

**Problem:** luke 12:49-53  
 the world is not offended by  
 Jesus the moral teacher  
 Jesus the friend of sinners  
 Jesus the miracle worker  
 Jesus the prophet  
 Jesus the example

for all of these roles say nothing about His divinity

the world is not offended by a Jesus that was just a man - but if He was just a man He got what He deserved

### Text:

#### You make yourself equal with God

John 5:16 And this was why the Jews were persecuting Jesus, because he was doing these things on the Sabbath.

John 5:17 But Jesus answered them, "**My Father** is working until now, and I am working."

John 5:18 ¶ This was why the Jews were seeking all the more to kill him, because not only was he breaking the Sabbath, but he was even calling God **his own Father, making himself equal with God.**

*"these things" - John 20:30-31 -this story is a representative of the kinds of things He was doing  
 My Father -not your father or ours - I and the Father are One - John 10:30-33; 19:7; (1:9-11)*

#### I do the same works

John 5:19 ¶ So Jesus said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, the Son can do nothing of his own accord, but only what he sees **the Father** doing. For whatever **the Father** does, that the Son does likewise.

John 5:20 For **the Father** loves the Son and shows him all that he himself is doing. And greater works than these will he show him, so that you may marvel.

John 5:21 For as **the Father** raises the dead and gives them life, so also **the Son gives life to whom he will.**

*2 kings 5:7; Jn 1:1-3*

#### I am owed the same honor

John 5:22 **The Father** judges no one, but has given **all judgment to the Son,**

John 5:23 that **all may honor the Son, just as they honor the Father.** Whoever does not honor the Son does not honor **the Father** who sent him.

John 5:24 Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever hears my word and believes **him who sent me** has eternal life. He does not come into judgment, but has passed from death to life.

John 5:25 ¶ "Truly, truly, I say to you, an hour is coming, and is now here, when the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God, and those who hear will live.

John 5:26 For as **the Father** has life in himself (lit. I AM), so he has granted the Son also to have life in himself.

John 5:27 And he has given him **authority to execute judgment,** because he is the (a) Son of Man. (one like us -acts 17:31)

John 5:28 Do not marvel at this, for an hour is coming when all who are in the tombs will hear his voice (Lazarus)

John 5:29 and come out, those who have done good to the resurrection of life, and those who have done evil to the resurrection of **judgment.**

*all judgment - James 4:12 - who then was really on trial here? surely not Jesus for He is the judge  
 so that (23) all honor just as the Father - Deut 5:6-7; 6:4-9; is 48:11; Matt 2:2,8, 11; 14:31-33; 28:9, 17*

#### If you won't listen to me

John 5:30 ¶ **I can** do nothing on **my own.** As **I hear, I judge,** and **my judgment** is just, because **I seek** not my **own will** but the will of **him who sent me.**

John 5:31 If **I alone** bear witness **about myself, my testimony** is not true.

John 5:32 There is **another who bears witness about me (3Z),** and **I know** that the testimony that he bears **about me** is true.

*Deut 17:6; 19:15 - Jesus was not citing a misunderstanding but defending the real charge of blasphemy by saying He really is God  
 He is inviting legal scrutiny here with the personal pronouns -*

#### Listen to the witness of John

John 5:33 You sent to John, and he has borne witness to the truth.

John 5:34 Not that the **testimony** that I receive is from man, but I say these things so that you may be saved.

John 5:35 He was a burning and shining lamp, and you were willing to rejoice for a while in his light.

*John 1:6-8, 29-34*

#### Listen to the witness of My works

John 5:36 But the **testimony** that I have is greater than that of John. For the works that **the Father** has given me to accomplish, the very works that I am doing, bear **witness** about me that **the Father** has sent me.

*John 15:22-25- they hated me without cause - they saw my works undeniably pointed to my uniqueness yet they hated me*

#### Listen to the witness of My Father

John 5:37 And **the Father who sent me has himself borne witness about me.** His voice you have never heard, his form you have never seen,

John 5:38 and you do not have his word abiding in you, for you do not believe the one whom he has sent.

*matt 16:16-17*

#### Listen to witness of Scripture

John 5:39 You search **the Scriptures** because you think that in them you have eternal life; and it is they that bear **witness** about me,

John 5:40 yet you refuse to come to me that you may have life.

John 5:41 I do not receive glory from people.

John 5:42 But I know that you do not have the love of God within you.

John 5:43 I have come in **my Father's** name, and you do not receive me. If another comes in his own name, you will receive him.

John 5:44 How can you believe, when you receive glory from one another and do not seek the glory that comes from the only God?

John 5:45 Do not think that I will accuse you to **the Father**. There is one who accuses you: Moses, on whom you have set your hope.

John 5:46 For if you believed Moses (**2nd class- but you don't**), you would believe me (**but you won't**); for he wrote of me.

John 5:47 But if (**since -1st class condition**) you do not believe his writings, how will you believe my words?"

42 - I will judge but I did not come to judge this time but to save people already judged - John 3:17-21

47 - You search the Scriptures that bear witness about me - Lev 23; John 5:1, 16;) Moses accuses you -

### Main Idea:

Jesus is either a blasphemer who got what He deserved

or

He was, and is, God Himself and He deserves your worship

### Implication:

Jesus' claims leave no middle ground - Luke 12:49-53

to call Him a liar or a lunatic is to still call him a blasphemer and to side with those who put Him on the cross. To deny His full and unique claim to deity is to side with His murders

“I am trying here to prevent anyone saying the really foolish thing that people often say about Him: I'm ready to accept Jesus as a great moral teacher, but I don't accept his claim to be God. That is the one thing we must not say. A man who was merely a man and said the sort of things Jesus said would not be a great moral teacher. He would either be a lunatic — on the level with the man who says he is a poached egg — or else he would be the Devil of Hell. You must make your choice. Either this man was, and is, the Son of God, or else a madman or something worse. You can shut him up for a fool, you can spit at him and kill him as a demon or you can fall at his feet and call him Lord and God, but let us not come with any patronizing nonsense about his being a great human teacher. He has not left that open to us. He did not intend to.”

— C.S. Lewis, *Mere Christianity*

### Application:

non- believer

Christ the ultimate judge has invited you to examine Him - but never forget He is the judge and He is not the one on the stand

believer

never forget when you 'take the stand' for Jesus it is not you on the stand also remember that by affirming His Deity, you are affirming His entitlement to your worship.

some good articles for further study and discussion:

<http://www.peterkreeft.com/topics/christ-divinity.htm>

<http://www.gotquestions.org/eternal-Sonship.html>

<http://www.atone.me/gandhi-in-hell-did-he-follow-jesus/>