

Today's Message
The Incredible Claims of Jesus
John 14:1-11

Sometimes we encounter claims that seem too incredible to be true. Jesus made some incredible claims about Himself. Incredible claims are not necessarily false; they just need to be backed up with incredible proof! Let's examine the claims of Jesus then see if there is sufficient proof to back it up.

1. I am the one and the only one who can bring contentment to your troubled hearts.

"I have said these things to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart, I have overcome the world."

John 16:33

2. I am the one and the only one who is the way to heaven.

"And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved." Acts 4:12

Heaven – Home of God (Kingdom, City, Countryside images, combines the splendor of all: intimacy, culture, beauty, peace, community – GOD!)

The Only Way – Doesn't sit well with modern inclusive philosophy. Seems very hateful to say one is right and another is wrong. Unless it's wrong, then it's loving! If I say danger lies ahead and you disagree. It would not be hateful but loving to convince you otherwise. Christ is inclusive in that all are invited to heaven through him. Christ is exclusive in that only those who come to Him can go to heaven.

3. I am the one and the only one who perfectly reveals the truth of God.

"No one has ever seen God; the only God, who is at the Father's side, he has made him known."

John 1:18

We see God by looking at Jesus. "I see God in everything." True in that we can see God's work in His creation and his creative genius. False in that everything is not God Himself.

John 8:32, 36

4. I am the one and the only one who gives life that is abundant and eternal life.

"I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die. Do you believe this?" John 11:25-26

The Proof: The Resurrection

1. **An Empty Tomb:** Guarded, Enemies only needed to go to the tomb to squash Christianity if the body was there. History speaks of the instant rise of a faith called the Way who were followers of Christ and were willing to die for their conviction in his death, burial, and resurrection!
2. **The Bible:** 66 different books, 40 different authors, thousands of years, a Unity unparalleled by any other religious books, books that were written by one author. Geography continues to discover things the Bible has told us for years, Textual evidence of its accuracy far exceeds that of any ancient books, books that scholars consider accurate such as books by Plato, Socrates, etc. True every other area. Inspired by God.
3. **Eye witness:** Matthew, Mark, Luke, John, Peter, Paul and over 500 others, 129 hours of eye witness evidence
4. **Transformed lives:** Cowards become martyrs, Enemies become followers (Paul, centurion)
5. **Baptism**
6. **Sunday Worship**
7. **Personal Experience**