

Episode 1-23 - The Work of the Son

I. The purpose of the gospel of John is to produce believers in the fact that Jesus is the Christ, the One anointed by God to be the Savior of the world, and that Jesus is the Son of God, God represented in human form.

II. The Lord's healing of the lame man at the pool of Bethesda was the start of his long battle with the religious leaders of Jerusalem, because He had done it on the Sabbath day, challenging their authority to enforce their version of the Sabbath. Now we see His clash with them begin.

III. John 5:16-18. The clash begins.

A. Verse 16. The Jews seek to kill Him as a Sabbath breaker.

B. Verse 17. The Lord is taking up the work of His Father! This is part of John's purpose again, that we believe the truth about Jesus being the Christ, the Son of God.

C. Verse 18. The Jews are even more incensed. Making Himself equal to God!

IV. John 5:19-27. The Lord's arguments to them.

A. Verse 19. He was only doing what He has seen the Father do before Him.

B. Verse 20. The love between the Father and Son the original love. There will yet be greater works that the Father will show Him! (In the upcoming signs.)

C. Verse 21. Son and Father both have power of resurrection life, which makes them equal. "The dead" = "corpses." Proves a bodily resurrection.

D. Verse 22. Father gives the Son power to judge, showing His attitude to Him. To "judge" does not mean "to condemn. It means to determine what is right and then to set things right.

E. Verse 23. The Father wants all to honor Jesus Christ as much as Him!

F. Verse 24. Faith in His testimony about the Father brings eonian life, and shall not be judged. Not for rewards, but for life. Blessed assurance!

G. Verse 25. The dead will hear His voice and live. The voice of Christ!

1. Hour is coming, now is. Did this already happen?

2. Matthew 27:52-53. Voice by a miracle. Don't know how they ended.

H. Verse 26. Son and the Father both a source of life. Means Christ is God.

I. Verse 27. As Representative of Man, He is given authority to judge man.

V. Conclusion. The Lord testified to the Jews, His enemies, His equality with God, but they rejected Him for it. Do we believe that the Son should get equal honor with the Father, or do we look at Him as "the Second Person of the Trinity," as if He were only God's sidekick? Let us ever give the Son the very same glory we give to God!