

1 Peter Series

Lesson #097

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Dean Bible Ministries

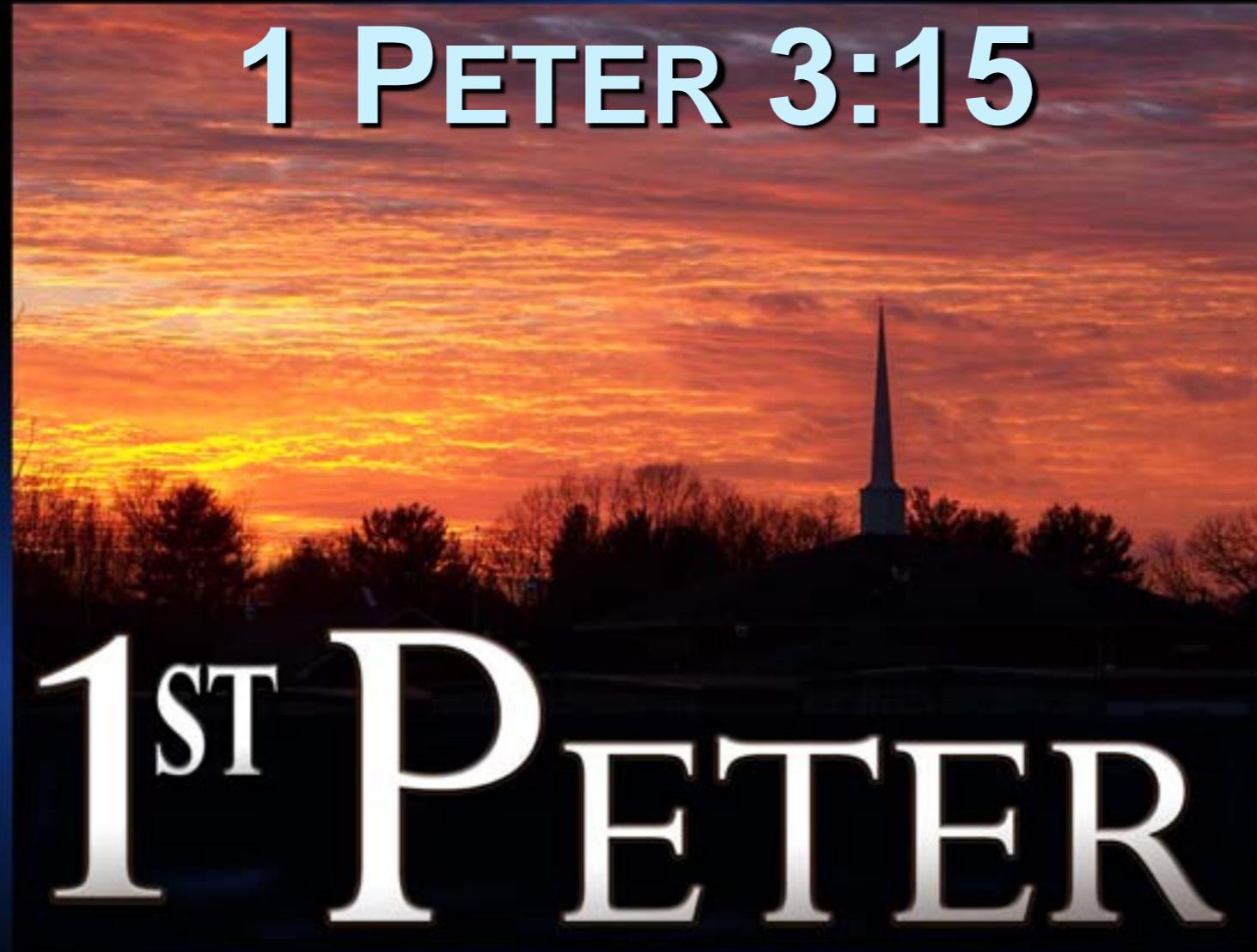
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GIVING AN ANSWER – PART 15

WHO IS JESUS?

1 PETER 3:15



1ST PETER

LIVING IN LIGHT
OF ETERNITY

**Developing a base set of answers to
common questions:**

CAN WE TRUST THE BIBLE?

WHO WAS JESUS?

DID JESUS REALLY RISE FROM THE DEAD?

Developing a base set of answers to common questions:

CAN WE TRUST THE BIBLE?

WHO WAS JESUS?

PROPHECIES FROM THE OLD TESTAMENT

DID JESUS REALLY EXIST?

WERE JESUS' CLAIMS CONFIRMED?

DID JESUS REALLY RISE FROM THE DEAD?

“Historically it is quite doubtful whether Christ ever existed at all, and if He did we know nothing about Him.”

~Bertrand Russell, “Why I Am Not a Christian”

“I cannot myself feel that either in the matter of wisdom or in the matter of virtue Christ stands quite as high as some other people known to history. I think I should put Buddha and Socrates above Him in those respects.”

~Bertrand Russell

“The first problem we encounter when trying to discover more about the historical Jesus is the lack of early sources. The earliest sources only reference the clearly fictional Christ of Faith. These early sources, compiled decades after the alleged events, all stem from Christian authors eager to promote Christianity – which gives us reason to question them. The authors of the Gospels fail to name themselves, describe their qualifications, or show any criticism with their foundational sources – which they also fail to identify. Filled with mythical and non-historical information, and heavily edited over time, the Gospels certainly should not convince critics to trust even the more mundane claims made therein.”

(emphasis added)

~Raphael Lataster

<https://richarddawkins.net/2014/12/did-historical-jesus-really-exist-the-evidence-just-doesnt-add-up/>

Cornelius Tacitus, AD 55–120

... a Roman historian who lived through the reigns of over a half dozen Roman emperors. He has been called the “greatest historian” of ancient Rome, an individual generally acknowledged among scholars for his moral “integrity and essential goodness.” Moses Hadas, “Introduction” to *The Complete Works of Tacitus*

~Gary Habermas

“Consequently, to get rid of the report, Nero fastened the guilt and inflicted the most exquisite tortures on a class hated for their abominations, called Christians by the populace. Christus, from whom the name had its origin, suffered the extreme penalty during the reign of Tiberius at the hands of one of our procurators, Pontius Pilatus, and a most mischievous superstition, thus checked for the moment, again broke out not only in Judaea, the first source of the evil, but even in Rome, where all things hideous and shameful from every part of the world find their centre and become popular.”

~Tacitus, *Annals*, written about 115; *emph added*

- 1. Recognizes the historicity of Jesus.**
- 2. Recognizes the historicity of Pilate.**
- 3. Recognizes the timeframe (under Tiberius).**
- 4. Affirms His death by execution.**
- 5. Implies indirectly the resurrection.**

Thallus, *ca.* AD 52, quoted by Julius Africanus, AD 221

“On the whole world there pressed a most fearful darkness; and the rocks were rent by an earthquake, and many places in Judea and other districts were thrown down.

“This darkness Thallus, in the third book of his History, calls, as appears to me without reason, an eclipse of the sun.”

Pliny the Younger, AD 112

“They (the Christians) were in the habit of meeting on a certain fixed day before it was light, when they sang in alternate verses a hymn to Christ, as to a god, and bound themselves by a solemn oath, not to any wicked deeds, but never to commit any fraud, theft, or adultery, never to falsify their word, nor deny a trust when they should be called upon to deliver it up; after which it was their custom to separate, and then reassemble to partake of food—but food of an ordinary and innocent kind.”

**Suetonius Tranquillas, late 1st, early
2nd century**

**Writing about an event at the time of
Claudius:**

***“Because the Jews at Rome caused
continuous disturbances at the instigation
of Chrestus, he expelled them from the
city.”***

Flavius Josephus, *Antiquities of the Jews*

“Now there was about this time Jesus, a wise man, *if it be lawful to call him a man*. For he was one who wrought surprising feats a teacher of such men as receive the truth with pleasure. He drew over to him both many of the Jews, and many of the Gentiles. *He was (the) Christ* and when Pilate, at the suggestion of the principal men among us, had condemned him to the cross, those that loved him at the first did not forsake him; *for he appeared to them alive again the third day, as the divine prophets had foretold these and ten thousand other wonderful things concerning him.*”

Antiquities, XVIII, 33; emphasis added.

Flavius Josephus, *Antiquities of the Jews*

later states:

James, “the brother of Jesus, who was called Christ.”

Talmud

***Sanhedrin* 43a, “On the eve of the Passover Yeshu was hanged. For forty days before the execution took place, a herald went forth and cried, ‘He is going forth to be stoned because he has practiced sorcery and enticed Israel to apostasy. Any one who can say anything in his favour, let him come forward and plead on his behalf.’ But since nothing was brought forward in his favour he was hanged on the eve of the Passover!”**

Clement of Rome, late 1st century, Bishop of Rome

“The Apostles received the Gospel for us from the Lord Jesus Christ; Jesus Christ was sent forth from God. So then Christ is from God, and the Apostles are from Christ. Both therefore came of the will of God in the appointed order. Having therefore received a charge, and having been fully assured through the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ and confirmed in the word of God with full assurance of the Holy Ghost, they went forth with the glad tidings that the kingdom of God should come. So preaching everywhere in country and town, they appointed their first-fruits, when they had proved them by the Spirit, to be bishops and deacons unto them that should believe.”

Ignatius of Antioch, early 2nd century

“Jesus Christ who was of the race of David, who was the Son of Mary, who was truly born and ate and drank, was truly persecuted under Pontius Pilate, was truly crucified and died in the sight of those in heaven and on earth and those under the earth; who moreover was truly raised from the dead, His Father having raised Him, who in the like fashion will so raise us also who believe on Him.”

~Epistle to the Trallians

Ignatius to the *Smyrneans*

“For I know and believe that He was in the flesh even after the resurrection; and when He came to Peter and his company, He said to them, ‘Lay hold and handle me, and see that I am not a demon without a body.’ And straightway they touched him and they believed, being joined unto His flesh and His blood. Wherefore also they despised death, nay they were found superior to death. And after His resurrection He [both] ate with them and drank with them.”

Epistle to the Magnesians:

“Be ye fully persuaded concerning the birth and the passion and the resurrection, which took place in the time of the governorship of Pontius Pilate; for these things were truly and certainly done by Jesus Christ our hope.”

~Ignatius

Quadrutus, AD 125, *Apology to Hadrian*

“The deeds of our Saviour were always before you, for they were true miracles; those that were healed, those that were raised from the dead, who were seen, not only when healed and when raised, but were always present. They remained living a long time, not only whilst our Lord was on earth, but likewise when he had left the earth. So that some of them have also lived to our own times.”

What did Jesus Claim About Himself?

Mark 14:60, “And the high priest stood up in the midst and asked Jesus, saying, ‘Do You answer nothing? What is it these men testify against You?’”

Mark 14:61, “But He kept silent and answered nothing. Again the high priest asked Him, saying to Him, ‘Are You the Christ, the Son of the Blessed?’ ”

Mark 14:62, “Jesus said, ‘I am. And you will see the Son of Man sitting at the right hand of the Power, and coming with the clouds of heaven.’”

Mark 14:63, “Then the high priest tore his clothes and said, ‘What further need do we have of witnesses?’”

Mark 14:64, “ ‘You have heard the blasphemy! What do you think?’ And they all condemned Him to be deserving of death.”

Lev. 10:6, “And Moses said to Aaron, and to Eleazar and Ithamar, his sons, ‘Do not uncover your heads nor tear your clothes, lest you die, and wrath come upon all the people. But let your brethren, the whole house of Israel, bewail the burning which the LORD has kindled.”

Lev. 21:10, “He who is the high priest among his brethren, on whose head the anointing oil was poured and who is consecrated to wear the garments, shall not uncover his head nor tear his clothes;”

Dan. 7:13, “I was watching in the night visions, and behold, One like the Son of Man, coming with the clouds of heaven! He came to the Ancient of Days, and they brought Him near before Him.”

Psa. 110:1, “The LORD said to my Lord, ‘Sit at My right hand, till I make Your enemies Your footstool.’ ”

Matt. 27:43, “He trusted in God; let Him deliver Him now if He will have Him; for He said, ‘I am the Son of God.’ ”

John 10:25, “Jesus answered them, ‘I told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in My Father’s name, they bear witness of Me. ...’”

John 10:30, “ ‘I and My Father are one.’”

John 10:31, “Then the Jews took up stones again to stone Him.”

John 10:32, “Jesus answered them, ‘Many good works I have shown you from My Father. For which of those works do you stone Me?’

John 10:33, “The Jews answered Him, saying, ‘For a good work we do not stone You, but for blasphemy, and because You, being a Man, make Yourself God.’ ”

John 5:17, “But Jesus answered them, ‘My Father has been working until now, and I have been working.’”

John 5:18, “Therefore the Jews sought all the more to kill Him, because He not only broke the Sabbath, but also said that God was His Father, making Himself equal with God.”

John 8:58, “Jesus said to them, ‘Most assuredly, I say to you, before Abraham was, I AM.’”

John 8:59, “Then they took up stones to throw at Him; but Jesus hid Himself and went out of the temple, going through the midst of them, and so passed by.”

John 8:19, “Then they said to Him, ‘Where is Your Father?’ Jesus answered, ‘You know neither Me nor My Father. If you had known Me, you would have known My Father also.’”

John 8:20, “These words Jesus spoke in the treasury, as He taught in the temple; and no one laid hands on Him, for His hour had not yet come.”

John 14:8, “Philip said to Him, ‘Lord, show us the Father, and it is sufficient for us.’”

John 14:9, “Jesus said to him, ‘Have I been with you so long, and yet you have not known Me, Philip? He who has seen Me has seen the Father; so how can you say, “Show us the Father”?’”

Rom. 9:5, “of whom are the fathers and from whom, according to the flesh, Christ came, who is over all, the eternally blessed God. Amen.”

Phil. 2:6, “who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God,

Phil. 2:7, “but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, and coming in the likeness of men.

Phil. 2:8, “And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross.”

Phil. 2:9, “Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name,

Phil. 2:10, “that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth,

Phil. 2:11, “and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.”

Acts 2:36, “Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly that God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Christ.”