**The Gospel of John:**

**The Son Doing His Father’s Work, Pt 2**

*John 5:21-24*

**Context**

A right identification of the person and work of Jesus is critical. Without it, one’s faith is in question as a biblical view of Jesus as the object of our faith is critical for salvation. Many today view Jesus as a good moral teacher or a model for faith, but they do not see Him as the object of their faith. They do not see Him as deity. They do not accept the biblical claims of Jesus being God.

Our text this morning comes on the heels of Jesus healing a crippled man on the Sabbath. Jesus uses the Jewish leader’s apostasy regarding their man-made Sabbath rules to tell them of His deity. Jesus did not violate the OT Sabbath regulations, but rather, the rabbinic additions to those regulations.

***John 5:17-24****—But He answered them, “My Father is working until now, and I Myself am working.”* ***18****For this reason therefore the Jews were seeking all the more to kill Him, because He not only was breaking the Sabbath, but also was calling God His own Father, making Himself equal with God.* ***19****Therefore Jesus answered and was saying to them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, the Son can do nothing of Himself, unless it is something He sees the Father doing; for whatever the Father does, these things the Son also does in like manner.****20****For the Father loves the Son, and shows Him all things that He Himself is doing; and the Father will show Him greater works than these, so that you will marvel.****21****For just as the Father raises the dead and gives them life, even so the Son also gives life to whom He wishes.****22****For not even the Father judges anyone, but He has given all judgment to the Son,****23****so that all will honor the Son even as they honor the Father. He who does not honor the Son does not honor the Father who sent Him.* ***24****“Truly, truly, I say to you, he who hears My word, and believes Him who sent Me, has eternal life, and does not come into judgment, but has passed out of death into life.*

**5 assertions Jesus makes claiming deity**

1. **Jesus is God in His person**

***John 5:17-18****—But He answered them, “My Father is working until now, and I Myself am working.”* ***18****For this reason therefore the Jews were seeking all the more to kill Him, because He not only was breaking the Sabbath, but also was calling God His own Father, making Himself equal with God.*

1. God is working
2. Jesus is directly confronting the Jewish challenge of working on the Sabbath
3. The Jews made observing the Sabbath a central issue
4. The Sabbath was not instituted for God’s benefit but for man’s
5. Jesus is working
6. In response, the Jews were all the more eager to kill Jesus
7. **Jesus is God in His Works**

***John 5:19-20****—**Therefore Jesus answered and was saying to them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, the Son can do nothing of Himself, unless it is something He sees the Father doing; for whatever the Father does, these things the Son also does in like manner.****20****For the Father loves the Son, and shows Him all things that He Himself is doing; and the Father will show Him greater works than these, so that you will marvel.*

* + 1. Jesus can do nothing of Himself
    2. Whatever the Father does, the Son does in like manner
    3. The Father loves the Son
    4. The Father would show Him greater works
       1. Raising the dead, **v21**
       2. Judging all people, **v22**

1. **Jesus is God in Life and Death**

***John 5:21****—For just as the Father raises the dead and gives them life, even so the Son also gives life to whom He wishes.*

1. Only God has the power of life and death

**Deuteronomy 32:29**—‘*See now that I, I am He, And there is no god besides Me; It is I who put to death and give life. I have wounded and it is I who heal, And there is no one who can deliver from My hand.’*

**2 Corinthians 1:9**—indeed, we had the sentence of death within ourselves so that we would not trust in ourselves, but in God who raises the dead

1. The Son has the same power as the Father to raise the dead

**John 11:43-44**—*When He had said these things, He cried out with a loud voice, “Lazarus, come forth.”****44****The man who had died came forth, bound hand and foot with wrappings, and his face was wrapped around with a cloth. Jesus said to them, “Unbind him, and let him go.”*  
(cf. ***Matt 9:18-25; Luke 1:11-15; John 6:39-40, 44).***

1. **Jesus is God in Judgment  
     
   *John 5:22****—For not even the Father judges anyone, but He has given all judgment to the Son.*

***2 Thessalonians 1:7b-8****—…the Lord Jesus will be revealed from heaven with His mighty angels in flaming fire,****8****dealing out retribution to those who do not know God and to those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus.*

***Acts 17:31****—*…*because He has fixed a day in which He will judge the world in righteousness through a Man whom He has appointed, having furnished proof to all men by raising Him from the dead.”*

***Matthew 7:23****—And then I will declare to them, ‘I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness.’*

1. **Jesus is God in Honor**

***John 5:23-24****—…**so that all will honor the Son even as they honor the Father. He who does not honor the Son does not honor the Father who sent- Him.* ***24****“Truly, truly, I say to you, he who hears My word, and believes Him who sent Me, has eternal life, and does not come into judgment, but has passed out of death into life.*

1. Honoring the Son honors the Father **John 6:28-29**—Therefore they said to Him, “What shall we do, so that we may work the works of God?” **29**Jesus answered and said to them, “This is the work of God, that you believe in Him whom He has sent.”

**John 15:23**—*He who hates Me hates My Father also.*

“It is not up to a man to decide that he will honour the One or the Other; it is either both or neither. In religious circles, it is too easy for unbelief to contemplate God but not the Son. Knowledge of One implies knowledge of the Other (Jn 8:19); hatred of One implies hatred of the Other (15:23); denial of the One implies denial of the Other (1 Jn 2:23).”[[1]](#footnote-1)

**Philippians 2:9-11**—*For this reason also, God highly exalted Him, and bestowed on Him the name which is above every name,****10****so that at the name of Jesus every knee will bow, of those who are in heaven and on earth and under the earth,****11****and that every tongue will confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.*

1. No condemnation for those in Christ

**Romans 8:1**—*Therefore there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.*

**Luke 11:23**—*He who is not with Me is against Me; and he who does not gather with Me, scatters.*

* 1. For those who believe by faith, there is salvation

**Matthew 1:21**—*She will bear a Son; and you shall call His name Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins.”* 

**1 Timothy 1:15**—*It is a trustworthy statement, deserving full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, among whom I am foremost of all.*

**Hebrews 7:25**—*Therefore He is able also to save forever those who draw near to God through Him, since He always lives to make intercession for them.*

* 1. For those who do not believe, there is condemnation

**John 3:18**—*He who believes in Him is not judged; he who does not believe has been judged already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.* 

**John 9:39**—*And Jesus said, “For judgment I came into this world, so that those who do not see may see, and that those who see may become blind.”* 

**John 12:47-48**—*If anyone hears My sayings and does not keep them, I do not judge him; for I did not come to judge the world, but to save the world. 48He who rejects Me and does not receive My sayings, has one who judges him; the word I spoke is what will judge him at the last day.*

**Acts 17:31**—*because He has fixed a day in which He will judge the world in righteousness through a Man whom He has appointed, having furnished proof to all men by raising Him from the dead.*

**2 Timothy 4:1**—*I solemnly charge you in the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and by His appearing and His kingdom.*

1. *What the Bible Teaches: John*, John Ritchie, p 93. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)