

John 2021 #11 (7.4.21) #21055

John 5:31-47.

God the Son, part 2.

**I. The gospel of Christ is the ultimate knowledge of Reality. 1 Cor.1:30-2:10a.**

A. It is blatantly and unapologetically supernatural.

1. Comes directly from God.

B. It is not available in the world system.

1. This knowledge is literally unavailable in a secular worldview.

C. It is spoken into a world just as confused as ours.

1. Multi-cultural, multi-racial, pluralistic, polytheistic, politically pagan.

2. The gospel had absolutely no traction politically, only spiritually.

D. It starts with personally grasping who Jesus Christ actually is. (1:30)

1. There is a place in John's gospel where Jesus creates an opportunity to talk about himself.

E. *Note: Paul, who wrote this, was a young member of the same group that Jesus challenges in John 5. These people wanted to kill Jesus...*

**II. John 5. The Third Sign, Jesus heals a man at Bethesda. 5:1-18.**

A. He heals just one man on a Sabbath 1-15

1. Heals, slips away, lets the news spread.

B. Which drops a rock in the religious pond. 16

1. God works on Sabbath and is not breaking it.

2. Jesus, God the Son, is also working on Sabbath and not breaking it.

C. Which causes an uproar regarding His Person and Work. 17-18

1. *So, the Jewish leaders to whom he speaks are trying to kill him.*

**III. Which gives Jesus the opportunity to reveal his relationship with God. He is God's Own True Son—God, the Son, Incarnate 19-24 (Heb.1:1-3; Jn.14:9). The most stunning and important points from 19-30.**

A. My judgment is the Father's judgment. 22. 26-30. (Acts 17:30-31)

1. He resurrects all people for either life or death. Matt. 25:41, 46; Rev.20:11-15.

B. Which means that My honor is the Father's honor. 23 (Phil.2:1-11; Col.2:8-9)

1. Since God does not share honor like this with created beings, this indicates Jesus' ontological identity with God.

C. Which means My gift of eternal life is the Father's gift. 24

1. Out of death and into life, already, by faith in God's witness about Jesus.

a) Believe = faith (pistuo). Emphasis on faith in God through the message of Christ.

D. This is such a stunning, astonishing self-revelation that it needs more witnesses...

**IV. Jesus provides other witnesses for his identity. Jn.5:31-40**

A. God the Father is bearing witness of who I am. 31-32

1. I'm not simply bearing witness of myself. There is another = *God the Father*. In the context this is what Jesus must mean.

B. How So? Four ways. 33-40

1. He sent John the Baptist ahead of Me. 33-35

a) (33). John was a well-known witness who called Israel to repentance and faith in Jesus (1:29-34)

b) (34) Point of clarity. I didn't need John to tell me who I am, but I'm reminding you of his message about me so that you might trust me and be saved, rescued from judgment.

c) (35) If you rejoiced in his light, you should trust what he said about me.

2. He gave Me my entire mission (all these works). 36

a) *The works the Father gave the Son to do.*

b) Miracles, signs, resurrection, ascension, Holy Spirit poured out.

3. He personally reveals Me to people. 37-38 (Heb.1:1-3)
  - a) The Father himself bearing witness...
    - (1) External witness: At Jesus' baptism? Mk.1:11; Matt.3:17
    - (2) Historical witness. Heb. 1:1-3. God has spoken and is now speaking: Christ.
    - (3) Internal witness. Jn.6:44. The father drawing...
  - b) But you religious leaders don't get it. 38
    - (1) You don't hear His voice.
    - (2) You can't see His form.
    - (3) You don't have His word abiding in you.
  - c) Because you don't believe Me (the one He sent). 38
4. He inspired the Scriptures, which speak of Me. 39-40
  - a) Jesus fulfills the Scripture. Matt.5:17; Lk.24:25-27; 44-48
  - b) But they idolized the Scriptures instead of coming to Christ.

## V. Jesus turns the tables and accuses his accusers. 4 indictments here. 41-47

- A. You don't respect (glorify, recognize, acknowledge) Me, but I know you... And you do not love God. 41-42
  1. I don't receive glory (genuine recognition) from humans (especially you), but I know you don't love God.
  2. *Not loving God is violation of the greatest commandment The Shema (Deut.6:4-5. Mk.12:28-30)*
  3. *Note: very religious people, with their Bibles memorized, who do not love God as much as they think they do.*
- B. You don't believe me, but you will believe false messiahs. 43
  1. I came in my Father's name, but false messiah's come in their own names. There were many false messiahs that came after Jesus.
  2. *Rejecting the Father's witness to Christ leaves us open to all sorts of deception.*
  3. *When we cease to believe in God, the danger is not that we will believe in nothing, but worse, that we will believe in anything (paraphrase) (G. K. Chesterton)*
- C. You don't see my glory, but you are impressed with your own glory. 44
  1. Your own self-glory blots out the glory of God.
  2. *Seeking human glory is a big trap.*
- D. You do put your confidence in Moses, but he will not save you. 45-47
  1. In fact, Moses will accuse you of idolatry in the end! Note: The Scriptures tell one story—about God the Son Incarnate, saving the world.
  2. **Note:** *putting their faith in Moses was not like putting their faith in Jesus. Faith in Jesus means letting him save us singlehandedly. "Faith in Moses" is actually faith in the Self to keep the Mosaic Law. Self-salvation. Rom.9:30-33*

## **VI. Three things I ask myself as a disciple of Jesus the Lord.**

### **A. Whose word is abiding in me? 38**

1. Jn.15: 7. You abide in me and let my words abide in you.
2. If he is who he says he is, then all other forms of knowledge must be brought under his Lordship. We need to think like He does, revealed in His Word.
3. We hear human word all the time.

### **B. Whose love is filling me? 42**

1. Loving the Lord for who He is, is different from loving our own love of God, our own spirituality, our own mission, our own “holiness,” our own theology, our own “political rightness”
2. **Rev.2:2-6.** You’re doing a lot of good and thinking many true thoughts, but you have abandoned your original love.
  - a) Love for God? Love for others? Both/And. Can’t have one without the other. But love for others must grow out of love for the Lord. **Mk.12:28-30**
3. **Jn.21:16.** Simon, do you love Me...?

### **C. Whose hands are holding my eternity? 5:24**

1. It’s either my own hands or God the Son Incarnate.