

CHRIST MADE DISTURBING CLAIMS

Text: John 8:51-59

INTRO: Jesus was quite a disturber. He disturbed the Pharisees, the Sadducees, His family, and sometimes His friends. He preached a disturbing message. He asked disturbing questions. He made disturbing claims. For the next few minutes, we will look at some of His disturbing claims.

I. HE CLAIMED ULTIMATE GREATNESS.

- A. Greater preacher than Jonah, Matt. 12:41
- B. Greater wisdom than Solomon, Matt. 12:42
- C. Greater provider than Jacob, John 4:12.
- D. Greater than Abraham, John 8:53, 58.
- E. Greater than the temple, Matt. 12:6

II. HE CLAIMED DEITY.

- A. He spoke of His pre-existence, John 17:5, 24; 8:58.
- B. He claimed the power to forgive sins, Matt. 9:5-6
- C. The Jews understood His claim to Deity.
John 10:30-33, "I & My Father are one." Then the Jews took up stones again to stone Him. Jesus answered them, "Many good works I have shown you from My Father. For which of those works do you stone Me?" The Jews answered Him, saying, "For a good work we do not stone You, but for blasphemy, and because You, being a Man, make Yourself God."

D. "I AM," John 8:58

Ex 3:13-14, Then Moses said to God, "Indeed, when I come to the children of Israel and say to them, 'The God of your fathers has sent me to you,' and they say to me, 'What is His name?' what shall I say to them?"
14 And God said to Moses, "I AM WHO I AM." And He said, "Thus you shall say to the children of Israel, 'I AM has sent me to you.' "

III. CLAIMS THAT DISTURB FOLKS TODAY.

- A. John 14:6, "No one comes to the Father except thru Me."
- B. Matt 7:21
 - 1. Faith only.

2. Good outweighs the bad.
3. Better than Hitler, Stalin, Charles Manson.

C. Matt. 28:18, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth."

1. church councils, conventions, assoc. have none
2. creed books, majority opinions, you & I have none.

D. Mark 16:16, "He who believes and is baptized will be s."

E. John 12:48, "The word that I have spoken will judge... in the last day."

Susquehanna, Marietta, PA, December 14, 1997

East Orange, NJ, December 31, 1997

Shiloh, Mexia, TX, December 30, 1998

Susquehanna, Marietta, PA, April 17, 2005