

THE CLAIMS OF JESUS -- RELATED TO HUMAN NEEDS

By Keith Greer

Jesus claimed to be able to help men with some of their most important human needs. Could the one who claimed such things be just an "ordinary man" among men?

He is our Savior -- He saved us from sin. "You search the Scriptures, for in them you think you have eternal life; and these are they which testify of Me. But you are not willing to come to Me that you may have life." {John 5:39,40} He is the ONLY source of eternal life - for those who obey. "He who believes in the Son has everlasting life; and he who does not believe the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God abides on him." {John 3:36}

He is the water of life. "...Whoever drinks of this water will thirst again, but whoever drinks of the water that I shall give him will never thirst. But the water that I shall give him will become in him a fountain of water springing up into everlasting life." {John 4:13,14}

He is the bread of life. "For the bread of God is He who comes down from heaven and gives life to the world. Then they said to Him, "Lord, give us this bread always." And Jesus said to them, I am the bread of life. He who comes to Me shall never hunger, and he who believes in Me shall never thirst." {John 6:33-35} He sustains us with the only spiritual food our souls will ever need. Can anyone else make such a claim?

He is the light of the world. "...A little while longer the light is with you. Walk while you have the light, lest darkness overtake you; he who walks in darkness does not know where he is going. While you have the light, believe in the light, that you may become sons of light." {John 12:35,36} In a world that dwells in sin's spiritual darkness, He is the only true light!

He is the way, the truth, and the life... "Jesus said to him, I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me." {John 14:6} No one can approach the father without going through Jesus. He is our only mediator, 1 Timothy 2:5.

He is the vine. "I am the true vine, and My Father is the vinedresser. Every branch in Me that does not bear fruit, He takes away; and every branch that bears fruit, He prunes, that it may bear more fruit." {John

15:1,2} He is the means by which we receive spiritual nourishment and our ability to bear spiritual fruit. Without Him, we cannot be spiritually productive.

He is the resurrection and the life. "Jesus said to her, I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live. And whoever lives and believes in Me shall never die. Do you believe this?" {John 11:25,26} Without the life, death, and resurrection of the man Jesus, mankind has no hope for life beyond the grave! "No one takes it from Me, but I lay it down of Myself. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it again. This command I have received from My Father." {John 10:18} He died willingly because He loves His Father and us. "And this is the will of Him who sent Me, that everyone who sees the Son and believes in Him may have everlasting life; and I will raise him up at the last day." {John 6:40}

Do you believe that Jesus Christ can meet all our human needs (physical and spiritual)? Could just anyone make these claims and back them with His life and death? Do you see Jesus yet in the larger picture? Could there be stronger credentials than His? The evidence is very compelling to those who are looking for answers in this world. Jesus makes sense in the midst of confusion! ***