

# Gateway Christian Fellowship

Meeting every Lord's Day (Sunday) in the Tower Hotel at 11.30a.m.

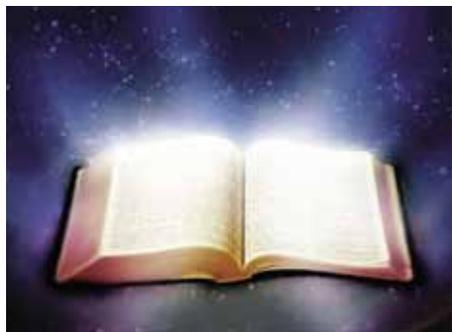
Number 1001

## Jesus, who do you think He was?



People may not have much time for religion, but nearly everybody has an opinion about Jesus. Some think He was a great teacher. Others say He was a miracle worker. Still others claim He was a freedom-fighter. But what about you? Who do you think He was? And how important is it, any way, to know who He was?

# ***“The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.”***



To find out who someone really is it's wise to ask those who knew him best. We have not just one account but four separate records of who Jesus was and what He did. They each go by the name of their author – Matthew, Mark, Luke and John. The words at the top of this page come from the shortest account, written by Mark. All that these four writers record really did happen. Matthew and John saw with their own eyes and heard with their own ears much of what they set down. Mark gathered his information from the apostle Peter who often seemed to be Jesus's right-hand man. What these men are writing, each of them with God's direct help, is the gospel. That word simply means 'good news'. Their message is

that this person called Jesus (whose name means 'Saviour') has been born into the world and His coming is good news for the whole world.

That brings us to who this Jesus really is. If someone is a great teacher, then you can listen to him and learn something. But how do you know if he's teaching the truth? If someone can do miracles, people will certainly follow him. But how do you know that they're not just cunning tricks that are actually deceiving people? At the very beginning of his account Mark puts his cards on the table. He tells us who he believes Jesus is – the Son of God. Not just a son of God, but the one and only Son of God whom He had promised He would send. ***The question is – do you agree with Mark's assessment? And if you do, what difference does it make?***



Let's take a quick look at Mark's gospel account. If Jesus is the Son of God then He must be a person with authority. When He speaks, people will sit up. When He acts, people's lives will be changed. And that is exactly what Mark shows us.

In Mark chapter 1 verses 21-28 we see and hear **Jesus teaching, with authority**, so that the people are amazed. He didn't quote other wise men. He normally said simply, **"I say to you..."**.



In Mark chapter 2 verses 1-12 Jesus heals a paralysed man, instantly, so that he can walk and pick up his own mattress. This shows Jesus's **authority over illness**. We would all love someone like that to take care of our aches and pains, wouldn't we?

Before Jesus heals the man He forgives his sin (chapter 2 verse 5). **Jesus has authority to forgive sin**. The sceptical Jews are right to ask (verse 7), **"Who can forgive sins but God alone?"** Jesus's pardon of sins shows He is God.



As you read on in Mark you'll see Jesus calming a storm (chapter 4 verses 35-41) – He has **authority over nature**. He also casts out demons from a possessed man (chapter 5 verses 1-20) – He has **authority over evil spirits**. And in chapter 5 verses 21-43 He brings a dead girl back to life – He has **authority over death itself**.

One day, while out walking by the Sea of Galilee, Jesus calls four men to leave their profession and follow Him (chapter 1 verses 16-20). That shows that He has **authority over people's lives**. Since Jesus is the Son of God with all this authority, have you submitted to His power over your life?



For you to benefit from the person of Jesus, the first thing you must believe is that He was, and is, the unique Son of God with the power and authority of God.

In your home you may have a three-legged stool, like the one in the sketch. Such a stool isn't much use with one of its legs missing. To believe that Jesus is the Son of God with power is one of three things you must believe in order to be right with the God who made you and everything else.

**Jesus is the Son of God**



*The Emperor Napoleon recognised that the empire he had built, and many other empires previously, were founded on force. "Jesus alone founded an empire on love," he said, "and to this day millions would die for Him."*

***This leaflet was passed on to you by a member of the Gateway Christian Fellowship. We meet to worship God every Lord's Day (Sunday) at 11.30a.m. in the Tower Hotel and we would love to see you there.***

**If you would like to know more about the Bible or about Jesus, its main subject, please call Stephen on 074 2892 5764 and leave a message.**

**May God bring you to real and lasting faith in His Son!**