

*Please tell me about the author of the book The Zealot by Reza Aslan.*

Reza Aslan is a former Muslim turned Christian turned Muslim once again. His book *Zealot* provides an understanding of Jesus according to Islam. He teaches that Jesus was a good teacher but not God. Aslan is scheduled to host a new television series on CNN called *Believer* which will discuss religions of the world. He is a professor of creative writing at the University of California, Riverside.

Aslan's claim that Jesus is a good teacher is self-refuting. Good prophets and teachers don't lie about their identity. Jesus claimed to be God (Jn 8:58).

C.S. Lewis wrote:

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.<sup>1</sup>

Jesus is: all-powerful (Matt. 28:18), all-knowing (Col. 2:3), ever-present (Matt. 18:20) and eternal (John 1:1, 2, 15). His humanity was foretold in the scriptures (Gen. 3:15; 1 Cor. 15:45–47).<sup>2</sup> The second person of the trinity took on an all-new nature—that of a man (John 1:14; Heb. 2:9–18). He came to: do God's will (John 6:38), save sinners (Luke 19:10), bring in everlasting righteousness (Dan. 9:24), destroy Satan's works (Heb. 2:14; 1 John 3:8), fulfill the Old Testament (Matt. 5:17) and give life (John 10:10, 28).<sup>3</sup>

CNN's promotion of a one world government and religion is a sign of the end times (Re 13:1-18). The world will not accept Jesus; but, they will accept the coming Antichrist (Jn 5:43).

When a Christian is truly saved (Jn 3:7), he turns from false teaching toward truth (Jn 14:6, 16:13). Islam is a perversion of Christianity (2 Pe 2:1) created by Roman Catholic monks in northern Africa.

On a rare occasion a believer will not abide in the Lord: For if we sin willfully after we have received the knowledge of the truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins, but a certain fearful expectation of judgment (Heb 10:26–27a).

John Wesley wrote about the false convert. It is more common for one never to have been saved than it is for one to fall away from the faith.<sup>4</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> C.S. Lewis, *Mere Christianity*.

<sup>2</sup> Thomas Nelson Publishers. (1996). *Nelson's quick reference topical Bible index* (p. 134). Nashville, TN: Thomas Nelson Publishers.

<sup>3</sup> *Ibid* p. 135.

<sup>4</sup> Never saved (1 Jn 2:19) vs. one who has apostatized (Heb 10:26-17).