

UNCOVERING THE REAL JESUS IN THE BOOK OF JOHN



the real
JESUS

THE STATE OF THEOLOGY

3,000
SURVEYED

To take the temperature of America's theological health, compare it to that of self-identified Christians, and index it over time in order to better equip the church to faithfully preach and teach the whole counsel of God.

ADULTS IN THE
U.S.

THE TAMING OF GOD



SIN IS NOT COSMIC TREASON

Even the smallest sin deserves damnation

Everyone sins at least a little, but most people are by nature good

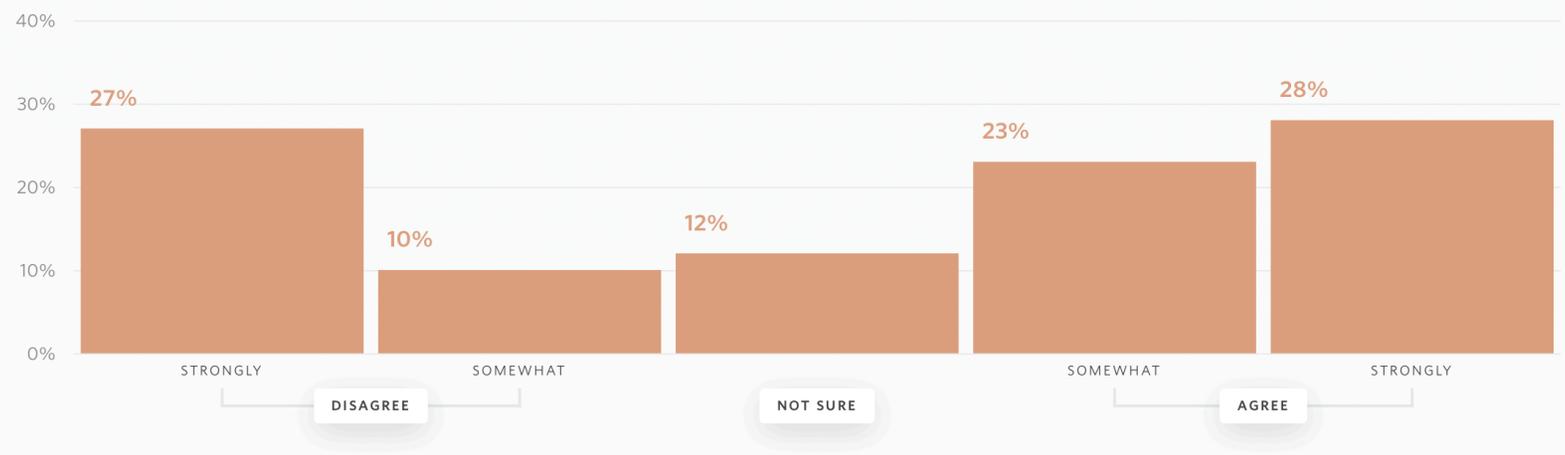
ONLY

75%

Jesus was a great teacher, but he was not God.

Finding:
52% agree vs. 36% disagree

U.S. adult respondents in 2020



Historically, evangelicals have affirmed the authority of the Bible and salvation by Jesus Christ. The Bible testifies often to the deity of Christ; He is God incarnate, the Word made flesh (John 1:1; 8:58; Rom. 9:5; Heb. 1:1-4). It may be unsurprising that the majority of the general U.S. population rejects the deity of Christ, but now almost a third of evangelicals agree that He was merely a great teacher.

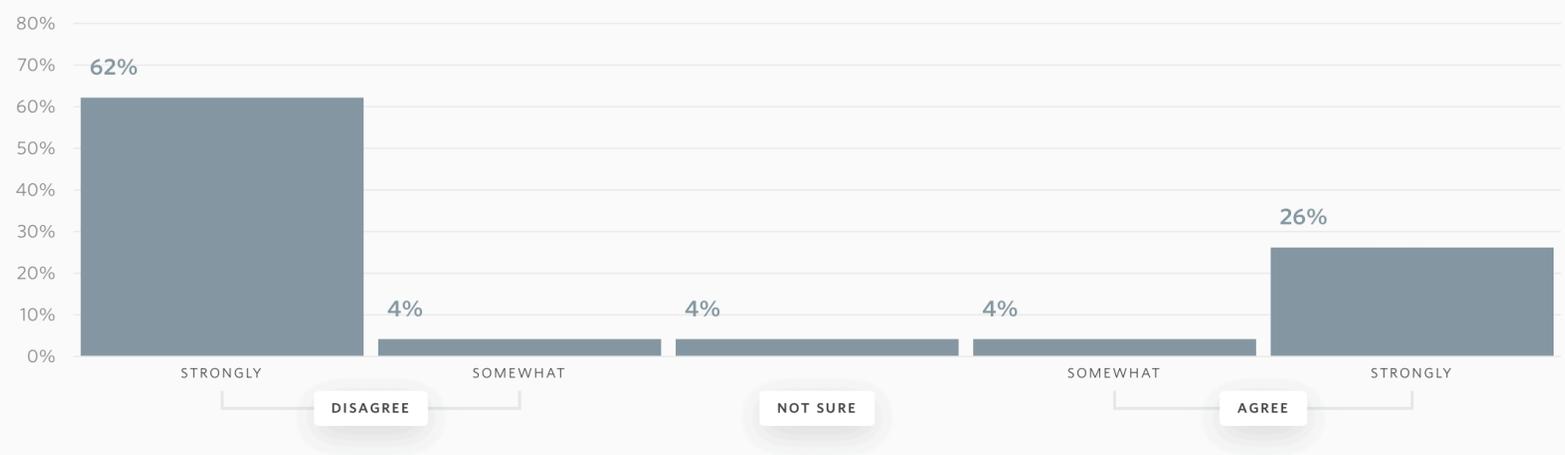
STATEMENT NO. 7

STATEMENT NO. 7

Jesus was a great teacher, but he was not God.

Finding: 30% agree vs. 66% disagree

U.S. evangelical respondents in 2020



These results suggest a significant need for Christians to be taught Christology, the doctrine of the nature and identity of Jesus Christ. The [Ligonier Statement on Christology](#) has been formulated to articulate the biblical teaching on the person and work of Christ with accuracy and simplicity.

¹⁰ However, after his brothers had left for the Feast, he went also, not publicly, but in secret.

¹¹ Now at the Feast the Jews were watching for him and asking, "Where is that man?" ¹² Among the crowds there was widespread whispering about him. Some said, "He is a good man." Others replied, "No, he deceives the people."

John 7:10-12

¹³ But no one would say anything publicly about him for fear of the Jews. ¹⁴ Not until halfway through the Feast did Jesus go up to the temple courts and begin to teach. ¹⁵ The Jews were amazed and asked, "How did this man get such learning without having studied?" ¹⁶ Jesus answered, "My teaching is not my own. It comes from him who sent me.

John 7:13-16

¹⁷ If anyone chooses to do God's will, he will find out whether my teaching comes from God or whether I speak on my own. ¹⁸ He who speaks on his own does so to gain honor for himself, but he who works for the honor of the one who sent him is a man of truth; there is nothing false about him.

John 7:17,18

19 Has not Moses given you the law? Yet not one of you keeps the law. Why are you trying to kill me?" 20 "You are demon-possessed," the crowd answered. "Who is trying to kill you?"

John 7:19,20

⁴⁰ On hearing his words, some of the people said, "Surely this man is the Prophet." ⁴¹ Others said, "He is the Christ." Still others asked, "How can the Christ come from Galilee?" ⁴² Does not the Scripture say that the Christ will come from David's family and from Bethlehem, the town where David lived?" ⁴³ Thus the people were divided because of Jesus.

John 7:40-43

⁴⁴Some wanted to seize him, but no one laid a hand on him. ⁴⁵Finally the temple guards went back to the chief priests and Pharisees, who asked them, "Why didn't you bring him in?" ⁴⁶"No one ever spoke the way this man does," the guards declared.

John 7:44-46



“Christ either deceived mankind by conscious fraud, or he was himself deluded and self-deceived, or was divine. There is no getting out of this trilemma.”

“Rabbi” Duncan
Scottish Presbeyterian Minister



C.S. Lewis

“Lunatic, Liar, Lord”- Mere Christianity

Peter Kreeft

“The most important argument
in Christian apologetics.”



I. Christ is just a good man.

¹² Among the crowds there was widespread whispering about him. Some said, "He is a good man."

⁴⁰ On hearing his words, some of the people said, "Surely this man is the Prophet."



Sergei Torop
claims to be the reincarnation of Jesus



"I charge you under oath by the living God: Tell us if you are the Messiah, the Son of God." "You have said it yourself. But I tell you, from now on you will see the Son of Man *sitting at the right hand of the Power and coming on the clouds of heaven.*"

Matthew 26:63,64



"Therefore, I am sending you prophets and wise men and teachers of religious law." But you will kill (them)

Matthew 23:34



"Anyone who loves their father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; anyone who loves their son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me. ³⁸ Whoever does not take up their cross and follow me is not worthy of me. ³⁹ Whoever finds their life will lose it, and whoever loses their life for my sake will find it.

Matthew 10:37-39





Dr. Eric Mason

@pastoremase



I'm not looking for a president but a King
and His name is Jesus! [#Maranatha](#)

7:16 PM · Sep 29, 2020





II. Jesus is either a deceiver or self-deluded.

verse 12 "He's nothing but a fraud who deceives the people."

verse 12 "You're demon-possessed."

II. Jesus is either a deceiver
or self-deluded.

verse 46- "No one has ever
spoke the way this man does."



For in Christ lives all the
fullness of God in a human
body. Colossians 2:9

Everything was created through
him and for him.¹⁷ He existed
before anything else, and he
holds all creation together.

Colossians 1:16,17

Jesus said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" ¹⁶ Simon Peter answered, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God."

Matthew 16:15,16

"But who do you
say that I am?"



III. Jesus is the Christ

1. Jesus is an all-or-nothing proposition

"I did not come to bring peace on earth, but a sword.

Matthew 10:34

III. Jesus is the Christ

2. Morality and goodness are not enough

"I am the way, and the truth and the life.

John 14:6

III. Jesus is the Christ

3. Don't flip Jesus to meet your script.

"The authority of the name of Jesus causes every knee to bow in reverence! Everything and everyone will one day submit to this name—in the heavenly realm, in the earthly realm, and in the demonic realm. [Philippians 2:10](#)



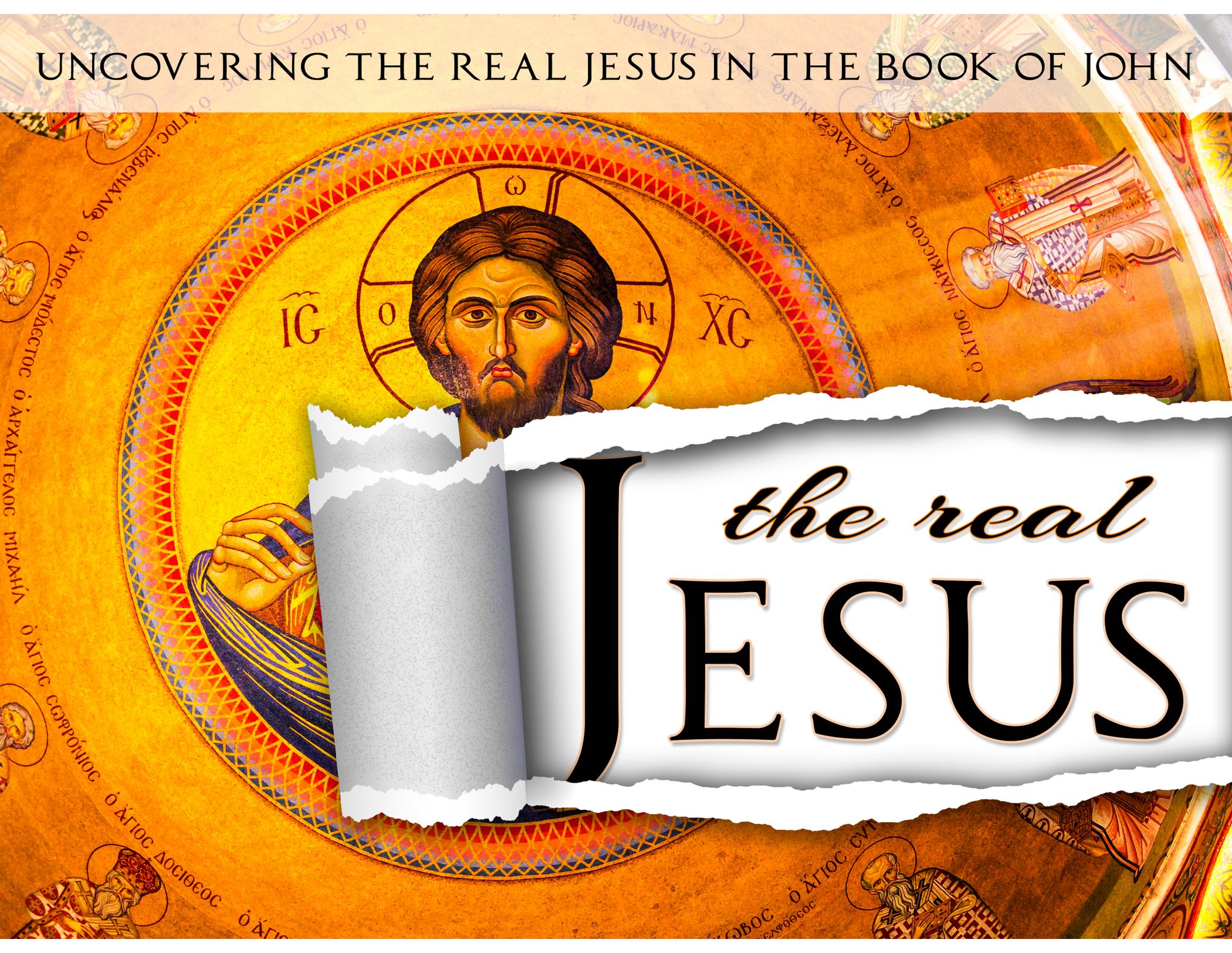
And now in these final days, he has
spoken to us through his Son. . . .
and through the Son he created the
universe. . . .When he had cleansed
us from our sins, he sat down in the
place of honor. . . [Hebrews 1:2,3](#)

I will build my church, and
all the powers of
hell will not conquer it.

Matthew 16:18



UNCOVERING THE REAL JESUS IN THE BOOK OF JOHN



the real
JESUS