

WELCOME to a 31 week Course sponsored by  
Dallas Willard Ministries & Jesus College

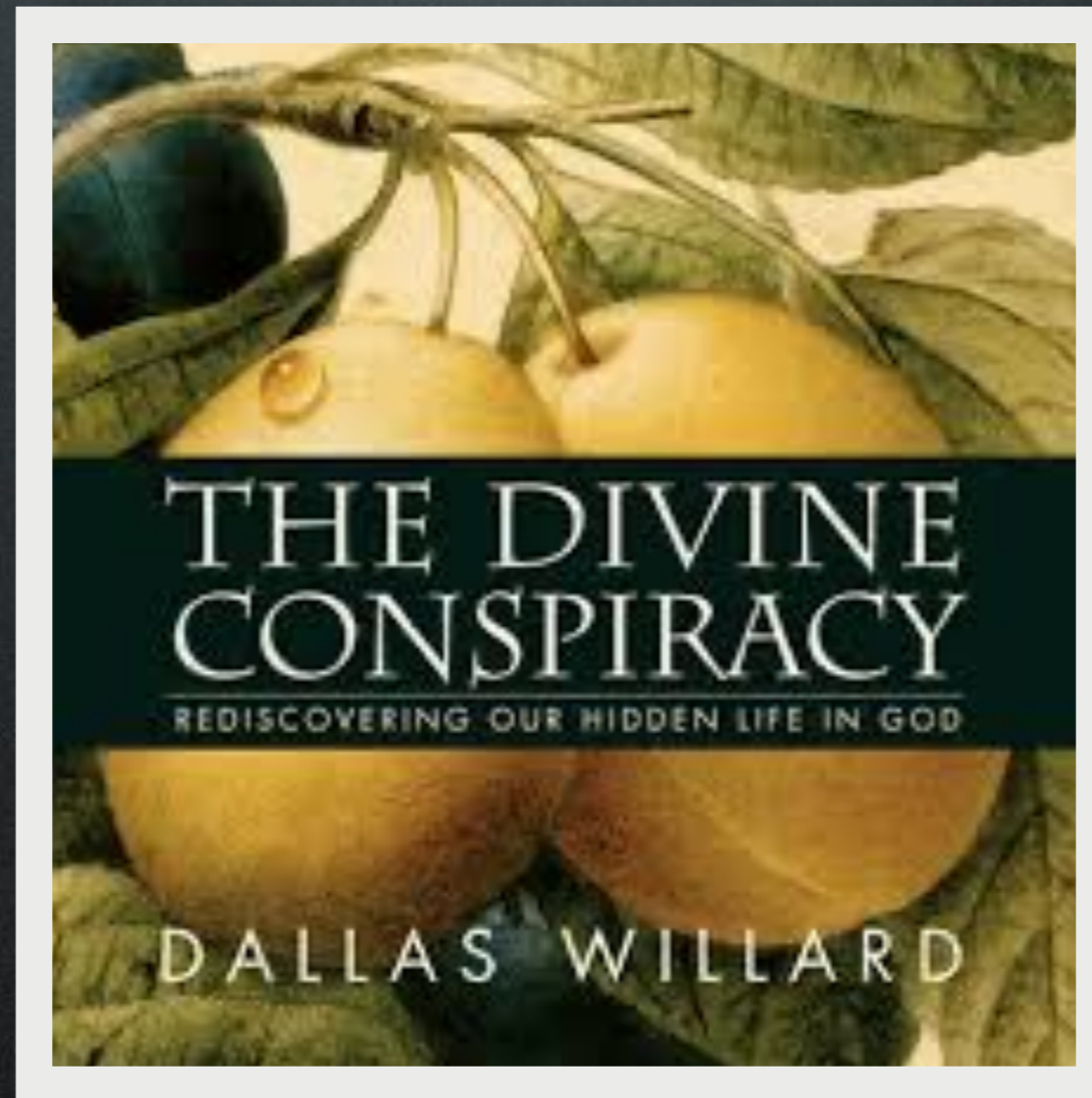


# THE DIVINE CONSPIRACY

Chapter 3 - What Jesus Knew:

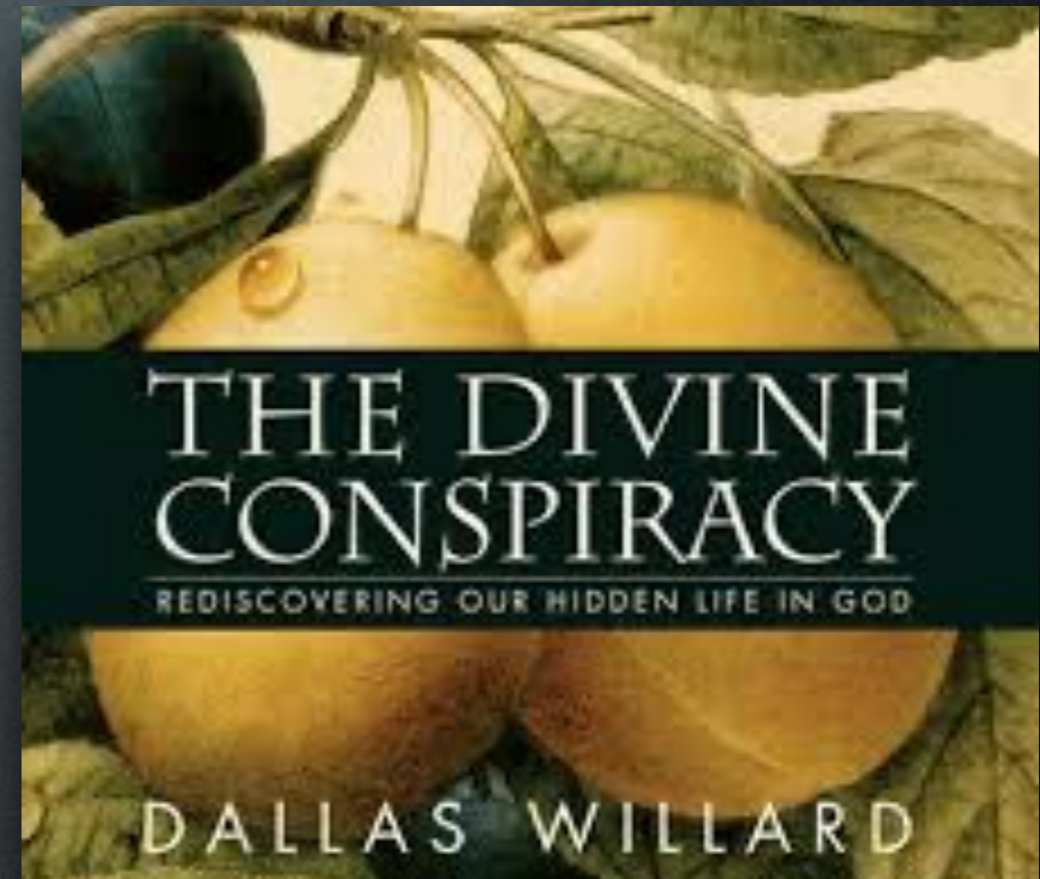
Our God Bathed World

Session 9 - *“Jesus, The Master Intellect”*



## Session 8 Review

The grand inversion occurs when we learn by God's grace as disciples of Jesus to live - to exercise our will - in the presence of the Kingdom among us, without ceasing, now and forever.



# THE DIVINE CONSPIRACY

## Session 9 - “Jesus, The Master Intellect”

Those who profess Christ...may have faith in faith, but little faith in God. They may believe in believing but not be able to rely on God - like many who love love but are unable to love real people. Many people who believe in Jesus do not actually believe God. (91)

~ ~ ~

Why is it so often we hear, “*My faith got me through*”, or “*He/She is a person of faith*”, but rarely do we hear, “*My faith in Jesus*”, or ever, “*Jesus and God’s Kingdom got me through*”?



## **The Growing Wave of Unfaith**

The 19th Century saw a bitter intellectual struggle in the centers of learning of the Western world, in which the long-accepted outlook of Jesus lost its standing as an intellectual option.

...ideas & attitudes simply irrelevant to reality.

It even forces Christian teachers to set aside Jesus' plain statements about the reality and total relevance of the Kingdom and replace them with philosophical speculations of a "modern" mindset.

(92)

**Kant**



**Marx**



**Nietzsche**

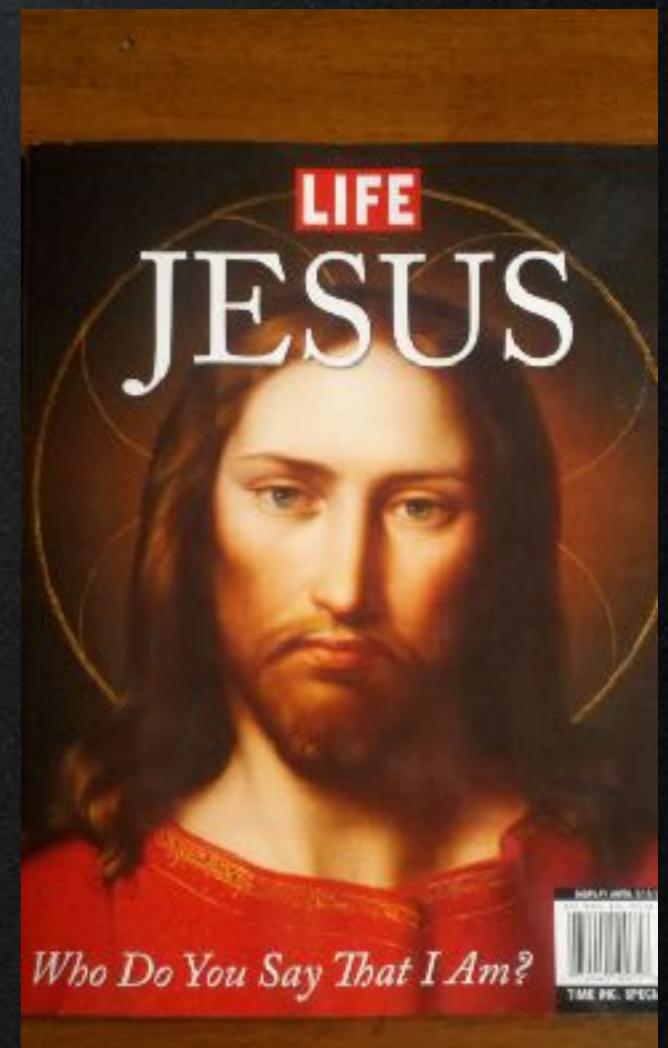


## Jesus...the Smartest Man in the World

The baseless presumption in question — *reality in the manner of Jesus is simply foolish* — must be seen for the empty prejudice it is if we are to enroll with serious intent in Jesus' school of life.

Nothing fundamental has changed in our knowledge of ultimate reality and the human self since the time of Jesus. (93)

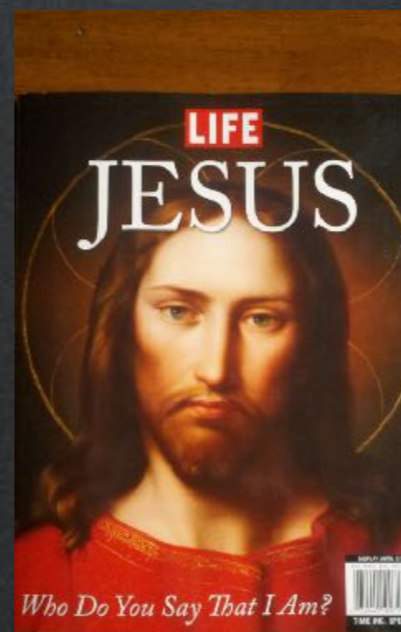
*It's not that Jesus has been proven wrong.*



## **Jesus...the Smartest Man in the World**

Our commitment to Jesus can stand on no other foundation than a recognition that He is the one who knows the truth about our lives and our universe.

It is not possible to trust Jesus in matters where we do not believe Him to be competent. (94)



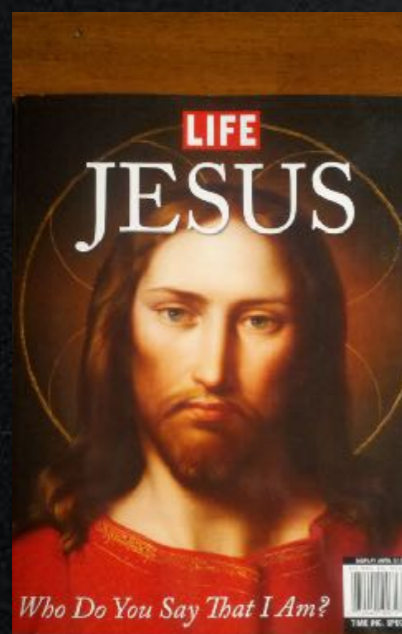
## FLASHBACK

### *“The Case of the Missing Teacher” (Session 6)*

The disappearance of Jesus as teacher explains why today in Christian churches little effort is made to teach people to do what He did and taught.

We do not seriously consider Jesus as our teacher on how to live, hence we can not think of ourselves, in our moment-to-moment existence, as His students or disciples.

(57)





## FLASHFORWARD

### *“The Case of the Missing Teacher” (Session 27)*

Jesus, the actual teacher of His people, has disappeared from the mental horizons of our faith. In that capacity He is not a part of how we ‘do’ our Christianity today... face this fact of the absence of Jesus the teacher and change it.

(316)



# THE DIVINE CONSPIRACY

## Session 9 - “Jesus, The Master Intellect”

Can we seriously imagine that Jesus could be Lord if He were not smart?

How could He be what we take Him to be in all other respects and not be the best-informed and most intelligent person of all, the smartest person in the world?

(94)

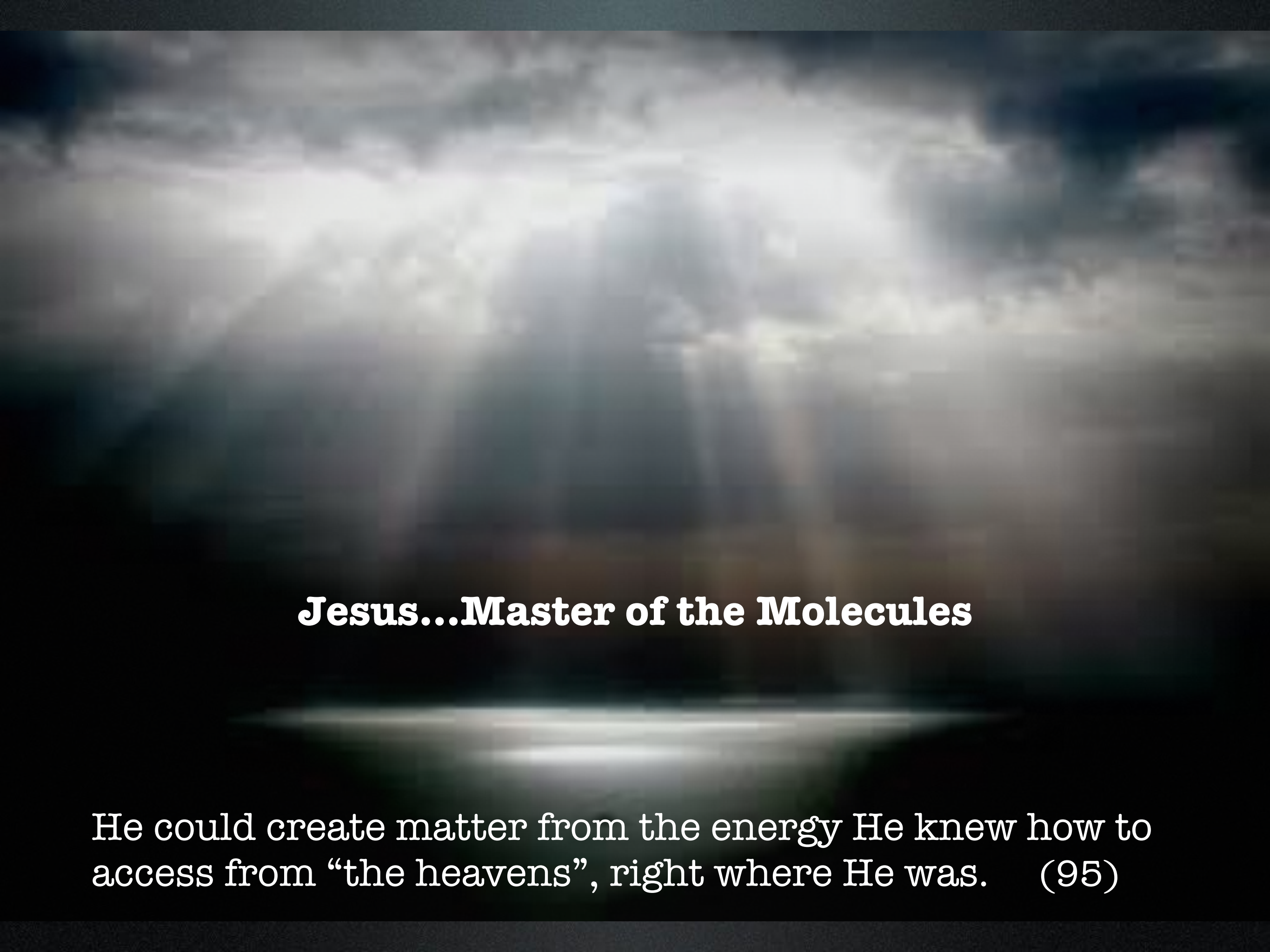


He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation; for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers — all things have been created by him and for him. He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. Colossians 1:15-17

The riches of assured understanding and...the knowledge of God's mystery, that is, Christ himself, in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge. Colossians 2:2-3

*“Byforin”* [Webster]

“All things...by Him...for Him...in Him”



## **Jesus...Master of the Molecules**

He could create matter from the energy He knew how to access from “the heavens”, right where He was. (95)



Humans —  $mc^2 = E$

God —  $E = mc^2$

“God, a glorious, self-sustaining, eternal being, is both the source of everything that exists and is totally self-sufficient...Incomprehensible, everlasting, unceasing, and never will be exhausted. That being is God!”

*Life Without Lack, p. 12*

~ ~ ~

“God’s actions transform His energy into matter.”

*The Allure of Gentleness, p. 77-79*

~ ~ ~

“The potential power of ‘matter’ — our bodies — comported by character, our pattern of habitual ways.”

*The Spirit of the Disciplines, p. 53*



He is the master because He is the maestro. “Jesus is Lord” can mean little in practice for anyone who has to hesitate before saying, “Jesus is smart.”

Jesus is not just nice, He is brilliant. He is the smartest man who ever lived. He is now supervising the entire course of world history (Rev. 1:5) while simultaneously preparing the rest of the universe for our future role in it (John 14:2). (95)



# Q&C

Your Questions & Comments are welcome!

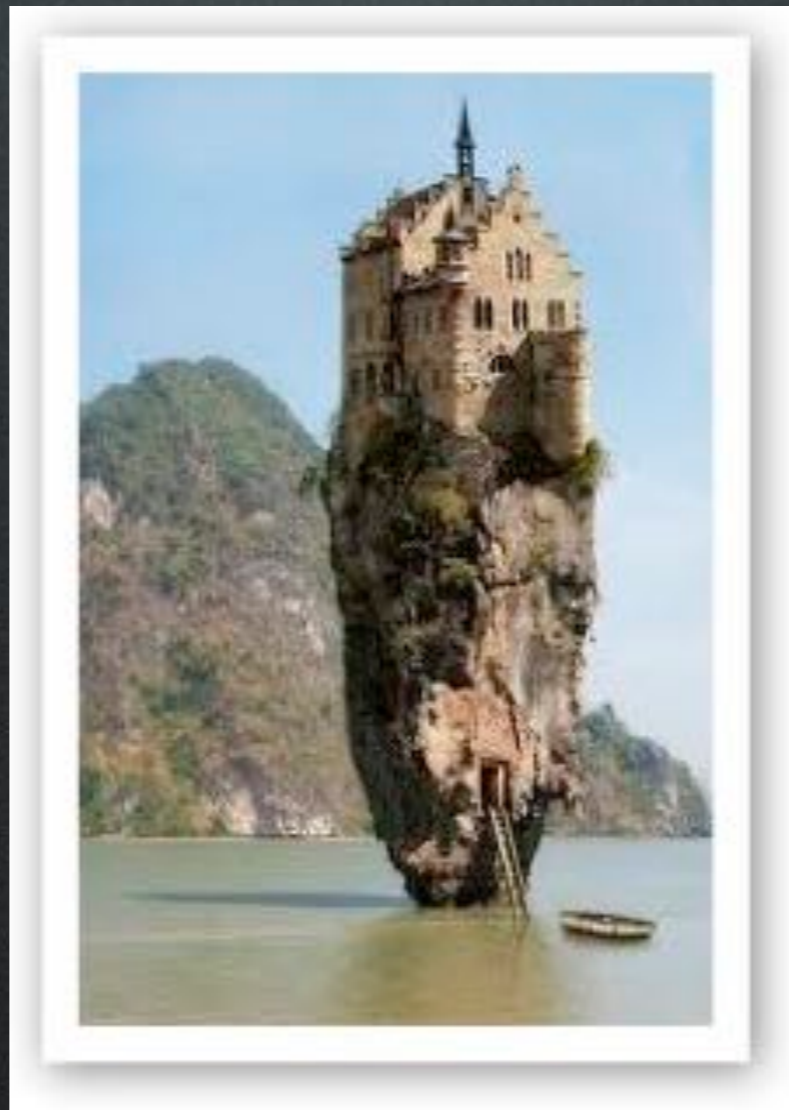
(Use the Q&A on the bottom of your Zoom screen)



Q&A

*“The divine architect and master carpenter teaches us how to build a rock house.”*

Doug Webster





## **Meditation** — *Colossians 1:15-17*

### **Application**

Q - Who is the most intelligent person to ever live?

Q - In what areas do I not seek the wisdom of Jesus because I don't consider His competency in these areas?

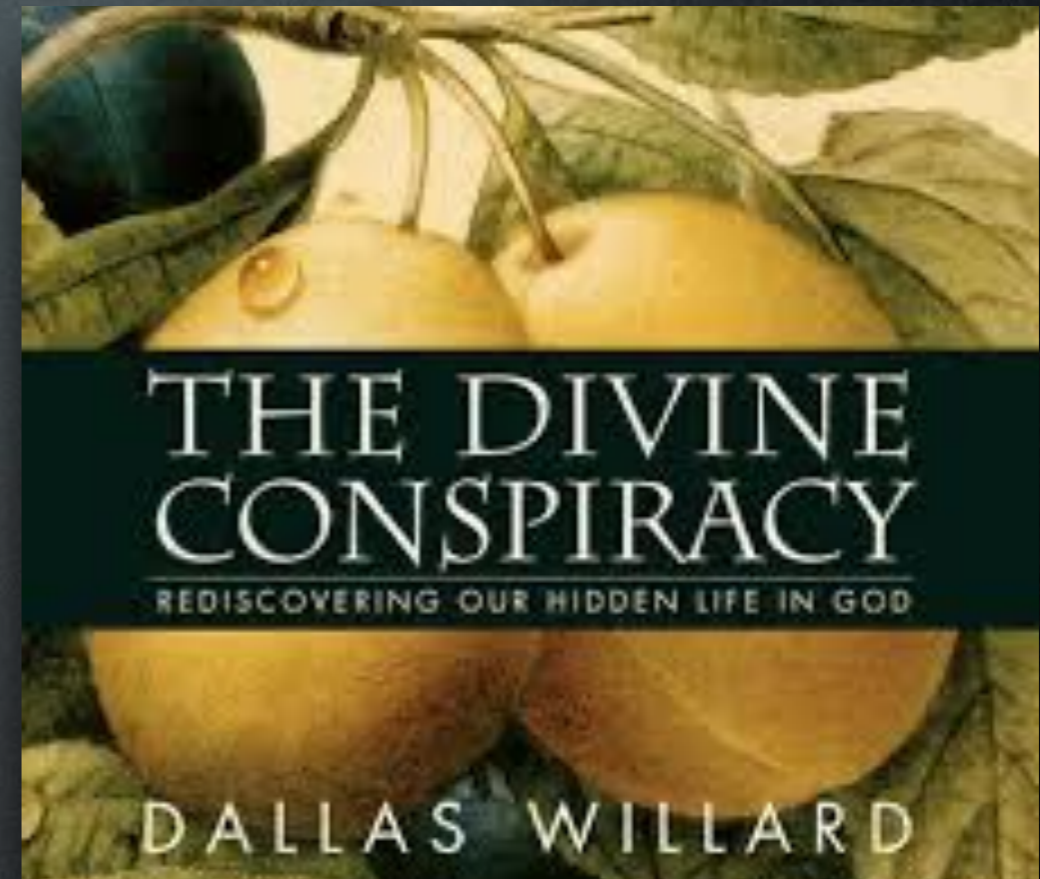
Q - What must I do to “enroll with serious intent in Jesus’ school of life”? (93)

Q - “[Jesus] was the ultimate scientist, craftsman, artist.” (94) What 3-5 other qualities of Jesus come to mind?



## Session 9 Summary

Jesus is the most intelligent person who ever lived and He surely has the knowledge to teach us how to live like He did...and does.



**80:00 + 10K**



**“The Divine Conspiracy Lectures”**  
Dallas Willard Ministries YouTube Channel

12-part video series

The Harvey Fellows 2004 Summer Institute

Course Session 9\* — DC #1 - 0:00-12:15

(119) pages of lecture notes in the Jesus College Library

<https://www.jesuscollege.com/dallaswillard-thedivineconspiracy>

\* See the Reading Schedule for related teachings

## “The Genius of Jesus \* ”

“We have to shift the understanding of Jesus away from someone who is perhaps nice but doesn’t really provide knowledge to one who provides us with the most essential knowledge about the most important things in human life.”

Dallas Willard

*Veritas Forum, Ohio State University, 2002*

*\* - A four-session course is available in the Jesus College library*

<https://www.jesuscollege.com/dallaswillard-courses-speaking>

Let us now hear His teachings on who has the good life —  
who is among the truly blessed.

(95)



## **Next Week — Session 10**

Ch. 4 - “Who is Really Well Off? The Beatitudes”

“Puzzle with the Beatitudes”

Hardback - pp. 97-106

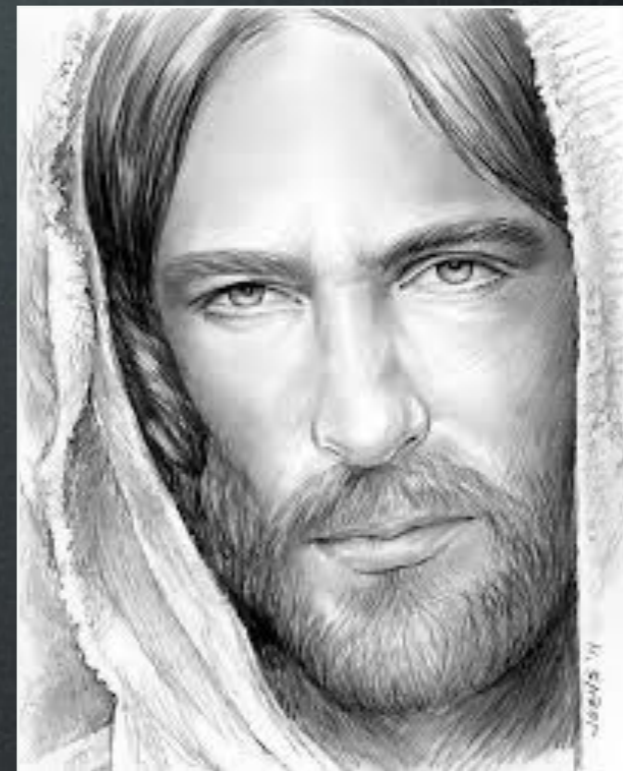
Paperback - pp. 111-121

**For Recorded Sessions + Slides, go to:**

[JesusCollege - The Divine Conspiracy](#)

Invest your next  
10,000 minutes as  
a student of  
history's greatest  
teacher learning  
how to do what He  
taught,

*Doug*

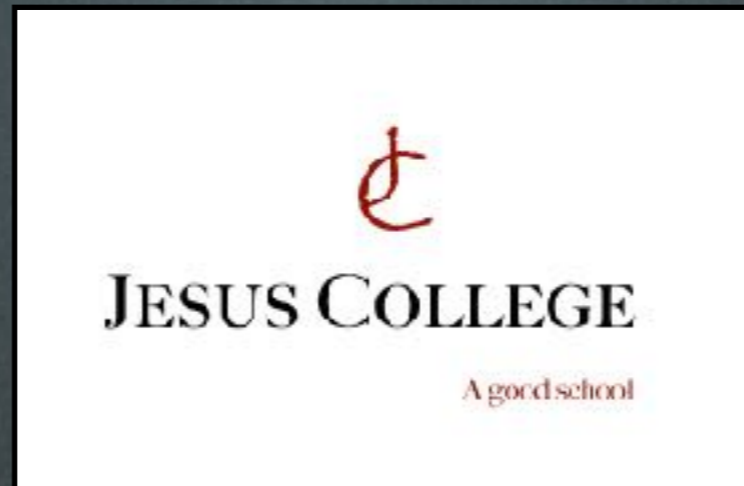


# THE SCHOOL of KINGDOM LIVING



**Information...Registration** — [JohnC@dwillard.org](mailto:JohnC@dwillard.org)





Apprentice to Master Love — //Nouns  
*“A Student of the Superior Benefactor”*

Apprentice to Master Love — //Verbs  
*“Training to be proficient in willing the good”*

**The Mission of Jesus College** - To Empower Apprentices to Master Love by knowing Jesus as the One, great truth and live a good life found in such truth.

**The Vision of Jesus College** - To equip Trainers (Ministry, Business Leaders, Parents) to mentor Leaders (Senior Apprentices) to disciple Apprentices to Master love.

**The Storehouse of Jesus College** - Over 395 [FREE downloadable resources & links](#) offering the good life in the person, work, teachings & life of Jesus through “Eyes to See” visual resources and “Ears to Hear” audio resources, plus gatherings live & online provided by JESUS COLLEGE.