

THE GOSPEL FOR TODAY

GFT-09 "HONORING THE SON"

Geof W. Jackson, Instructor HomeChurch Bible Class

geofj@homechurchok.com

08/26/2025

JOHN 5:21-23 *For as the Father raises the dead and gives them life, so also the Son gives life to whom he will.* ²² *For the Father judges no one, but has given all judgment to the Son,* ²³ *that all may honor the Son, just as they honor the Father.*

Whoever does not honor the Son does not honor the Father who sent him.

TO HONOR THE SON

In **JOHN 5:21-23**, Jesus ties "3" issues together, ending with *"Honoring the Son."* I am certain the Jewish Leaders did not plan to enter these discussions when they challenged him that day. What had originally started with a "rebuke" for violating *their* rules for the Sabbath, *led to* Jesus' declaration of His equality with the Father, *then to* the fact of Jesus doing the works of his Father as the Son of God, *and finally* that this was a demonstration of the Father's love for the Son.

Yikes... they were not prepared for all of this!

BUT: Jesus was not finished. They had opened a door and Jesus was going to walk through it. In the full context of **JOHN 5:24-47**, Jesus progresses from one demonstration of WHO he was to the next, neither giving his opponents time to catch-up, nor respond. *You just have to love it!*

This *"man"* Jesus who presents himself as *"God"* must be dealt with, He could not be ignored. IF he is in, fact, God's Son, then His teachings must be true... **and** they must be accepted and followed.

That was the predicament they faced then... it is the same with our culture today.

AN APOLOGETIC:

1 PETER 3:14-16 *But even if you should suffer for righteousness' sake, you will be blessed. Have no fear of them, nor be troubled,* ¹⁵ *but in your hearts honor Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and respect,* ¹⁶ *having a good conscience, so that, when you are slandered, those who revile your good behavior in Christ may be put to shame.*

- *"Apology" / make a defense* – **Apologia** – *Apo-against / logia -words*
- It is to *"Put-away the argument / criticism"* ... It is NOT about the person...
- Not a defending of yourself but "speaking truth" against the "error" that is being dismissed

RESURRECTION LIFE

JOHN 5:21 *"For as the Father raises the dead and gives them life, so also the Son gives life to whom he will."*

There are 2 aspects of *"Resurrection"* here:

- The *"Resurrection Life given by The Father"* is the physical raising to Life of the Saints (*not the Church*) at the time of the 2nd Coming...
- The Son *"giving Life"* refers to the **"Eternal Life"** that Jesus gives to ALL who believe...
- *"Whom He will"* is to all who believe that He is the Son whom the Father has sent... and have believed in His name...

VS 24A *"Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever hears my word and believes Him who sent me has Eternal Life."*

JOHN 1:12 But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave **the right to become children of God...**

JOHN 3:16 For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have **Eternal Life**.

JUDGMENT

JOHN 5:22 “For the Father judges no one, but has given all judgment to the Son...”

The very “One” they are rejecting is the ONE that will be their judge in the Resurrection...

Because the issue of Eternal Life is based upon the belief that Jesus is the Son whom the Father sent... HE is the One to whom they must answer

HONOR

JOHN 5:23 “...that all may honor the Son, just as they honor the Father.

Whoever does not honor the Son does not honor the Father who sent him.”

Those who truly “**Honor the Father**” WILL, as a response, also “**Honor the Son**”

They CANNOT say they honor the Father IF they reject to believe on the ONE the Father sent...

One CANNOT say they honor God IF you do NOT honor Jesus as the Christ of God...

THE ACCESS TO ETERNAL LIFE

As Jesus has proclaimed that He alone has the power to grant Eternal Life, it is only right that He establishes the manner by which that Eternal Life is received. **He makes this very plain and very direct.**

JOHN 5:24 Truly, truly, I say to you, **whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life. He does not come into judgment, but has passed from death to life.**

To Hear... To Believe... As Jesus has established in the preceding verses: **To Honor the Son is to Honor the Father... The ONE who sent Him...**

THESE who have believed “**have already passed**” [PerfAct] from death to life... They will NEVER be subject to Judgment... **Eternal Life for them has already begun...**

- The Jewish Leaders do not have the right to set the “**rules**” as they have with so much of THE LAW...
- **Mankind**... the **World**... **Religions**... **Philosophers**... **Culture**... **Politicians**... **Governments**... DO NOT have the right to determine, evaluate, or select what they “think” is right, kind, or fair...
- The decision HAS been made... It is BY The SON... and THAT is Final

WHAT THAT MEANS:

JOHN 5:25-29 “Truly, truly, I say to you, an hour is coming, and is now here, when the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God, and those who hear will live.

- Jesus words ARE the Voice of the Son... To Hear is to Believe... and to Believe is to have Eternal Life...
- The “dead” spoken of here are all those “**dead in sin**” who are hearing and believing Jesus Words...
- THEY will **Live**... implying that those who DO NOT HEAR will face Judgment...

26 For as the Father has life in himself, so he has granted the Son also to have life in himself.

This is the “**Power of Eternal Life**” that the Father has granted to The Son to “**Give Eternal Life**” to all who believe in Him

27 And he has given him authority to execute judgment, because he is the Son of Man.

- Because The Father has given Him authority to give Eternal Life to those who believe on Him...
- He has also given Him authority to pronounce Judgment upon all who have NOT believed...
- It is as the **SON OF MAN**, the “**INCARNATE SON OF GOD**” that this authority is exercised...
- Those who believe have accepted that **Jesus IS God Incarnate** (**THE GOD-MAN**)

28 Do not marvel at this, for an hour is coming when all who are in the tombs will hear his voice²⁹ and come out, those who have done good to the resurrection of life, and those who have done evil to the resurrection of judgment.

- **Don't be so surprised by this...** You have always known that "judgment" was based upon what is **"believed / the Heart"** not by what has been done **(works)**... This was taught in the **LAW**, the **PSALMS**, and the **PROPHETS**...
- **ALL** the Dead... NO ONE is excluded, exempted, or excused...
 - **Those who have done good...** *To believe that Jesus is The Son sent by The Father: To a Resurrection of Life that is Eternal... this resurrection begins in this life and continues into Eternity*
 - **Those who have done evil...** *To reject that Jesus is The Son sent by The Father: To a Resurrection of Judgment that is Eternal... This Resurrection does not take place until the 2nd Coming **but is "sealed" at the point of physical death***
The Choice is made by each individual IN this life

JESUS CONFIRMATION (Who **HE IS** in His Words)

There is NO SIN in His proclamation, AS He reproves them by:

His Own Testimony... The Words of John The Baptist... His Works... The OT Scriptures... The Testimony of the Father... and Moses (THE LAW)
He came from GOD, to be the Light and Salvation of the world, vv. 17-39.

He reproves the Jews for their:

- **Obstinace** - JOHN 5:40; **Hatred to GOD** - JOHN 5:41, JOHN 5:42; **Pride** - JOHN 5:43, JOHN 5:44; and **Disbelief** in their own Law - JOHN 5:45-47.

JOHN 5:30-47 **"I CAN** do nothing on my own. As I hear, I judge, and my judgment is just, because I seek not my own will but the will of him who sent me.

Everything **(the Man)** Jesus **Said... Did... Thought... Decided... Evaluated... EVERYTHING** was under full submission to the Father... **Nothing came from Himself... EVEN THOUGH He was God...**

THE WITNESSES TO THE TRUTH

JOHN 5:31 **If I ALONE** bear witness about myself, my testimony is not true [verifiable].

"In light of the fact you have no regard for the validity of my own testimony concerning my 'MESSIAH-SHIP', and regard my words as errant... let me give the witness of others."

1) JOHN THE BAPTIST

³² **There is another who bears witness** about me, and I know that the **testimony that he bears** about me is true. ³³ You sent **TO JOHN**, and **he has borne witness to the truth**. ³⁴ Not that the **testimony** that I receive is from man, but I say these things so that you may be saved. ³⁵ He was a burning and shining lamp, and **you were willing to rejoice for a while in his light**.

2) JESUS' WORKS

³⁶ **But the testimony that I have is greater than that of John. For the works that THE FATHER has given me to accomplish, the very works that I am doing, bear witness about me that THE FATHER has sent me.**

3) The Father's Words

³⁷ And THE FATHER who sent me has himself borne witness about me. His voice you have never heard, his form you have never seen, ³⁸ and you do not have his word abiding in you, for you do not believe the one whom he has sent.

4) THE SCRIPTURES

³⁹ You search THE SCRIPTURES because you think that in them you have eternal life; and it is they that bear witness about me, ⁴⁰ yet you refuse to come to me that you may have life. ⁴¹ I do not receive glory from people. ⁴² But I know that you do not have the love of God within you.

5) IN MY FATHER'S NAME

⁴³ I have come in MY FATHER'S name, and you do not receive me. If another comes in his own name, you will receive him. ⁴⁴ How can you believe, when you receive glory from one another and do not seek the glory that comes from the only God?

6) MOSES

⁴⁵ Do not think that I will accuse you to THE FATHER. There is one who accuses you: MOSES, on whom you have set your hope.

⁴⁶ For if you believed MOSES, you would believe me; for he wrote of me. ⁴⁷ But, if you do not believe his writings, how will you believe my words?"

- DEUT 18:15 "The LORD your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among you, from your brothers—it is to him you shall listen—
- LUKE 16:31 He said to him, 'If they do not hear Moses and the Prophets, neither will they be convinced if someone should rise from the dead.'"
- LUKE 24:47 And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he interpreted to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning himself.
- ACTS 26:22-23 Therefore, having obtained help from God, until to this day I stand, witnessing both to small and great, saying no other things than those which the prophets and Moses said would come— ²³ that the Christ would suffer, that He would be the first to rise from the dead, and would proclaim light to the Jewish people and to the Gentiles."