

## Will the Real Jesus Please Stand Up?

(Matthew 16:13-16)

- Introduction:
1. Once when Jesus asked about his identity, the disciples revealed that people had several differing ideas about his identity (Matthew 16:13-16).
  2. Ever since God created man in his image (Gen. 1:26), mankind has been making God in their image.
  3. Ills. - WWJD – Great idea, but few chose to open their Bibles to find out.
  4. Let's examine some popular notions about Jesus.

### I. Jesus: The Good Teacher

- A. Some see Jesus as a genuine historical figure, who was a wise and moral teacher, whose charismatic ways brought him many followers, but nothing more.
- B. (John 1:14).
- C. (John 14:6).
- D. (Acts 4:12).
- E. Trilemma – John Duncan 1859 - "Liar, Lunatic, or Lord."

### II. Jesus: The Rich Benefactor

- A. Some today think that Jesus is a way to good health and wealth.
- B. (Luke 9:23, 58).
- C. (Acts 9:16).
- D. (1 Timothy 6:15).

### III. Jesus: The Push-Over

- A. Some think Jesus won't really do what he said he will do, because he is too kind and loving.
- B. (John 12:48).
- C. (John 14:15; 15:14).
- D. (Mark 10:21).

### IV. Jesus: The Patriot

- A. Some act as though Jesus is an American and we are his chosen people.
- B. (John 18:36).
- C. (Mark 16:15).
- D. (Acts 10:34-35).
- E. (Philippians 3:20).

- Conclusion:
1. Make sure you aren't fashioning a "Jesus" according to your image.
  2. Take him as he is – the Real Jesus, revealed in Scripture.