

Healing At Pool Of Bethesda

John 5:1-29

Part 2

Introduction.

1. Last week we began a study of a man who had been crippled for 38 years. (Jn. 5:5). See “walk” verses 8 & 9.
2. He was in what appeared to be a hopeless condition, though he desperately wanted to be made well.
3. Jesus asked the crippled man, "Do you wish to get well?" (Jn. 5:6).
4. The discouraged crippled man answered Jesus with these sad words. (Jn. 5:7).

John 5:7 The sick man answered Him, "Sir, I have no man to put me into the pool when the water is stirred up, but while I am coming, another steps down before me."

5. Jesus responded with these words to the crippled man who was unable to walk, "Get up, pick up your pallet and walk." (Jn. 5:8).
6. John then records the exciting healing of this crippled man. (Jn. 5:9).

John 5:9 Immediately the man became well, and picked up his pallet and {began} to walk.

7. John added these words “Now it was the Sabbath on that day.” (Jn. 5:9).
8. The Jewish leaders responded not with joy that a crippled man could now walk, but they responded with these harsh and critical words to the former crippled man. (Jn. 5:10).

John 5:10 So the Jews were saying to the man who was cured, "It is the Sabbath, and it is not permissible for you to carry your pallet." They charged both the crippled man and the one who had him with sin.

9. They also wanted to know the identity of the one who had healed him, but the former crippled man did not know the identity of Jesus and was not a follower of Jesus. (Jn. 5:11-13).

John 5:11 But he answered them, "He who made me well was the one who said to me, 'Pick up your pallet and walk.'"

John 5:12 They asked him, "Who is the man who said to you, 'Pick up {your pallet} and walk?'"

John 5:13 But the man who was healed did not know who it was, for Jesus had slipped away while there was a crowd in {that} place.

10. Later Jesus found this man in the [outer court] of the temple and warned him not to continue in sin “so that nothing worse happens to you.” (Jn. 5:14).

John 5:14 Afterward Jesus found him in the temple and said to him, "Behold, you have become well; do not sin anymore, so that nothing worse happens to you."

11. The former crippled man left the outer court of the temple where he may have gone to give thanks and informed the Jewish leaders it was Jesus “who had made him well.” (Jn. 5:15).

- a. We cannot be sure, but it is very possible the Jewish leaders had demanded the former cripple man inform them if they learned the identity of the one who healed him.
 - b. Most likely this former crippled man was afraid not to inform them who healed him.
12. John then reveals the “reason the Jews were persecuting Jesus”...”was because He was doing these things on the Sabbath.” (Jn. 5:16).

Jesus Shocked The Jews With His Bold Statement

John 5:17 But He answered them, "My Father is working until now, and I Myself am working."

1. Jesus called God “My Father” and declared “My Father is working until now, and I Myself am working.”
 - a. The RSV has “My Father is working still.”
 - b. They rightly understood the words “My Father” to mean Jesus was claiming to be Deity. (Jn. 14:9).
2. God is omnipotent and never rests nor needs rest, but He is constantly working for the welfare of man and His whole creation.
 - a. Genesis 2:2 speaks of God resting on the seventh day.
 - b. It was not a literal rest, and **did not mean the omnipotent God** was tired and did nothing on the seventh day.
 - c. Moses, in Genesis 2:2, simply meant that God ceased His work of creation after six days.
 - d. **God created nothing after the sixth day of creation.**
 - e. God did not rest on the Sabbath, but He continued to work upholding and sustaining the world and the universe.
 - f. God did not refuse to bless and do good to men because it was the Sabbath nor did His Son.
3. What is true of the Father is also true of the Son.
 - a. God created “all things” through His Son. (Jn. 1:3; Heb. 1:2; 1 Cor. 8:6).
 - b. God sustains the universe through His Son. (Col. 1:15-17; Heb. 1:3).

Col. 1:15 He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation.

Col. 1:16 For by Him all things were created, *both* in the heavens and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities--all things have been created through Him and for Him.

Col. 1:17 He is before all things, and **in Him all things hold together.**

Heb. 1:3 And He is the radiance of His glory and the exact representation of His nature, **and upholds all things by the word of His power.** When He had made purification of sins, He sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high,

- c. Jesus, like the Father, has never stopped working and He would do good even on the Sabbath.
- d. The Sabbath was made for the good of man, not to mistreat and harm him.

4. They rightly interpreted what Jesus said to mean He was claiming God was His Father and He was claiming equality with God.
 - a. **Jesus never denied His Deity**, but performed miracles to prove His Deity.
 - b. He always claimed to be Deity. (Jn. 3:16; 8:58: 10:30; 14:9; Matt. 26:63,64).
 - c. He backed His claims with His many signs [miracles, healings].

Jesus' Equality with God

John 5:18 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. John affirmed they now had **a second reason** for persecuting Jesus beyond His healing on the Sabbath.
2. They believed He was guilty of blasphemy “making Himself equal with God.”
3. They ignored the evidences of Jesus’ Sonship and refused even to consider this sign or any other sign revealed the Deity of Jesus.
4. Nothing would convince these wicked men that Jesus was “the Christ, the Son of God.”
5. They [these so-called religious men] continued to seek to kill Jesus. (Jn. 7:19, 20, 25, 32; 8:59; 10:31,39; 11:53).

Jesus Did Not Back Down From His Bold Statement

The Authority Of The Son

John 5:19 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.

1. Jesus began this verse with a double “amen” [ah **mayn**] that is translated “truly, truly” here in the NASB.
 - a. This particle is used here with the meaning “in truth, verily, most certainly.”
 - b. In Revelation 3:14 it is rendered “Amen, “and defined with the words “the faithful and true one.”
 - c. It could also be used to manifest agreement. (1 Cor. 14:16).

1 Cor 14:16 Otherwise if you bless in the spirit {only,} how will the one who fills the place of the ungifted say the "Amen" at your giving of thanks,

2. Jesus called Himself “the Son” sticking to His bold claim that He was God’s Son.
3. Jesus did not act on His own, but whatever He did was by the permission and the authority of His Father.
4. Jesus’ actions were the actions of the Father.

Discourse Of Jesus

John 5:20 "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. The word "love is from "phileo" [fee leh oh] and refutes the idea that "phileo" love was inferior to "agape" [a gah pay] love used in John 3:16 and other places in the New Testament.
2. At least in this context and several others it was basically a synonym of "agape."
- 3 . John 16:27 used "phileo" of God's love and the disciples love for Jesus.

Jn. 16:27 for the Father Himself loves you, because you have loved Me and have believed that I came forth from the Father.

4. Jesus was not teaching or inferring God's love for them or Himself was an inferior love.

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. Both the Father and the Son have the power to impart life.
 - a. They created life. (Gen. 1:26-27). See Jn. 1:3; 1 Cor. 8:6
 - b. They can raise men up both spiritually or physically.
2. This life is given to those who obey the Son. (Heb. 5:9).

Heb 5:9 And having been made perfect, He became to all those who obey Him the source of eternal salvation,

3. Jesus never sinned, but was the "perfect" [the sinless Lamb of God].
4. Only the Sinless Lamb of God could atone for the sins of mankind.

John 5:22 "For not even the Father judges anyone, but He has given all judgment to the Son,

1. The Bible speaks of God as the Judge. (Rom. 3:6; 14:12; Heb. 12:23).

Rom 3:6 May it never be! For otherwise, how will God judge the world?

Rom 14:12 So then each one of us will give an account of himself to God.

Heb 12:23 to the general assembly and church of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven, and to God, the Judge of all, and to the spirits of {the} righteous made perfect,

See also Psa. 9:7,8; 50:6; Isa. 33:22).

2. Technically He now judges men through His Son. (Acts 10:42; Rom. 2:16; 2 Cor. 5:10).

Acts 10:42 "And He ordered us to preach to the people, and solemnly to testify that this is the One who has been appointed by God as Judge of the living and the dead.

Rom 2:16 on the day when, according to my gospel, God will judge the secrets of men through Christ Jesus.

2 Cor 5:10 For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may be recompensed for his deeds in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad.

See also 2 Tim. 4:1, 8; Acts 17:30,31; Matt. 13:41; Mk. 13:26; Lk. 21:36).

John 5:23 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.

1. One must “honor the Son” to honor the Father.

a. “Honor,” is from “timao” [tee **mah** oh] and here means to love, reverence and obey.

b. This same word “honor” is used of the way one was to treat his/her parents. (Matt. 15:4, 6, 8; Eph. 6:2).

2. The one who rejects God’s beloved Son rejects Him. (Lk. 10:16)

Lk. 10:16 "The one who listens to you listens to Me, and the one who rejects you rejects Me; and he who rejects Me rejects the One who sent Me."

3. You cannot have one without the other!

4. Those who believe they can have one without the other are sadly mistaken.

John 5:24 "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. The one who accepts God also accepts the Son God sent and hears the words of the Son and “has eternal life.” (Jn. 3:16, 36; 1 Jn. 5:13).

John 3:16 "For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life.

John 3:36 "He who believes in the Son has eternal life; but he who does not obey the Son will not see life, but the wrath of God abides on him."

1 John 5:13 These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, so that you may know that you have eternal life.

2. “Eternal life” is a present possession in the sense one “has passed out of [spiritual] death into life.”

a. The believer has “eternal life” in prospect and believers throughout the ages have died having the assurance of the resurrection and “eternal life” with God in heaven.

b. The Christian **now has the assurance** of salvation in Christ. (Rom. 8:1; 1 Jn. 5:13).

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

1 John 5:13 These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, so that you may know that you have eternal life.

c. The believer is in God’s kingdom (Col. 1:13), and now obeys Christ the King. (Lk. 6:46; Matt. 28:20; Jn. 14:15; Heb. 5:9).

Luke 6:46 "Why do you call Me, 'Lord, Lord,' and do not do what I say?"

Matt 28:20 teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age."

John 14:15 "If you love Me, you will keep My commandments.

Heb 5:9 And having been made perfect, He became to all those who obey Him the source of eternal salvation,

- d. This assurance is not based on merit nor is it given to those who turn away from Christ. (Eph. 2:8-9; Rom. 6:23).

Eph 2:8 For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, {it is} the gift of God;
Eph 2:9 not as a result of works, so that no one may boast.

Rom 6:23 For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

See also 1 Cor. 9:27; 10:12; Gal. 5:4; Heb. 3:12; 2 Pet. 1:5-11.

3. "Eternal life" is **also future** because man is still in his mortal body and is not in heaven. (Matt. 25:46; Tit. 1:2; 1 Jn. 2:25).

Matt 25:46 "These will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

Titus 1:2 in the hope of eternal life, which God, who cannot lie, promised long ages ago,

1 John 2:25 This is the promise which He Himself made to us: eternal life.

Conclusion.

1. Next week, as a part of the words of Jesus following the healing of the crippled man, we will study what Jesus said about two resurrections.
2. Jesus will give important teaching about the **spiritual resurrection** that would occur and the **physical resurrection** at the end of time.
3. It is important we understand the differences between these two resurrections.
4. All Christians have experienced a resurrection. (Col. 2:12; 3:1-2).

Col 2:12 having been buried with Him in baptism, in which you were also raised up with Him through faith in the working of God, who raised Him from the dead.

Col 3:1 Therefore if you have been raised up with Christ, keep seeking the things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God.

Col 3:2 Set your mind on the things above, not on the things that are on earth.