

The Miraculous Jesus

Key Text: John 21:24-25; Matthew 16:13-17 | **Theme:** Jesus is the only person in history who proved he is God through science, miracles, and fulfilled prophecies, leaving every one of us with a choice that decides our eternal future.

01 The Ultimate Question of Identity

- **The Two Most Important Questions:**
 - Who is Jesus Christ? (The historical/theological fact)
 - Who is Jesus Christ to you? (The personal decision)
- **The Weight of the Answer:** Your response to Jesus determines your eternal destiny. There is no neutral ground.
- **The Historical Reality:** *Two millennia since His birth, yet more Christians are alive today than all Christians who have ever lived combined.
- **Jesus' Impact vs. Human Means:**
 - No political office, yet the most followed Leader.
 - No formal education, yet the most influential Teacher.
 - No medical license, yet the greatest Healer of souls/minds.
 - No watch, yet He is the center of time (B.C. vs. A.D.).

03 The Three Categories of Jesus' Miracles

1. **Jesus performed miracles not for entertainment, but to reveal His power over every realm of existence:**

Category	Description	Key Examples
Power Over Nature	Nature obeyed His voice immediately.	Water to wine; Feeding 20,000; Calming the storm; Walking on water.
Power Over Disease	Disease fled at His touch or word.	Healing lepers, the blind, and the paralytic; Restoring Malchus' ear.
Power Over Death	Death yielded up its prey.	Jairus' daughter; The Widow's son; Lazarus; His own Resurrection.

04 The Christological Argument: What Jesus Says of the Bible

Because of His claims, we cannot settle for Jesus being just a "good teacher." We are left with only three logical options:

1. **Lunatic:** He thought He was God but was insane.
2. **Liar:** He knew He wasn't God but deceived everyone.
3. **Lord:** He is exactly who He claimed to be.

02 Validating the Claims of Christ

To move from "curious" to "critical," we must examine the evidence across four major fields:

- **A. The Scientific Viewpoint** (The Bible describes physical realities long before modern discovery)
 - **Cosmology:** The Earth as a sphere suspended in space (Isaiah 40:22; Job 26:7).
 - **Global Time:** Simultaneous day and night activities on a rotating Earth (Luke 17:34-35).
 - **Astronomy:** The sun's circuit and the moon as a reflector (Psalm 19:5-6; Matthew 24:29).
 - **Biology:** The "life is in the blood"—refuting centuries of deadly bloodletting (Leviticus 17:11).
 - **Hydrology:** The water cycle described accurately (Ecclesiastes 1:7; Job 36:27-28).
- **B. The Prophetic Viewpoint**
 - **The Impossibility of Chance:** Jesus fulfilled over 300 specific Old Testament prophecies.
 - **Key Examples:** Born in Bethlehem (Micah 5:2), coming out of Egypt (Hosea 11:1), and the specific manner of his death (Psalm 22).
 - **Logical Conclusion:** No group of humans could "invent" a person who fits hundreds of ancient, scattered predictions by random chance.
- **C. The Historical/Archaeological Viewpoint**
 - **Secular Consensus:** Tacitus, Josephus, and Pliny the Younger confirm Jesus as a historical figure.
 - **Physical Settings:** Excavations have confirmed the Nazareth house, the Pool of Bethesda, and the Caiaphas Ossuary.
- **D. The Miraculous Viewpoint** If God exists, the supernatural is expected. Jesus' life is framed by three miraculous "proofs":
 - **Miraculous Entrance:** The Virgin Birth (Isaiah 7:14)—biological impossibilities are nothing to the Creator.
 - **Miraculous Conduct:** The Sinless Life (Hebrews 4:15)—His moral perfection validates His divine nature.
 - **Miraculous Words:** His teaching "struck people out of their senses" (John 7:46). Even enemies admitted, "Never has a man spoken like this."

05 Application: How Will You Respond?

- **Inventing Jesus:** Many create a "Jesus of their own imagination" (via media or culture) instead of the Jesus revealed in the Bible.
- **The Biblical Requirement:** To find the true Jesus, one must accept the authority of Scripture.

The Final Decision: If Jesus is God, He is the only Savior, the only source of peace, and the only way to the Father (John 14:6).