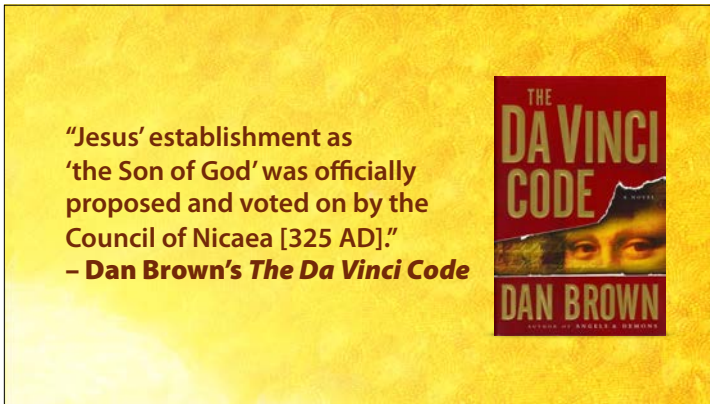


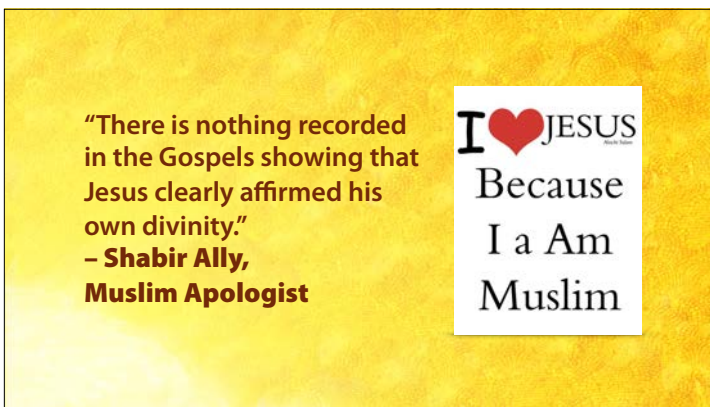
“He was God’s first creation, and he helped in the creation of all other things. He is the only one created directly by Jehovah and is therefore appropriately called God’s ‘only-begotten’ Son....it is logical to conclude that Michael [the archangel] is none other than Jesus Christ in his heavenly role.” – JW.org



“Jesus’ establishment as ‘the Son of God’ was officially proposed and voted on by the Council of Nicaea [325 AD].”
– Dan Brown’s *The Da Vinci Code*

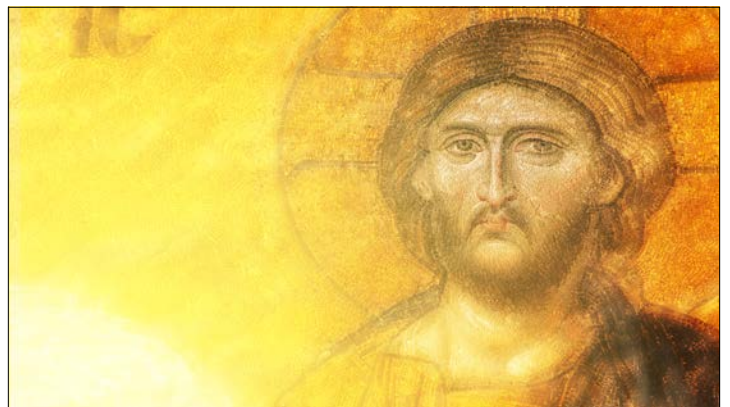


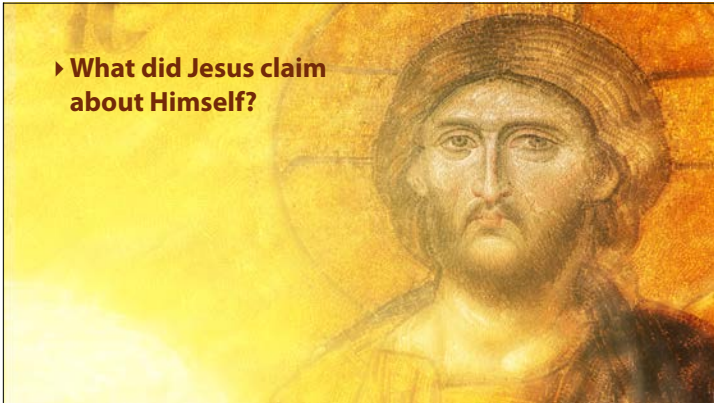
“Jesus is just alright, oh yeah
Jesus, he's my friend;
Jesus, he's my friend
He took me by the hand;
Led me far from this land
Jesus, he's my friend”
– The Doobie Brothers,
Jesus is Just Alright



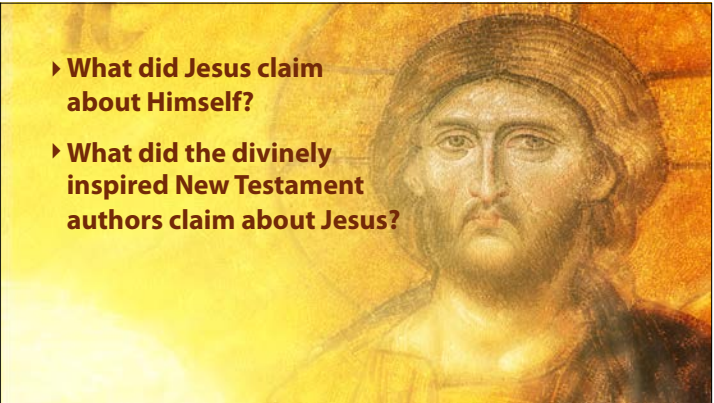
“There is nothing recorded in the Gospels showing that Jesus clearly affirmed his own divinity.”
– Shabir Ally,
Muslim Apologist

I ❤️ JESUS
Because
I a Am
Muslim



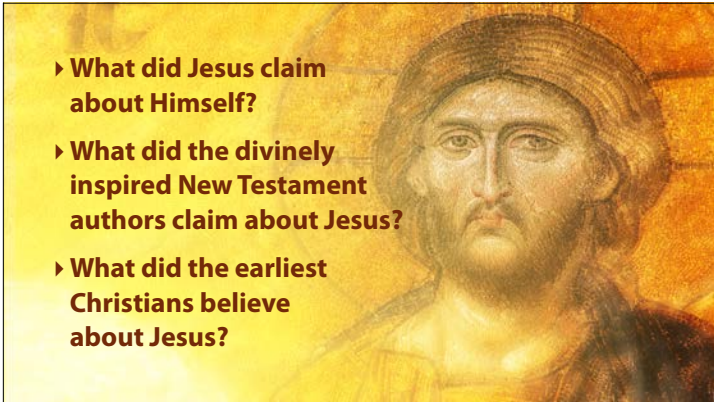


▶ What did Jesus claim about Himself?



▶ What did Jesus claim about Himself?

▶ What did the divinely inspired New Testament authors claim about Jesus?

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- ▶ What did Jesus claim about Himself?
 - ▶ What did the divinely inspired New Testament authors claim about Jesus?
 - ▶ What did the earliest Christians believe about Jesus?

WHAT DID JESUS CLAIM ABOUT HIMSELF?

WHAT DID JESUS CLAIM ABOUT HIMSELF?

"But some of the scribes were sitting there, thinking to themselves: 'Why does He speak like this? He's blaspheming! Who can forgive sins but God alone?'... Jesus understood in His spirit that they were thinking like this within themselves and said to them, 'Why are you thinking these things in your hearts? Which is easier: to say to the paralytic, 'Your sins are forgiven,' or to say, 'Get up, pick up your mat, and walk'? But so you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins,' He told the paralytic, 'I tell you: get up, pick up your mat, and go home.'" – **Mark 2:6-11**

"Now, Father, glorify Me in Your presence with that glory I had with You before the world existed." – **John 17:5**

▶ "I am the LORD, that is my name! I will not give my glory to another." – **Isa. 42:8**

"...among the lampstands was One like the Son of Man... He laid His right hand on me and said, 'Don't be afraid! I am the First and the Last, and the Living One. I was dead, but look—I am alive forever and ever...' – **Rev. 1:13,17-18**

▶ "...I am the first and I am the last. There is no God but Me." – **Isa. 44:6**

"Therefore I said to you that you will die in your sins; for unless you believe that I am [He], you will die in your sins."
– **John 8:24**

"Jesus said to them, 'I assure you: Before Abraham was, I am.'"
– **John 8:58**

WHAT DID THE DIVINELY INSPIRED NEW TESTAMENT AUTHORS CLAIM ABOUT JESUS?

WHAT DID THE DIVINELY INSPIRED NEW TESTAMENT AUTHORS CLAIM ABOUT JESUS?

"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God."
– **John 1:1**

"All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made." – **John 1:3**

"All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made." – John 1:3

EVERYTHING THAT EXISTS



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EVERYTHING THAT EXISTS



"He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation [Ps. 89:29]. For everything was created by Him, in heaven and on earth, the visible and the invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things have been created through Him and for Him [Is. 44:24]. He is before all things, and by Him all things hold together." – Col. 1:15-17

"Have this attitude in yourselves which was also in Christ Jesus, who, although *He existed in the form of God*, did not regard equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied Himself, taking the form of a bond-servant, and *being made in the likeness of men*. Being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. For this reason also, God highly exalted Him, and bestowed on Him the name which is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus EVERY KNEE WILL BOW, of those who are in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and that every tongue will confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father." – **Phil. 2:5-11**

"...everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved." – **Rom. 10:13**
(see *Joel 2:32*)

WHAT DID THE EARLIEST CHRISTIANS BELIEVE ABOUT JESUS?

WHAT DID THE EARLIEST CHRISTIANS BELIEVE ABOUT JESUS?

Christ is the one who "before the ages was with the Father," who was "the mind of the Father," and who can properly be called "our God."
– **Ignatius, Bishop of Antioch in late first/early second century (c. 107-110 AD)**

"The Father is God and the Son is God; for He who is born of God is God."
– **Irenaeus, Bishop of Lyons and disciple of Polycarp (c. 130-200 AD)**

"The Father is God and the Son is God; for He who is born of God is God."
– **Irenaeus, Bishop of Lyons and disciple of Polycarp (c. 130-200 AD)**

"The Word Himself has come to us from heaven," and that Jesus is "alone ... both God and man."
– **Clement of Alexandria (c. 155-220 AD)**

WHAT ABOUT NICEA?

WHAT ABOUT NICEA?

"Current popularity of the claim that Jesus' divinity was invented at Nicea is a sign of our historically illiterate times. Ironically, such a claim would have been viewed by fourth-century Christians as seriously behind the times-nearly three hundred years out-of-date....Therein lay the real issue at Nicea: determining how-not if-Jesus was divine."

- Komoszewski, Sawyer, Wallace, *Reinventing Jesus*

NICENE CREED

"I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible. And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of the Father before all worlds; God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God; begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made."

- **First portion of the Nicene Creed**

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