

## Luke 9: Who Is This Jesus?

**Luke 9:18-24** Luke has just shown the culmination of Jesus' Galilean ministry with the feeding of the 5,000, so he transitions directly into this decisive dialogue.

- ✓ All the evidence was in; nothing more needed to be proven.
- ✓ Ultimately, no one can answer this question of who Jesus is for us.

### 1. It's an unavoidable question.

- ✓ Everyone feels like they have to question Jesus' miracles, but the people of the day including His enemies never questioned them, never denied them.
  - ✓ They were performed in public for the most part, and as many as 20,000 witnessed them at any one time. Evidence demands a verdict!
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### 2. It's a question that has a time limit.

- ✓ For many of these in Jesus' day, the term ran out before their lives ran out.
  - ✓ The crowd's chance to give the right answer was over.
  - ✓ We see it more clearly in **John 12:34-38: verse 34** They still don't know who He is after all that He has done?
  - ✓ They don't know the answer because they have refused to believe it from the beginning.
  - ✓ **John 12:36** Your ability to answer correctly has a time limit on it.
  - ✓ **John 12:37** Even after all that He had done.
  - ✓ **John 12:39-40** They would not believe, so that when the time was up, they could not.
  - ✓ It was judicial, a judgment of God.
  - ✓ They wouldn't, which eventually meant that they couldn't.
  - ✓ They don't know the answer because they have refused to believe the right one.
  - ✓ Why can't they catch who Jesus is? Because they don't want to.
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### 3. It's a question that is answered first by God. Jesus was God's Messiah before He was any of ours.

- ✓ The secret is revealed in Peter's; "Christ of God,;" Christ is the same as Messiah in Hebrew.
  - ✓ We have to have the order right to come to the right conclusion. We saw earlier John's confession of Jesus, "The Lamb of God."
  - ✓ He's God's lamb first and foremost; we see only what Jesus does for us and not so much what He does for God.
  - ✓ He allows God to stop the court proceedings that were sentencing us to death. He's God's Savior, Lamb, Christ, first before He's ever ours.
  - ✓ God is making every effort to deliver Himself from what He knows He has to do, destroy sin and, thus, sinners.
  - ✓ The people became consistently disillusioned with Jesus because He wasn't who they wanted Him to be; that was their problem.
  - ✓ They had decided who their Messiah was to be, a political and economic ruler who would do their bidding; He could not accommodate that.
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- ✓ But Jesus came to do God's bidding, God's Christ. He can't be your Christ until you understand that He is God's Christ first.
  - ✓ If He's our Christ first, then we can make Him into whatever we want.
  - ✓ This Christ is not a reflection of the current mood or the projection of our own desires. He is our Lord and God. He is the Father's Son, Savior of the world, and substitute for our sins; more loving, more holy, and more wonderfully terrifying than we ever thought possible.
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