

the Gospel according to

JOHN



SESSION 07:

John 5: Jesus & the Jews

“The Father & the Son”

JOHN 5:16-47

Backdrop/Overview:

Jesus has come onto the scene in Israel with a “bang.” His actions, miracles, and bold teaching is causing a big stir amongst the people. The Jewish leaders aren’t exactly sure what to think about him. When Jesus comes to Jerusalem for one of the feast days, he heals a man that had an infirmity for 38 years. For the first time in 38 years, he is able to walk and have a normal life. Because this took place on the sabbath day, once the Jews found out they were not happy. They see Jesus as a law-breaker. Jesus responds by establishing himself as a higher authority than the sabbath: as one that is working alongside his Father. The Jews want to kill him even more for this statement. Jesus then preaches his first public message to the Jews where he opens up truths about the relationship and work of his Father and himself; he gives 4 witnesses that reveal that he is the Son of God; and he exposes the problems that they have that are keeping them from believing in him.

READ JOHN 5:16-18

Quick Intro:

1. The Jews want to kill Jesus because he healed a man on the sabbath.
 - Sad to see how they could care less about this man and the suffering and hopelessness he had experienced for years.
 - If they had been true shepherds they would have known this man and his suffering and would have rejoiced and given glory to God when they saw him whole and walking.
 - Instead, they don't know him, they don't care about him, they just see him as a nuisance to their interpretation of the sabbath law, and they just want to use him to get to Jesus.
2. Jesus' responds: "My Father worketh hitherto, and I work."
 - Jesus does not try to reason with them on why they are being unreasonable and uncaring.

JOHN 5:16-18 (cont'd)

Quick Intro (cont'd):

- He just declares his Father to be a higher authority than the Sabbath (God doesn't stop working on the Sabbath), and puts himself in the same class: working right alongside his Father.
- Jesus is the great King; and he has walked into his capital city (Jerusalem), and his word is the final authority. He need not explain himself.

3. The Jews completely understood what Jesus just said.

- They knew from Psalm 2 and Psalm 110 that the Christ (anointed one) would be the Son of God. And that he would be given all authority and power from the Father to rule, reign, and judge.
- They could never accept that this simple carpenter from Nazareth could be the Christ. They thought this Jesus was speaking blasphemy.

READ JOHN 5:19-31

Father & Son:

1. The Son can do nothing of himself.
 - a. Such humility: revealing his utter dependence upon the Father.
 - b. Jesus is only doing what the Father does (like Father like Son).
2. The Father LOVES the SON!
 - a. He is the first and foremost love of the Father.
 - b. Thus, he shows him ALL THINGS that he does (and will show him GREATER works so that they might marvel).
 - Raising the DEAD! (Son can quicken whom he will).
3. The Father has committed all judgment to the Son.
 - So that all men will HONOUR the Son.
 - MUST honour the Son as the Father.
4. Whoever will:
 - a. Hear Jesus' word.... and
 - b. Believe on the Father that sent him....

JOHN 5:19-31 (cont'd)

Father & Son (cont'd):

- i. Has EVERLASTING LIFE.
- ii. Shall NOT come into condemnation.
- iii. Is Passed from death to LIFE.

5. The Resurrection power of the VOICE of the Son of God!

- a. The dead who HEAR his voice, shall live.
- b. All that are in the graves will hear his voice and come forth:
 - i. Resurrection of LIFE: Those that have done GOOD
 - ii. Resurrection of DAMNATION: Those that have done EVIL

6. Authority to EXECUTE judgment

- a. Because he is the Son of Man.

7. The Son can do NOTHING of himself.

- a. He judges as he HEARS (from the Father)
- b. His judgment is JUST because he does NOT seek his OWN will, but he seeks the will of the Father that sent him.

READ JOHN 5:31-39

The 4 Witnesses of Christ:

1. John the Baptist
 - a. They sent to him, and he told them the truth.
 - b. Jesus doesn't need John's witness, but he points them to John so that they might be saved.
 - c. John was a BURNING and a SHINING LIGHT!
2. The works of Christ
 - a. Greater witness than John.
 - b. The works that he must finish bear witness that the Father sent him
3. The Father himself
 - a. He bore witness of the Son (3x in total from heaven).
 - b. They never heard his voice nor saw his shape.
4. The Scriptures
 - a. They searched the scriptures for their own eternal life.
 - b. But they missed JESUS b/c the scriptures are all about HIM!

READ JOHN 5:37-47

The Jews problems:

1. They don't have the word of the Father in them:
 - PROOF: They don't believe Jesus whom he sent.
 - If they had the Father's word in them, they would have REJOICED when Jesus arrived as he is the living Word of the Father.
2. They will NOT come to Jesus:
 - He is their only hope for life.
 - But they WILL NOT; this is a matter of their WILL.
3. They do not have the LOVE of the Father in them:
 - PROOF: Christ is come in his Father's name, and they DON'T receive him.
 - They will receive another that comes in his OWN name. (Caesar for their generation; the Antichrist in future prophecy)
 - If they don't have the word of the Father in them, how can they have the LOVE of the Father in them...?

JOHN 5:37-47 (cont'd)

The Jews problems (cont'd):

4. They don't seek the honour that comes from God only:
 - PROOF: They are still seeking honour one from another.
 - IMPORTANT: It is IMPOSSIBLE to believe in Jesus if you are still seeking honour/glory/praise from men. We must seek our approval from God only (no matter what people think).
 5. They don't believe Moses' writings:
 - PROOF: They don't believe in Jesus and his words.
 - IMPORTANT: You cannot believe:
 1. The NEW TESTAMENT if you REJECT the OLD TESTAMENT.
 2. JESUS if you reject the PROPHETS.
 3. In GOD truly if you won't REPENT.
 4. The VOICE of the SPIRIT if you don't obey the WRITTEN SCRIPTURES.
- ❖ SAD: They have a system where they think their TRUST is in Moses and the Law; but they don't actually BELIEVE Moses w/their hearts...

CONCLUSION & MOVING FORWARD

Jesus makes it very clear that he and his Father are working hand-in-hand. The Father is leading and he is following perfectly. Jesus does NOTHING of himself, but only what the Father shows him. The Father is committing all the work for mankind on earth to the Son. The Son will judge, the Son will raise the dead, and ultimately, the Son gives everlasting life through his word. All men MUST honour the Son and the Father. You cannot choose one or the other. All of the Old Testament (Moses, the Law, the prophets) pointed forward to JESUS CHRIST. Jesus is not here to bow to man's pride or arrogance. He is here to speak the truth and expose the hidden sins of the heart that are preventing people from believing on HIM. The only hope for all men is to BELIEVE on Jesus. But pride, trust in man's systems/religion/riches, and seeking acceptance from other people PREVENT people from being able to believe in Jesus. Jesus will not repent of the truth... it is man that must repent.