Christ, Cross, *and* Consummation

a great leader

"I'm sure Jesus made mistakes, too."

just a prophet

"He was a good moral teacher, but nothing else."

a created being

"I worship Jesus, along with all the other deities."

failed political rebel

Who *is* Jesus?

Christians believe that Jesus is fully God and fully man, the Son of God, and the second Person of the Trinity.

Other religions distort these teachings. Mormons and Jehovah's Witnesses portray Jesus as a created being instead of the infinite Creator, and Muslims claim that Jesus was merely a prophet. Secularists often present Jesus as being overly gentle and never judgmental. They may accept that He was a good moral teacher but not God in the flesh.

But what does the Bible teach? What did Jesus say about Himself?

Jesus *is the* Creator

- Jesus, the Word, was with God in the beginning: *In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God … All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made.* John 1:1, 3

- Jesus created all things: *For by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible … All things were created through Him and for Him. And He is before all things, and in Him all things consist.* Colossians 1:16–17

- Jesus made the world: *God has in these last days spoken to us by His Son, whom He has appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made everything.* Hebrews 1:2

Jesus *is* God

- Jesus applied God's name to Himself: *Jesus said to them, "Most assuredly, I say to you, before Abraham was, I AM."* John 8:58

- Jesus said that He grants eternal life and claimed equality with God the Father: *"My sheep hear My voice … and I give them eternal life … I and My Father are one."* John 10:27–30

- Jesus said He had authority to forgive sins: *When Jesus saw their faith, —He said to the paralytic—"I say to you, rise, pick up your bed, and go home."* Mark 2:5, 10

- Jesus received worship from men: *Thomas answered Him, "My Lord and my God!"* John 20:28