to the royalty. He wants to withdraw to a city, yet Jerusalem is down the road and His mission continues to drive Him to cure, heal and most importantly preach the kingdom of God. In the following passages Jesus is preparing His apostles for ministry.

“And it happened that while He was praying alone, the disciples were with Him, and He questioned them, saying, “Who do the people say that I am?” They answered and said, “John the Baptist, and others say Elijah; but others, that one of the prophets of old has risen again.” And He said to them, “But who do you say that I am?” And Peter answered and said, “The Christ of God.” But He warned them and instructed them not to tell this to anyone, saying, “The Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed and be raised up on the third day.” (Luke 9: 18-22 NASB; Mt16:13-21; Mk 8:27-31)

Jesus prayed alone with the disciples. Jesus prayed alone and at time He prayed with His disciples. Jesus was preparing His apostles for the ministry that He had called and equipped them to accomplish.

“Who do the people say that I am?” Jesus asked the question that many had already asked. Luke, earlier in his gospel, records that many have correctly answered the question, that Jesus is the Messiah, the Christ, and the Son of God. Those include; angels, Zacharias, Mary, Joseph, shepherds, Simeon, Anna, John the Baptist, God the Father, Satan, Peter, the sinful woman, demons and many more. Yet many more answered the question incorrectly, that Jesus was John the Baptist or Elijah or possibly a prophet of old that has risen again. Jesus pointedly asked His disciple who they believe that He is.

Peter answered correctly. Peter, a leader of the apostles answers that Jesus is “The Christ of God” (*Christ - Greek – Christos; the anointed one*) Peter was saying that Jesus was the Anointed of God. Salvation through Jesus is God's gift to us and worship and discipleship is our gift to Him.

“The Son of Man” Jesus describes himself as the Son of Man and also shares events that will take place later in His ministry. Jesus shares that He will be killed and He will be raised up on the third day. Jesus never mentions His death without mentioning His resurrection. The apostles believed but did not totally understand what was to take place in Jerusalem.

For Your Consideration:

- Who do you say that Jesus is?
- Is Jesus the Christ of God to you? The Anointed One? The Messiah?
- Can you believe without total understanding?

BIBLE STUDIES

LEGISLATORS: SESSION OR HEARING WEDNESDAYS AT 7:30AM, STATEHOUSE RM. 44

STAFF, LOBBYISTS AND CAPITOL SQUARE COMMUNITY: WEDNESDAYS AT NOON, STATEHOUSE RM.44