



The contrary of a truth can never be demonstrated - Thomas Aquinas

Confident Christians

The True Identity of Jesus – Does it Matter?

Does it really matter if you believe Jesus is God, or merely a created man, or just a good teacher?

Understand What Identity Is

Identity is one of the four laws of logic:

1. The law of non-contradiction
2. The law of the excluded middle
3. The law of rational inference
4. The law of identity

The law of identity says basically that "A" is "A", and nothing else but "A".

Identity is important for two reasons:

1. It makes rational communication possible. You couldn't hold a single meaningful conversation without it.
2. It serves as a critical protection mechanism.

Identity protects you in the natural world at every turn. It's what keeps you from not mistaking a bottle of poison for a glass of lemonade.

The law of identity is immune from:

1. Sincerity – no matter how sincerely you think poison is lemonade, you'll still suffer from it
2. Belief – no matter how much you believe poison is lemonade, you'll suffer from it.
3. Desire – no matter how much you desire poison to be lemonade, you'll still suffer from it.

Is there any reason to believe the law of identity works different in the spiritual world than it does in the natural world?

Understand Jesus' Identity

There is only one Jesus and His true identity is as follows:

1. He is God in the flesh, the second member of the trinity (John 1:1-14).
2. He is the one and only Christ, the Savior of the world (Matthew 16:16).
3. He is the supreme judge over all humanity (Matthew 25:31-46).

The law of non-contradiction says that something cannot be "A" and "Non-A" at the same time and in the same sense. If Jesus' true identity is revealed in the above three points, this means that Jesus is NOT:

1. A created being.
2. Just one of many other important prophets of God.
3. Just a good, moral teacher.
4. One of the manifestations of the Christ (like Buddha, etc.)

Using the law of identity, what are the consequences of believing in a false Christ? Jesus said,

"Therefore I said to you that you will die in your sins; for unless you believe that I am *He*, you will die in your sins." (John 8:24).

Remember that idols are idols whether they are mental or medal.

Understand Your Decision

There are three reasons why believing in the true identity of Jesus Christ matters:

1. It enables a true salvation experience to occur.
2. It enables true reconciliation between God and man to occur.
3. It enables a true view of God and affects the way we live.

First, it allows salvation to occur for a person. Is it just some strange coincidence that every cult, false religion, and humanist depiction of Christ strips Him of His deity? A.W. Tozer said, "To believe on Christ savingly means to believe the right things about Christ. There is no escaping this."

Next, it enables real reconciliation to occur as only the God-man can represent both God and man in the divine-human relationship. Paul wrote, "For there is one God, *and* one mediator also between God and men, *the* man Christ Jesus, who gave Himself as a ransom for all, the testimony *given* at the proper time." (1 Timothy 2:5-6)

Finally, Jesus shows us what God is like because He is God. And as such, He has the right to tell us how to live moral and godly lives.

The law of identity says concretely that accepting error has undesired consequences, both in the physical and spiritual world. A fake Jesus leads to a fake salvation, which leads to a very real Hell.