

The Trilemma (Part 2)

Last time, we began a short study of a classic Christian argument for the deity of Jesus Christ known as *The Trilemma*. The argument proclaims that there are only three possibilities in explaining Jesus of Nazareth. Jesus was either a liar or a lunatic, or He is Lord and God.

We last discussed the question: "Was Jesus Christ a liar?" We showed evidence that indeed Jesus was not a liar and that He is the Son of God. We now continue with the next question in the series.

Was Jesus Christ a lunatic? Was Jesus sincerely wrong in claiming to be God's Son? Was He a deluded soul? In our society today, there are those who proclaim themselves to be God, and their delusion of grandeur is usually due to mental illness. In Jesus' day such claims would not be as easily tolerated or taken as lightly as they are today. Fiercely monotheistic and very religious, the Jews of Jesus' day would not have entertained His teachings for a moment, if they could have truly uncovered fault in His teachings or in His state of mind.

The world-changing profundity of His moral teachings and the incomparable depth of His insight into human nature are in no way explainable in the presence of mental illness.

Philip Schaff, the great historian, wrote concerning Jesus: *"Is such an intellect – clear as the sky, bracing as the mountain air, sharp and penetrating as a sword, thoroughly healthy and vigorous, always ready and always self-possessed -- liable to a radical and most serious delusion concerning His own character and mission? Preposterous imagination!"*

Most people readily admit that Jesus was a great human teacher. Was He? Or was He insane? The answer is obvious!

Jesus Christ is the Son of God!

Scott

Jesus said, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one can come to the Father except through me." (John 14:6)