

**Title:** Love and War  
**Speaker:** Heinrich Titus  
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#### **Love and war**

##### **John 3:16**

<sup>16</sup>For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. <sup>17</sup>For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved.

#### **The battle continues**

##### **John 16:33**

<sup>33</sup>I have said these things to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world."

#### **First things first**

##### **Revelation 2:1-5**

<sup>1</sup>To the angel of the church in Ephesus write: 'The words of him who holds the seven stars in his right hand, who walks among the seven golden lamp stands. <sup>2</sup>I know your works, your toil and your patient endurance, and how you cannot bear evil men but have tested those who call themselves apostles but are not, and found them to be false; <sup>3</sup>I know you are enduring patiently and bearing up for my name's sake, and you have not grown weary. <sup>4</sup>But I have this against you, that you have abandoned the love you had at first. <sup>5</sup>Remember then from what you have fallen, repent and do the works you did at first. If not, I will come to you and remove your lamp stand from its place, unless you repent.

#### **Who is the real Jesus?**

##### **Matthew 16:13-16**

<sup>13</sup>When Jesus came into the region of Caesarea Philippi, He asked His disciples, saying, "Who do men say that I, the Son of Man, am?" <sup>14</sup>So they said, "Some say John the Baptist, some Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets." <sup>15</sup>He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" <sup>16</sup>Simon Peter answered and said, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God."

#### **"Who do people say that I am?"**

##### **'Liberal Christianity': Nuwe Hervormers; Jesus Seminar**

"Jesus a good man, but not a God-man."

##### **Jehovah's witnesses:**

"Jesus is Michael the archangel who became a man."

##### **Mormonism:**

"Jesus only a man who became one of many gods, a polygamist and half-brother of Lucifer."

##### **New Age:**

"Deepak Chopra: Christ a state of consciousness we can all aspire to."

##### **Scientology:**

"Christ an "implant" forced upon a Thetan a million years ago."

##### **Freemasonry: (14 American presidents)**

"Avoids the name of Jesus in all scripture reading in their lodges."

### **Buddhism:**

“Jesus not God, enlightened man like Buddha. “

### **Hinduism:**

Diverse views: wise man like Krishna. “I cannot ascribe exclusive divinity to Jesus. He is as divine as Krishna or Rama or Muhammad...” Mahatma Gandhi

### **Islam:**

“Man or prophet, inferior to Muhammad. “

“Of course Christ is unique. But who is not unique? Socrates, Muhammad, the Buddha, you, and I, are all unique.” **Thich Nhat Hanh, Living Buddha, Living Christ**

“I am sure Jesus was an incredible person,”

**Lesbian Jewish actress Sandra Bernhard**

“Jesus was the first socialist, the first to seek a better life for mankind.” **Mikhail Gorbachev**

“Jesus Christ was an extremist for love, truth and goodness.” **Martin Luther King Jr.**

“Christ is the therapist for all humanity.”

**Rollo May, American psychologist.**

“Jesus did not mean to impose himself upon mankind as the Son of God”.

**Thomas Jefferson, president of United States.**

### **Just a good man?**

“Most of us would agree that the most important thing about Jesus is not his supposed miraculous birth or the claim that he was resurrected from death, but rather how he lived. The power of his love, the penetrating simplicity of his teachings, and the force of his example of service on behalf of the disenfranchised and downtrodden are what is crucial.” **Unitarian Universalist book, A Chosen Faith**

"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 a man who says he is a poached egg - or he would be the devil of hell. You must take your choice. Either this was, and is, the Son of God, or else a madman or something worse. You can shut Him up for a fool 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.“ **C.S.Lewis, Mere Christianity**

### **What did Jesus say about Himself?**

#### **John 8:51-56**

<sup>51</sup>"Most assuredly, I say to you, if anyone keeps My word he shall never see death." <sup>52</sup>Then the Jews said to Him, "Now we know that You have a demon! Abraham is dead, and the prophets; and You say, 'If anyone keeps My word he shall never taste death.' <sup>53</sup>Are You greater than our father Abraham, who is dead? And the prophets are dead. Whom do You make Yourself out to be?" <sup>54</sup>Jesus answered, "If I honor Myself, My honor is nothing. It is My Father who honors Me, of whom you say that He is your God. <sup>55</sup>Yet you have not known Him, but I know Him. And if I say, 'I do not know Him,' I shall be a liar like you; but I do know Him and keep His word. <sup>56</sup>Your father Abraham rejoiced to see My day, and he saw it and was glad."

### **What did Jesus say?**

#### **John 8:58-59**

<sup>58</sup>Jesus said to them, "Most assuredly, I say to you, before Abraham was, I AM. <sup>59</sup>Then they took up stones to throw at Him; but Jesus hid Himself and went out of the temple, going through the midst of them, and so passed by.

## **A bloody savior**

### **Philippians 2:8**

<sup>8</sup>Being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.

### **2 Corinthians 5:21**

<sup>21</sup>For our sake He made Him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in Him we might become the righteousness of God in Christ.

## **Revelation of Christ (the Word)**

### **John 5:36-40**

<sup>36</sup>"But I have a greater witness than John's; for the works which the Father has given Me to finish — the very works that I do — bear witness of Me, that the Father has sent Me. <sup>37</sup>And the Father Himself, who sent Me, has testified of Me. You have neither heard His voice at any time, nor seen His form. <sup>38</sup>But you do not have His word abiding in you, because whom He sent, Him you do not believe. <sup>39</sup>You search the Scriptures, for in them you think you have eternal life; and these are they which testify of Me. <sup>40</sup>But you are not willing to come to Me that you may have life."

## **Revelation of Christ (the Spirit)**

### **John 16:13-14**

<sup>13</sup>"However, when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth; for He will not speak on His own authority, but whatever He hears He will speak; and He will tell you things to come. <sup>14</sup>He will glorify Me, for He will take of what is Mine and declare it to you."

## **To usher in the New Covenant**

### **Jeremiah 31:31-34**

<sup>31</sup>"Behold, the days are coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah — <sup>32</sup>not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers in the day that I took them by the hand to lead them out of the land of Egypt, My covenant which they broke, though I was a husband to them, says the LORD. <sup>33</sup>But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put My law in their minds, and write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people. <sup>34</sup>No more shall every man teach his neighbour, and every man his brother, saying, 'Know the LORD,' for they all shall know Me, from the least of them to the greatest of them, says the LORD. For I will forgive their iniquity, and their sin I will remember no more."

## **Love wins!**

### **Revelation 12:10 -11**

<sup>10</sup>Then I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, "Now salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of His Christ have come, for the accuser of our brethren, who accused them before our God day and night, has been cast down. <sup>11</sup>And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, and they did not love their lives to the death."