

Why Did Jesus Call Himself "The Son of Man."

~~"the Capitalization?"~~

In the Gospels Jesus calls Himself "Son of Man" more than ~~80~~ ⁸⁰ times. eighty times.

~~Yet no one else ever uses the term about Him. Let others do not~~ ² use the term to refer

³ to Him. ⁴ The Gospels ~~(sing?) never~~ ^{never says "The Son of Man" "the Son of Man"} ⁵ "the Son of Man" ~~did this" or "the Son of Man"~~ ^{the Son of man the Son of Man} ~~the Son of Man~~ ^{never say}

went there." No disciple ~~ever~~ ^(is recorded as having ever said) said, "Let's ask the Son of Man," or, "I wonder ~~whether~~ ^{what} the Son of man will come." ^{say "A The}

^{There is no introduction to the term, there is no explanation of why Jesus uses it.} ^{earliest} ^{is said to have used it in John 1:50} The first time He ~~says~~ ^{is said to have used it in} it would seem to have been, in John 1:50 where he said to

Nathanael, "You will see the heaven opened, and the ~~ang~~ ^{ang} angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man." When he is questioned about telling the lame man to walk Jesus says, ^{When Jesus tells the lame man that his sins are forgiven} and people questioned his right to do so, He said that the Son of man has power on earth to forgive sins" (Matt. 9:6). ^{and said nothing to} ^{say such a thing, He declared} ^{author's}

^{Since} Christians know that Jesus is both divine and human, it seems natural to ^{we to} think He uses the term "Son of Man" to ~~show~~ ^{call attention to the fact that He was really human} show this side of one side of His nature.

In fact, from the second century onward, when Christian writers ^{generally} used the term it was ~~used~~ ^{used} only in this sense, that Jesus is both Son of God and Son of man. Yet it would have been absurd for Jesus, looking no different from other young Jews of His time, to use the term to say to everyone, "Look at me; I am really human." To everyone who saw Him He appeared human. ~~No one thought of His being anything else.~~ This would hardly be what the term would have meant to those who saw Him.

In modern times some theologians have said that Jesus ~~xx~~ used the term in order to remind people of Daniel 7:13, in which Daniel saw "one like the Son of man came with the clouds of heaven," ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ It is true that during the last week before His crucifixion Jesus told His disciples on two occasions that the Son of man would come on the clouds of heaven and very clearly was referring to this verse in those cases. ^{we must ask!} Yet during all the previous months and years of His mission, as He spoke to the multitudes, as He talked to ^{answered questions framed from} inner circle of the unfriendly Jewish leaders, or as he spoke to the disciples He would on occasion