

“Who Do You Say I Am”

Luke 9:18-22

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¹⁸ Now it happened that as he was praying alone, the disciples were with him. And he asked them, “Who do the crowds say that I am?” ¹⁹ And they answered, “John the Baptist. But others say, Elijah, and others, that one of the prophets of old has risen.” ²⁰ Then he said to them, “But who do you say that I am?” And Peter answered, “The Christ of God.” ²¹ And he strictly charged and commanded them to tell this to no one, ²² saying, “The Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised.”

MAIN POINT: We must recognize and confess Jesus as Christ

1. The Growing Question of Jesus’ True Identity in Luke
 - a. 4:22 - And all spoke well of him and marveled at the gracious words that were coming from his mouth. And they said, “Is not this Joseph's son?”
 - b. 7:16 - Fear seized them all, and they glorified God, saying, “A great prophet has arisen among us!” and “God has visited his people!”
 - c. 8:25 - He said to them, “Where is your faith?” And they were afraid, and they marveled, saying to one another, “Who then is this, that he commands even winds and water, and they obey him?”
 - d. 9:7-9 - ⁷Now Herod the tetrarch heard about all that was happening, and he was perplexed, because it was said by some that John had been raised from the dead, ⁸ by some that Elijah had appeared, and by others that one of the prophets of old had risen. ⁹ Herod said, “John I beheaded, but who is this about whom I hear such things?” And he sought to see him.
2. The Crowd’s Understanding of Jesus
 - a. The three opinions back then (v.19)
 - b. Current false opinions of Jesus
3. Peter’s Confession
 - a. Knowing Christ differently from the crowd
 - b. The Messiah
 - c. Matthew 16:17
 - i. “If everyone else had missed the fact that Jesus was the Messiah, how did Peter come to this realization? Not by “flesh and blood,” Jesus said, for a true understanding of Christ comes not from human invention. Instead, a true understanding of Christ comes only from divine revelation.” - **David Platt**
 - ii. “You have been enabled to recognize the pearl of great price, and if God never gives you another blessing for the rest of your days on this earth, you will have no reason to do anything else but proclaim His glory and His mercy to the whole world, because the greatest blessing a human being can ever receive is the blessing of knowing Him. - **RC Sproul**
 - d. Jesus explains his mission as the Messiah (v. 21-22)
4. Our Confession
 - a. “There is no greater tragedy or error of judgment in life than to underestimate him. To miss the one who possesses the gift of life is to miss life itself.” - Darrell Bock
 - b. Who you say Jesus is will determine how you follow him