

All the GOSPELS
ask the question
WHO IS JESUS?

the 'boring' way
of answering

GENEALOGY
Matthew / Luke

Rooted in History

Israel

Vocation

God's People

"Strange" People

Tamar
Rahab
Ruth
Mary

So . . .

John the Baptist's
Answer

**WHO IS
JESUS?**

The Disciples
Answer

WAYS OF
ANSWERING

KINGDOM

SON OF MAN

MESSIAH

SON OF GOD

THEN THERE CAME

THE RESURRECTION

Which led to a reassessment of all previous theories

The Disciples
started calling Jesus
LORD

THE CHURCHES VIEWPOINT

Their view of Jesus is changed by the resurrection
All of the above titles and concepts
are looked at through the experience

RED HERRING # 1
"Did Jesus the Man really exist?"

IS JESUS GOD?

errr . . .

The **JESUS = GOD** equation blows a few fuses

let's be a bit more subtle . . .

QUESTIONS ABOUT JESUS

1. WHAT KIND OF A HUMAN BEING?

- Flesh & blood
- Without sin
- Appearance "Angel"
- Perfection of humanity

2. WHEN DID JESUS BECOME SPECIAL?

- "Adopted" at Baptism
- Resurrection
- Birth
- "Incarnation"
- Dawn of Creation (Col)
- Eternity
- Is it Adoption or Unveiling? (Eph)

3. WHAT "PART" OF JESUS IS SPECIAL?

- "Word" Jn 1
- "Wisdom" Prov 8
- "Son" Human or Divine

4. HIS RELATION TO "THE FATHER"?

- On Par?
 - 2 Gods?
- Subordinate
 - Less than true God?



**HOW DID THIS
ALL COME TO
A HEAD?**

ARIUS
(250 - 336 AD)

“There was a time
when he was not”

Prov 8 / Colossians

Arius was a
biblical conservative

Jehovah's
Witnesses

ATHANASIUS
(296 - 373 AD)

Appeal to Doctrine of Salvation:
only GOD can save us not
a second-hand salvation

Rang alarm-bells
with traditional
liturgy

Worship – Witness

**“THE EMPIRE
STRIKES BACK”**

Need for UNITY

COUNCIL OF NICEA

Eternally begotten of the Father
God from God
Light from Light
Very God from Very God
Begotten, not made
Of one substance with the Father.

This gives rise to some:

**QUESTIONS
ABOUT GOD**

UNITY?

POLYTHEISM?

HAS GOD CHANGED?