

## **“Who do you say I am?”**

Matthew 16:13–20

📖 Romans 9:17 (NIV84) “For the Scripture says to Pharaoh: “I raised you up for this very purpose, that I might display My power in you and that My name might be proclaimed in all the earth.”

📖 Proverbs 21:1 (NCV) “The Lord can control a king’s mind as He controls a river; He can direct it as He pleases.”

📖 John 19:10–11 (NASB) “...Pilate said to Him, “You do not speak to me? Do You not know that I have authority to release You, and I have authority to crucify You?”<sup>11</sup> Jesus answered, “You would have no authority over Me, unless it had been given you from above...”

### **Some people have no clue who Jesus is.**

📖 Matthew 16:13 (NIV84) “When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi, He asked His disciples, “Who do people say the Son of Man is?”

#### **Jesus was called:**

- A glutton and a drunk. (Matt 11:19)
- A blasphemer. (Matt 26:65)
- A deceiver. (Matt 27:63)
- Demon-possessed and insane (John 10:20)

📖 Matthew 16:14 (NIV84) “They replied, “Some say John the Baptist; others say Elijah; and still others, Jeremiah or one of the prophets.”

📖 Matthew 14:1–2 (NIV84) “At that time Herod the tetrarch heard the reports about Jesus,<sup>2</sup> and he said to his attendants, “This is John the Baptist; he has risen from the dead! That is why miraculous powers are at work in Him.”

📖 Malachi 4:5 (NIV84) “See, I will send you the prophet Elijah before that great and dreadful day of the Lord comes.”

📖 Matthew 11:13–14 (NIV84) “For all the Prophets and the Law prophesied until John.<sup>14</sup> And if you are willing to accept it, he is the Elijah who was to come.”

### **Some people are absolutely certain who Jesus is.**

📖 Matthew 16:15–16 (NIV84) “But what about you?” He asked. “Who do you say I am?”<sup>16</sup> Simon Peter answered, “You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.”

📖 Matthew 16:17 (NIV84) “Jesus replied, “Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah, for this was not revealed to you by man, but by my Father in heaven.”

📖 Matthew 16:18–19 (NIV84) “And I tell you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it.<sup>19</sup> I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven; whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.”

📖 Matthew 11:12 (NIV84) “...the kingdom of heaven has been forcefully advancing, and forceful men lay hold of it.”

📖 Matthew 16:20 (NIV84) “Then He warned His disciples not to tell anyone that He was the Christ.”

📖 John 6:67–69 (NIV84) “You do not want to leave too, do you?” Jesus asked the Twelve.<sup>68</sup> Simon Peter answered Him, “Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life.<sup>69</sup> We believe and know that you are the Holy One of God.”

📖 Matthew 28:18–20 (NIV84) “Then Jesus came to them and said, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.<sup>19</sup> Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,<sup>20</sup> and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”

**Digging Deeper:** Who do you say Jesus is? Do you believe that Jesus is God’s One and Only Son? Do you believe that Jesus is God? Is Jesus your Savior and Lord? Do you acknowledge that God is in control? Do you believe that God is at work in this world and that no one is in authority that God did not place in authority? In what ways will you advance the Kingdom of God this week?