

This book really makes me think more logical than theological. It's good to read from David Flusser's point of view. I love the way he used illustration and evidence to explain his arguments. Even though some things I did not agree with the author I do feel this could be helpful to believers. I found this book a little challenging due to the way I religiously read my bible with God. However, he took my reading and observation to a whole new level. I also learned logical preparation in case another believer or unbeliever gives me arguments about my theological view of the Jesus by using the bible and other sources.

In Chapter one, David explains the main purpose of this book is to show proof that it is possible to notate Jesus's life. He explains the synoptic gospels Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John are based on Jesus Life. In the first three Gospels he explains its based on common historical material, while in John he explains its more of a theological perspective. I agree on this, but I do feel the way Jesus speaks in all of these require the Holy Spirit to really interpret his parables on a theological perspective. Many who read the gospels still don't understand what Jesus was saying. David felt it's hard to understand the psychological background leading to these events, but he felt the Holy Spirit moves on his own will which makes this impossible. We can understand Jesus personality by the way he speaks and the testimonies of others. David argues the Synoptic Gospels are based upon one or more non-extant early documents composed by Jesus disciples and the early church in Jerusalem. David expressed his personal beliefs on who wrote each Gospel in order based on his evidence. His main concern is to present Jesus directly to the reader with a realistic approach to the reader. Many intellectual Christians would love this book by his approach, but some spiritual or religious Christians might have a different opinion.

In Chapter 2 David explains the Ancestry of Jesus and argues his belief Jesus is one of the Jewish Sage. "We cannot be certain that Jesus came from David's line." Matthew and Luke

provide Davidic genealogy of Jesus, but the Mark and John do not mention the accounts. Many demanded the fulfillment of the Jesus being born in Bethlehem and for him to be part of David's bloodline to accept he is legitimized for the messianic claim. David speculated saying he believed Jesus was a Galilean Jew who was probably born in Nazareth and lived there until 30 years of age. David mentioned it's important to determine whether the first three Gospels were intended to provide a historical scheme, geographical scheme, or was the scheme conditioned by the theological presuppositions of the individual Evangelist. His evidence provided that the events of Jesus's life are best understood on the presumption of his baptism and crucifixion were separated by a short time. Many scholars suggest Jesus died at Easter in the year 30 or 33. Jesus's family in Nazareth included four brothers, and several sisters estimating about seven. Joseph died when Jesus was young due to no mention of him when Jesus began his ministry. Jesus was very educated full of wisdom while some of his disciples were uneducated regular men. David also argues Jesus was one of the Jewish Sages of his day. He states Josephus Flavius statement that Jesus was "a wise man" identifies Jesus with the Jewish Sages it's impossible to view him as a Jewish peasant. I loved David's evidence when he mentioned many outsiders called him, Rabbi, teacher, Lord, and Master.

I absolutely agree with the title Lord should not be used as a sign of his deity but as an indication of his high self-awareness. So awesome to learn that the title Rabbi was commonly used for describing scholars and teachers of the Torah. Another form of evidence David explains was Jesus and his Father was a carpenter. Carpenters were not simple-minded people but very smart and many relied on them when something went wrong. A psychological view David also argues was the evidence of the tension between his real family (Luke 8:21, Luke 11:27-28, Luke 18:28-30, Luke 14:26). I agree also with David regarding Jesus not going back to his hometown

due to him prophetically knowing a prophet is not honored in his own country. He proved this in Mark, 6:4, Luke 4:24, and John 4:44.

In Chapter 9 David suggest Jesus was aware of his Messianic self-awareness. In Luke 22:69 Jesus understood himself as the Messiah the Son of Man. Above the cross were words “King of Jews” David explains this is evidence as Jesus being accepted by many people. I agree Jesus did understand he was the Son of Man because sometimes he spoke in parables and even rebuked the demons from declaring who he was. David evidence was justified in regard to him using the son of man as a third person to protect his true identity. The Son of man who Van Eyck depicted was a human being who is divine. Jesus felt he was God’s chosen one, his servant, the only Son to whom the secrets of the heavenly Father were made known, and the only one who has seen the Father himself. Another piece of evidence he uses was the heavenly voice in Matthew 17:5, Mark, 9:7, and Luke 9:35. “This is my only (or beloved) son, listen to him!” David explains the “only beloved son” as a foreshadowing of Abraham sacrifice of Isaac. In Luke 20:9-19 parable Jesus speaks about the prophet the Son who will be killed. David believes this connection between Jesus prophetic task, his sacrifice, and final tragedy originated in Jesus own intuition.

I do believe the argument of the book is convincing. The author is trying to explain Jesus to in a logical way not theological. It’s important to understand Jesus Ancestry, sources, baptism, law, love, ethics, death and so much more in this was as well. I’ve never been challenged like this in my walk and reading this book gave me good perspective, but I also had some moments of disagreements. Disagreements are healthy but living in this world people want facts. Learning

to refer besides scripture is a good way to help explain Jesu or even evidence about our Lord to others.