

## Healing At Pool Of Bethesda

John 5:1-29

### Part 2

#### 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."
  - a. The RSV has "My Father is working still."
  - b. They understood the words "My Father" to mean Jesus was claiming to be Deity.
2. God is omnipotent and never rests, 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. He simply meant that God ceased His work of creation.
  - d. God created nothing after the sixth day of creation.
  - e. He did not completely rest on the Sabbath, but He continued to work upholding and sustaining the universe.
  - f. God did not refuse to bless and do good to men because it was the Sabbath.
3. What is true of the Father is 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, never stopped working and would do good even on the Sabbath.
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.
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.
4. Nothing would convinced these wicked men that Jesus was “the Christ, the Son of God.”
5. They 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).
2. Jesus called Himself “the Son” sticking to His 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 the 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 Him was some 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.
- b. They can raise men up spiritually or physically.

2. This life is given to those who obey the Son. (Heb. 5:9).

**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). 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; 2 Tim. 4:1,8; Acts 17:30,31). See also 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" here means to reverence and obey.
- b. This same word 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.

**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 "has eternal life." (Jn. 3:16, 36; 1 Jn. 5:13).

2. "Eternal life" is a present possession in the sense one "has passed out of death into life."

- a. The believer has "eternal life" in prospect.
- b. The Christian has the assurance of salvation in Christ. (Rom. 8:1).
- c. The believer is in God's kingdom. (Col. 1:13).

d. This assurance is not based on merit nor is it given to those who turn away from Christ. (Eph. 2:8-10; Rom. 6:23; 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).

### Two Resurrections

**John 5:25 "Truly, truly, I say to you, an hour is coming and now is, when the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God, and those who hear will live."**

1. This was not referring to a physical resurrection, but to a spiritual resurrection. Note the words "and now is."
2. It had reference to those who were dead in sin, but would come alive spiritually by hearing and obeying "the voice of the Son of God."
3. The word "dead" is used to describe the pre-Christian state of sinners. (Eph. 2:1, 5; Col. 2:13).
4. Those who hear [obey] Jesus will "live" [be saved]. (Heb. 5:9).

**John 5:26 "For just as the Father has life in Himself, even so He gave to the Son also to have life in Himself;**

1. Both the Father and the Son can impart life. They are the source of life. (Gen. 1:12, 27; Jn. 1:1-4).
2. This life is not imparted on different terms, but it is granted to those who obey God's beloved Son.

**John 5:27 and He [God the Father] gave Him [the Son] authority to execute judgment, because He is *the* Son of Man.**

1. Jesus had and has "all authority." (Matt. 28:18; Jn. 17:2).
2. God will judge men through His beloved Son. (Matt. 25:31-46; 2 Cor. 5:10; Acts 17:30,31).
3. God gave this authority to His Son. (Matt. 28:18).
4. Matthew, Mark and Luke describe "the son of Man" as the One separating the good from the evil. (Matt. 13:41; 25:31; Mk. 13:20; Lk. 21:36).

### Physical Resurrection At The End Of Time

**John 5:28 "Do not marvel at this; for an hour [the time] is coming, in which all who are in the tombs will hear His voice,**

1. Jesus spoke here of the physical resurrection at the end of time.
  - a. "All who are in the tombs" will be raised from the dead.
  - b. "Tombs" is used for "graves" regardless of where the body might be or its condition.
  - c. The power of the Almighty God is not limited to a location or the state of the body.
2. This will be a universal resurrection of all who have lived - "all who are in the tombs."

- a. Acts 24:15 also speaks of the universal resurrection - “there shall certainly be a resurrection of both the righteous and the wicked.” See Dan. 12:2
- b. The righteous will be raised “on the last day.” (Jn. 6:39, 40, 44).
- c. 1 Thessalonians 4:1-13 is not teaching two resurrections, but is correcting a problem some had developed in regard to the resurrection of the righteous.

1) Some believed the living had an advantage over the dead in Christ.

2) Paul quickly revealed this was an erroneous conclusion.

3) Both will ascend at the same time to meet Jesus in the air.

4) Both will be with Jesus forevermore. (1 Thess. 4:18).

5) This earth is destined for destruction. (2 Pet. 3:10-13).

2 Pet. 3:10 But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, in which the heavens will pass away with a roar and the elements will be destroyed with intense heat, and the earth and its works will be burned up.

2 Pet. 3:11 Since all these things are to be destroyed in this way, what sort of people ought you to be in holy conduct and godliness,

2 Pet. 3:12 looking for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be destroyed by burning, and the elements will melt with intense heat!

2 Pet. 3:13 But according to His promise we are looking for new heavens and a new earth, in which righteousness dwells.

3. The resurrection of the righteous and the wicked are not 1,000 years apart, but will happen simultaneously when Christ comes the 2<sup>nd</sup> time. See notes on John 5:27.

**John 5:29 and will come forth; those who did the good *deeds* to a resurrection of life, those who committed the evil *deeds* to a resurrection of judgment.**

1. The righteous will be raised “to a resurrection of life.”
  - a. This is a reference to eternal life with God in heaven.
  - b. Once raised with new spiritual bodies (1 Cor. 15:49-58) they will ascend to be with the Lord “forevermore” (1 Thess. 4:13-18).
  - c. Our citizenship is in heaven (Phil. 3:20), and we are mere pilgrims on this earth. (1 Pet. 2:11). See Heb. 11:13.
  - d. We should rejoice that our names are written in heaven and one day we will see God. (Lk. 10:20; Matt. 5:8).
2. “Those who committed the evil deeds to a resurrection of judgment.”
  - a. Only those who submit to Jesus have their sins forgiven and are saved.
  - b. Those who reject Him and pursue evil deeds are doomed to a resurrection of condemnation.
  - c. They will be raised from the dead, but will be cast into hell. (Matt. 25:41, 46).

d. The righteous will live in the heavenly abode Jesus has prepared for them. (Jn. 14:1-3).

Jn. 14:1 "Do not let your heart be troubled; believe in God, believe also in Me.

Jn. 14:2 "In My Father's house are many dwelling places; if it were not so, I would have told you; for I go to prepare a place for you.

Jn. 14:3 "If I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself, that where I am, there you may be also.

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