

EASTER 2014

When Jesus Christ was here on earth, which is a provable fact of history, He made some remarkable claims about Himself, which is a recorded fact of history. I would like to point out 60 claims He made while He was here on earth:

Claim #1 - Matthew 4:17, 19

He made the claim to Israel that His Presence on earth meant the Kingdom of Heaven was present and He challenged people to specifically follow Him.

Claim #2 - Matthew 9:6

He made the claim that He had the authority of God on earth to forgive sins.

Claim #3 - Matthew 10:32

He made the claim that everyone who would confess Him before men, He would confess before His Father who was in heaven.

Claim #4 - Matthew 11:27

He made the claim that all things related to God, who was His Father, had been turned over to Him.

Claim #5 - Matthew 11:28-29

He made the claim that He could bring rest and peace to a troubled soul.

Claim #6 - Matthew 12:8

He made the claim that He was the Lord or the Sovereign Master of the Sabbath Day.

Claim #7 - Matthew 12:42

He made the claim that He was greater than Solomon.

Claim #8 - Matthew 12:50

He made the claim that whoever did the will of God the Father in heaven was His family member—brother, sister, mother.

Claim #9 - Matthew 15:24

He made the claim that He was sent by God to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.

Claim #10 - Matthew 16:13-19

He made the claim that He was the Christ or Jewish Messiah, and that He was the Son of the living God and that He had the keys of entrance into the Kingdom of heaven.

Claim #11 - Matthew 16:27

He made the claim that He was going to come back again in the full glory of God the Father, accompanied with angels and would repay every human for what he had done.

Claim #12 - Matthew 17:9

He made the claim that He would be risen from the dead.

Claim #13 - Matthew 17:22-23

He made the claim that men would take Him and kill Him and He would be raised on the third day.

Claim #14 - Matthew 18:11

He made the claim that He came to save the lost.

Claim #15 - Matthew 19:28

He made the claim that He would one day sit on a glorious throne as God and would allow the apostles to sit on twelve thrones judging the twelve tribes of Israel.

Claim #16 - Matthew 20:18-19

He made the claim that the religious leaders in Jerusalem would condemn Him to death and that Gentiles would beat him and crucify Him and that He would be raised up on the third day.

Claim #17 - Matthew 23:37

He made the claim that He could have given Israel her Kingdom and that He could have made Jerusalem, in Israel, the spiritual and religious headquarters of the world.

Claim #18 - Matthew 24:29-30

He made the claim that after the Tribulation, He would come back in all of His glory in the sky and everyone would see Him.

Claim #19 - Matthew 25:31-32

He made the claim that when He would return He would sit on a glorious throne and judge all the nations.

Claim #20 - Matthew 26:54, 56

He made the claim that all the negative things that happened to Him, including the betrayal and crucifixion, were a fulfillment of Scriptures.

Claim #21 - Matthew 28:18

He claimed that all heavenly authority was given to Him.

Claim #22 - Mark 2:10; 3:28

He claimed that He had all authority on earth to forgive sins, including “all sins.”

Claim #23 - Mark 8:31; 9:31; 10:33-34

He claimed several times that He had to suffer and be rejected by religious leaders and be killed and rise again three days later.

Claim #24 - Mark 8:38

He claimed that whoever was ashamed of Him and His Word would one day be ashamed when He returned in all of His glory.

Claim #25 - Mark 9:41

He claimed that whoever did something generous and nice for followers of Jesus Christ would one day be rewarded.

Claim #26 - Mark 10:29-31

He claimed that anyone who gave up relationships or things for Him and His name and for the Gospel's sake would receive 100 times as much and be rewarded in eternity.

Claim #27 - Mark 11:2-3

He told His disciples to go take a donkey and identify Him as the Lord.

Claim #28 - Mark 11:17

He claimed the Temple in Jerusalem, “My House.” We don't even call the church “my church”; we call it God's church. Jesus is telling people the Temple in Jerusalem this is “My House.”

Claim #29 - Mark 13:6

He claimed many would come in His name claiming to be Him.

Claim #30 - Mark 13:13

He claimed that His people would be hated because of His name.

Claim #31 - Mark 14:61-62

He claimed to the High Priest that He was the Messiah of Israel and the blessed Son of God.

Claim #32 - Luke 8:21

He claimed that those who listen to the Word of God, with the idea of obeying it, are His family.

Claim #33 - Luke 10:16

He claimed that whoever listens to the Word of God being taught listens to Him and whoever rejects the Word of God being taught rejects Him and rejects God.

Claim #34 - Luke 10:21-22

He claimed that all knowledge of God and His Word had been turned over to Him and that He could reveal these things to anyone He so desired.

Claim #35 - Luke 12:8

He claimed that anyone who confessed the truth about Him before men on earth, He would confess before the angels of God in heaven.

Claim #36 - Luke 19:9-10

Jesus went to the home of a notorious sinner and said, "today salvation has come to this house" and then He said He came to save that which was lost. **He is presenting Himself as Savior.**

Claim #37 - Luke 22:28-30

He told His disciples that because they had stayed with Him in trials that He would grant them a great leadership kingdom status to sit on heavenly thrones and judge the twelve tribes of Israel. He said that God the Father gave Him this power and authority.

Claim #38 - Luke 23:43

He told a man dying on a cross next to Him that he would be with Him in Paradise that very day.

Claim #39 - Luke 24:44-47

He claimed that all things He did and said were predicted about Him in the Law of Moses, the Prophets and the Psalms and that His death and resurrection was so that people could have their sins forgiven.

Claim #40 - John 1:48-49

He claimed that He saw something Nathanael did while under a fig tree, which prompted Nathanael to identify Him as the Son of God and King of Israel.

Claim #41 - John 3:13-15

He claimed He descended from heaven and whoever would believe in Him would have eternal life.

Claim #42 - John 4:25-26

He told a woman that He was the Messiah; the Christ and the "I AM." He uses this "I AM" title many times in John—6:20; 8:24, 28, 58; 18:5, 6, which is a title of Deity.

Claim #43 - John 5:19-24

He claimed that everything He did and said was always in complete harmony with God the Father and that He could give eternal life to any who would believe in Him and believe this about Him.

Claim #44 - John 5:39-40

He claimed that all inspired Scripture speaks of Him and the fact that any who will believe on Him will be saved.

Claim #45 - John 6:35-58

He claimed that God the Father sent Him to earth to be the living bread of life and to gather all that God would give to Him and that whoever would believe in Him would have eternal life and would live forever.

Claim #46 - John 7:16-18

He claimed that His teaching was not His but was the teaching of God the Father.

Claim #47 - John 8:23-29

He claimed that He was from above and everyone else was from below and He claims He always did and said everything that pleased God the Father all of the time.

Claim #48 - John 8:58

He claimed He existed before Abraham was born.

Claim #49 - John 10:28-30

He claimed that He was One with God the Father and that His works proved it and that He would give eternal life to anyone who would believe in Him. In fact, it was this very claim that prompted the Jews to pick up stones to stone Him because they knew He was claiming to be God.

Claim #50 - John 10:36

He claimed He was the Son of God.

Claim #51 - John 11:25-26

He claimed that He would give life to one who dies if the person believed in Him. He stresses that he who believes in “ME” will live even if he dies.

Claim #52 - John 14:3

He claimed that He would go to heaven and prepare a place for those who would believe in Him and then come back and get them and take them to heaven, which was the place where God the Father lived.

Claim #53 - John 14:6

He claimed that He was the only way to having a relationship with God the Father. He was not “a way”; He claimed He was the “only way.” **No one comes to the Father but by Him.**

Claim #54 - John 14:10-11

He claimed that He was identical in Deity to God the Father. In other words, He claimed He was God, the second member of the Trinity.

Claim #55 - John 14:13-14

He claimed that believers could pray to God the Father in His name and expect an answer.

Claim #56 - John 15:26

He claimed that He was in a heavenly position to authorize the Spirit of God to come from heaven. He called this Spirit “His” Spirit, the Father’s Spirit, the Helper and the Spirit of Truth. He said that He would authorize this Spirit to come and live inside every believer.

Claim #57 - John 16:15

He claimed that all things of God the Father were His.

Claim #58 - John 17:20-26

He prayed that God the Father would allow all who would believe in Him to go to heaven to see both of these Members of the Trinity in all of their glory which He claimed He had before He came to this earth.

Claim #59 - John 18:33, 37

He claimed that He was the King of the Jews to Pilate, who asked Him that specific question.

Claim #60 - John 20:28-29

He claimed that He was the Lord and He was God—Thomas said, “My Lord and My God.”

Now you must admit these are amazing claims. Have you ever known of any person who makes claims like this? He claims to be the Messiah and King of Israel; He claims to be the Savior who can save a sinner from sins. He claims to be God. He claims He is the only way a person may even have a relationship with God.

Now we have examined all these 60 claims to bring you to this question:

What kind of validity would there be to these claims if He would have been killed and buried and stayed dead? What kind of King, Savior, Messiah or God could He possibly be if He were killed and buried and stayed dead?

Now of all of the claims He made, the most tangible and provable would be if He were killed and then three days later came back to life. That was a claim He made many times.

It is one thing to claim you are the Messiah and King of Israel or Savior of all sins or that you are greater than Solomon, or that you are God and are one with God the Father. But it is quite another to claim that you will rise from the dead three days after being killed. If you do rise for the dead just as you said, then we may assume that all the other things you said are also true.

In fact, we would go so far as to say that every one of these 60 claims hinges on the claim that He be raised from the dead. If He is not raised from the dead, then all of the claims He makes don't mean anything. But if He is raised from the dead, then all other claims are absolutely true.

He was raised from the dead and millions of people all over the world acknowledge that today. What that means is that everything else Jesus Christ claimed is also true. And one of the things He claimed was that He could forgive all of your sin and bring peace to your soul. Believe on Him and He will do exactly what He claimed He would do.