



Is er meer tussen hemel en tentamen?

Cursus aantekeningen

Week 1

// **Wie is Jezus?**

Introduction

1. He existed

- Evidence outside the New Testament about Jesus
- Evidence within the New Testament

2. He was fully human

- Human body
 - tired (John 4:6)
 - hungry (Matthew 4:2)
- Human emotions
 - anger (Mark 11:15–17)
 - love (Mark 10:21)
 - sadness (John 11:32–36)
- Human experiences
 - temptation (Mark 1:13)
 - learning (Luke 2:46–52)
 - work (Mark 6:3)

What did he say about himself?

1. Teaching centred on himself

- I am
 - *'I am the bread of life'* (John 6:35)
 - *'I am the light of the world'* (John 8:12)
 - *'I am the resurrection and the life'* (John 11:25, 26)
 - *'I am the way and the truth and the life'* (John 14:6)
- *'Come to me'* (Matthew 11:28, 29)
- *'Follow me'* (Mark 1:17)
- Receive me – receive God (Matthew 10:40)
- Welcome me – welcome God (Mark 9:37)
- To have seen me is to have seen God (John 14:9)

2. His indirect claims

- To forgive sins (Mark 2:5)
- To judge the world (Matthew 25:31, 32, 40, 45)

3. His direct claims

- Messiah (Mark 14:61, 62)
- Son of God (Mark 14:61)
- God the Son
 - *'my Lord and my God'* (John 20:26–29)
 - *'claim to be God'* (John 10:30–33)

C.S. Lewis wrote:

'A man who was merely a man, and said the sort of things Jesus said, wouldn't be a great moral teacher. He'd either be insane; or else he'd be the devil of hell. You must make your choice. Either this man was and is the Son of God, or else insane or something worse. But don't let's come up with any patronising nonsense about his being "a great human teacher". He hasn't left that open to us. He didn't intend to.'

What evidence is there to support what he said?

- His teaching
 - e.g. Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 5-7)
- His works
 - water to wine (John 2:1-11)
 - feeding 5,000 (Luke 9:10-17)
 - raising the dead (John 11:1-43)
- His character
- His fulfilment of Old Testament prophecy
- His conquest of death

Evidence for the Resurrection

1. His absence from the tomb

- Theories:
 - Jesus did not die (John 19:33-34)
 - disciples stole the body
 - authorities stole the body
 - robbers stole the body (John 20:1-9)

2. His presence with the disciples

- Hallucination?
- Number of appearances
 - at least eleven different occasions
 - 500+ people
- Nature of appearances (Luke 24:36-43)

3. Immediate effect

- Birth and growth of Christian church

4. Effect down the ages

- Experience of Christians down the ages
- Conclusion
- There is a lot of evidence to support Jesus' existence and resurrection
- Christians believe he is the Son of God

Recommended reading

Alpha – Questions of Life

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ISBN 9781842911648