

A Publication of the Winnetka Ave. Church of Christ

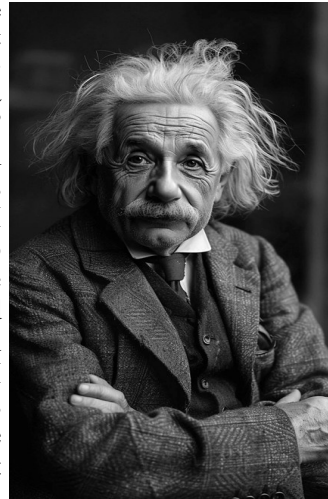
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March 22, 2026

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“BUT WHO DO YOU SAY THAT I AM?”

Abraham Lincoln is famously quoted as having said, “Don’t believe everything you hear from the Internet”, to which I wholeheartedly agree (yes, I do know he never actually said that...but take that nugget of truth found in the example as “truth”). So, whenever I read a quote, I set about “fact checking” to make certain it is factual. Such was the case when I found this quote embedded in an article I was reading. It was attributed to Albert Einstein with no source reference. “As a child I received instruction both in the Bible and in the Talmud. I am a Jew, but I am enthralled by the luminous figure of the Nazarene...No one can read the Gospels without feeling the actual presence of Jesus. His personality pulsates in every word. No myth is filled with such life.” The quote is indeed from Einstein and found in article wherein he was interviewed for the Saturday Evening Post magazine in the year of 1929.



living God.” (v 16)

At some point each one of us will have to answer that same question poised by Jesus, “*Who do you say that I am?*” Throughout the pages of the Scriptures the revelation as to Who Jesus is becomes crystal clear. “*Thomas answered and said to Him, ‘My Lord and my God!’ Jesus said to him, ‘Because you have seen Me, have you believed? Blessed are they who did not see, and yet believed.’*” (John 20:28-29) In fact John would go on to point out, “*...that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing you may have life in His name.*” (John 20:31) In fact the whole thrust of the book of John was to show who Jesus is.

There can be precious little doubt as to the intelligence of Albert Einstein and correspondingly his finding about Jesus. Down through the two millennia since Jesus walked on the earth, people, young and old, world renown thinkers or common folk across every section of mankind have sought to come to grips with who Jesus is; for indeed there is something very special about Him.

John the baptizer, when asked directly, “who are you” to which he responded “*I am not the Christ.*” (John 1:20). He did however acknowledge he was sent to prepare the way for the Christ and serve witness of Him. Which he did as recorded in John 1:29-30. Upon seeing Jesus walking toward him, John said, “*Behold, the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world! This is He on behalf of whom I said, ‘After me comes a Man who has a higher rank than I, for He existed before me.’ ‘In the beginning was the Word, and the Word as with God, and the Word was God.’*” (John 1:1)

In the sixteenth chapter of Matthew, Jesus inquires of His disciples, “*Who do people say that the Son of Man is?*” (v 13) The response was, “*Some say John the Baptist; and others, Elijah; but still others, Jeremiah, or one of the other prophets.*” (v 14) While to be named with some of the great prophets was laudable, but Jesus wasn’t looking for such accolades He truly wanted to know what His disciples knew about Him. “*But who do you say that I am?*” (v 15) Without any hesitation Peter responds, “*Thou art the Christ, the Son of the*

So who do you say Jesus is? A great moral teacher, a prophet sent from God or simply an exemplary man? Here’s the rub, could He had been these and accepted the things said about Him, IF He were not the promised One? “*Behold, the virgin shall be with child, and shall bear a Son, and they shall call His name Immanuel, which translated means God with us.*” (Matthew 1:23 see also Isaiah 7:14) “*And the Word became flesh...*” (John 1:14) (wbe)

THE BULWARK