

## Understanding the Words of Christ in Light of Holy Scripture

**Frequently knowing what is not true is as useful as knowing what is true.** A man in my ministry was researching Lyme Tick Disease for his doctorate. After three years of research, he proved his hypothesis wrong but was awarded a doctorate for his work. He had made an important breakthrough in eliminating a whole realm of study on this subject, thus saving many research hours for others, as well as dramatically narrowing down the search for a cure. In this case knowing how Lyme Tick Disease is not spread was as important as knowing how it is spread.

Many of us have been frustrated with computer technicians or auto mechanics in their search for finding an answer to a problem-- because of all the time spent--when all they can say at the end is, "These are not the problems." This, however, is very important. **Ruling out** possible problems is as important as seeking to correct the true problem once discovered. In a police investigation, **the elimination of suspects** is as important, both in catching the criminal and in preventing needless harm to the innocent.

We must remember this when considering the statements of Christ during His last days on earth. To eliminate what the **statements cannot mean** is extremely important in protecting us from false doctrine.

In completing the project below, you will be eliminating false speculation from your understanding of Holy Scripture and from your teaching. In this project, we will be looking at two statements of Christ and then eliminating **what it cannot mean**. Remember, when doing this study we are not asking "If I were experiencing this, what would these statements mean?" but rather, "Given what the Holy Scriptures say concerning the divine nature of The Trinity, the attributes of God the Father, and the Deity of Jesus, what do these statements **not** mean?" In other words what is eliminated from the possible meaning of these statements? The two statements are as follows...

***Matthew 26:39 "My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from Me;"***

***Matthew 27:46 "MY GOD, MY GOD, WHY HAVE YOU FORSAKEN ME?"***

(After completing the accompanying chart/study, answer the following questions by circling either "Yes" or "No" and then include a verse from the study.)

### "According to the Doctrines you have studied in the chart..."

1. Do either of these passages indicate a break in the fellowship between God the Father and God the Son?  
YES NO Verse:
2. Some claim that while Christ was on the cross, God the Father turned His back on God the Son because, "God cannot look on sin." Is this a true statement?  
YES NO Verse:
3. Do either of these two passages indicate a crisis of faith in terms of Jesus' relationship with God the Father?  
YES NO Verse:
4. Can either of these two passages be Jesus knowing what is right to do and failing to do it?  
YES NO Verse:
5. Can either of these two statements be less than a perfect response of faith by Jesus?  
YES NO Verse:
6. Can either be failing to respond in the holy, righteous and perfect way to the situation?  
YES NO Verse:
7. Can either be anything but an action or statement based on faith?  
YES NO Verse:
8. Can either of these statements be anything other than Jesus knowing and doing the will of God the Father?  
YES NO Verse

Passage	Doctrine as applied to JESUS	What doctrine means concerning the divine nature of JESUS	In light of this, what can the above two statements <i>not</i> mean?
Deuteronomy 6:4			
Psalms 14:1 - 3			
Psalms 33:13 - 15			
Genesis 6:5,11			
Colossians 2:9			
John 10:30, 37, 38			
John 14:9.			
John 14:24, 31			
John 4:34; 5:19, 20, 30; 6:38			
Hebrews 4:15			
Hebrews 7:26			
Hebrews 9:14			
I Peter 1:19			
I Peter 2:22			
Romans 14:23			
James 4:17			
Isaiah 53:6			
Isaiah 53:10 & 11			
Hebrews 9:24 - 26			