

Subject: *The Case for Christ*

Scripture: *John 10:30-42*

Most of you can remember when your parents said, “Just do it because I told you so.” I want you to think about how Jesus came to this world and when He was about 30 years old started His ministry that lasted about three and a half years. He was God in human flesh. He could have said, “Just do what I say because I told you so.” But He didn’t. He was patient and gave us reasons to believe Him and receive Him. He showed us evidence that should have convinced even the hardest hearts to repent and turn to Him.

Here’s what we find when we read the Gospels. Jesus said things and did things to prove who He was. He expected men to think about what He said and what He did, to compare all that with Scripture, and then to conclude that He was in fact the Son of God and Savior of the world. What more could He have done to convince sinners to turn from their sins and believe in Him?

THE CLAIM OF JESUS (vs. 30)

Verse 30 contains one of the strongest statements Jesus ever made. He said that He and God the Father are one. They are one in nature (essence) and one in purpose. In other words Jesus is God in human flesh and He does what God does. It is clear statement of His deity. Only Jesus could say “my Father” in a special unique sense. The Bible says that Jesus is the only begotten Son (one of a kind Son). And this is not the first time He made that claim:

John 5:17-18 ¹⁷ *But Jesus answered them, My Father worketh hitherto, and I work.*
¹⁸ *Therefore the Jews sought the more to kill him, because he not only had broken the sabbath, but said also that God was his Father, making himself equal with God.*

John 8:58-59 ⁵⁸ *Jesus said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Before Abraham was, I am.* ⁵⁹ *Then took they up stones to cast at him: but Jesus hid himself, and went out of the temple, going through the midst of them, and so passed by.*

THE CHARGE AGAINST JESUS (vs. 31-39)

There was no doubt among the people who heard Him that He claimed to be God (vs. 33). They said, “We stone you not for what you have done, but for what you have said.”

Even today liberals and unbelievers try to discredit Jesus and tone down His claims to be the divine Son of God, but the people who were eyewitnesses who saw Him and heard what He said know exactly what He claimed to be: God in human flesh.

Jesus answered their charge, saying that there were inconsistent (vs. 34-36). He said, “You don’t object that the Scriptures call men “gods,” but you object to me calling myself the Son of God.” Jesus was quoting **Psalms 82:6** *I have said, Ye are gods; and all of you are children of the most High.* This psalm contains two verses that refer to human leaders, kings, judges as “gods” because they had the power of God delegated to them. Jesus based His argument on the power and accuracy of God’s Word (vs. 35). The Word cannot be broken.

Jesus had a very high view of Scripture. The way He used it and referred to it is beyond any question or doubt. He spoke of its authority and its accuracy. He said it was perfect and powerful and indestructible and unchangeable.

Jesus also answered their charge by pointing to His works (vs. 37-38). You see the works of God being done by me, but you refuse to believe my claims. In both cases Jesus is basing His defense on reasonable logic. He challenges them to consider the Scriptures and the evidence.

THE COMMITMENT TO JESUS (vs. 40-42)

Jesus went to the area where John had baptized and stayed there as a safe haven. As people came to Him they were reminded of John's ministry and message. Note two important things:

- John was committed to speak the truth about Jesus

John was not a miracle worker, but he was a faithful preacher of the truth. His testimony about Christ continued to have an influence.

- Believers were committed to Christ because of that truth

These are still the two basic ingredients of Biblical evangelism:

We must share the truth about Christ and people must believe the truth about Christ to be saved. **John 8:32** *And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.*

In closing I want to point out three notable statements that have only six words each:

- Vs. 30 – I and my Father are one
- Vs. 35 – and the scripture cannot be broken
- Vs. 42 – and many believed on Him there

We may not be right on everything, but we've got to be right on these three things:

- We've got to be right on Jesus
- We've got to be right on Scripture
- We've got to be right on faith