

The Authority of Jesus

John 5:19-29

Main Idea: Jesus has authority from God, because He is indeed God, the second person in the Trinity, completing the work of the Trinity. The authority of Jesus demands obedience.

I. Jesus has the Authority to do the Work of God (John 5:19-22) Last week, on Mother's Day, we saw a man who for 38 years was ill in John 5:1-18. He was at Bethesda, or in Hebrew known as the "House of Mercy." Jesus healed him! In verse 18, we see that Jesus is showing the world that He and God are one! This really causes the religious leaders to go crazy. Graduates, and everyone, the best advice I can share with you this morning is to abide in Christ! Abide through scripture, prayer, praise, public gathering in church, and abide in Him through proclamation! See the authority of Christ as something wonderful and refreshing, not as a begrudging task. Obeying and observing the authority of Jesus has always been an issue from the being of Christendom. James, the brother of Jesus, was a skeptic at first, then later became a great disciple maker for the cause and case of Christ! We see in Matthew 28:17-18 that Jesus broadcast His authority upon being raised from the dead. ***Matthew 28:17-18 "And when they saw him they worshiped him, but some doubted. And Jesus came and said to them, All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me."*** Jesus, after the resurrection was making it crystal clear that He is to be followed and obeyed because of His authority. This passage isn't about what Jesus cannot do, but it emphasizes the triune unity between God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. God has given full ability and authority from the very beginning. Listen to Paul's words recorded in (Colossians 1:16-20) *"For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through him and for him. 17 And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together. 18 And he is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything he might be preeminent. 19 For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, 20 and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross."*

a. The authority to give life. (v. 21) Raising the dead is only something God can do! Jesus is aligning Himself with God. This of course ruffles the feathers of the religious elite.

b. The authority to judge mankind. (v.22) Salvation in Jesus alone grants life! 2 Timothy 4:1 states: "...Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and by his appearing and his kingdom."

II. Jesus has the Authority to Receive Worship Designated for God (John 5:23-24) a perfect reference to this verse is (Philippians 2:9-11) "Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, 10 so that at the name of Jesus every

knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, 11 and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.” The word worship means to show worth, to honor. Jesus is equal to God in His honor. I tell you, the one in the trinity that doesn’t get honor in the Baptist Church is the Holy Spirit. I jokingly share with my pastor friends from more charismatic denominations, that; “yes I’m Baptist, but I do believe in work of the Holy Spirit.” We must worship Jesus! He deserves it! When we worship Christ, God the Father is honored, God the Son is glorified, and God the Holy Spirit is magnified!

III. Jesus has the Authority to Warrant Eternal Life (John 5:25-29) Job 14:14 ask the question, “If a man dies, will he live again?” Jesus answers this question with “yes.” Everyone lives eternally! Those who trust in Christ live eternally with Him in what He has prepared for us (John 14:2), yet those who never trust in Christ live eternally in Hell apart from God. For the believer, this is the “resurrection of life!” For the non-believer this is the “resurrection of judgement!”

Application: We can’t just be a fan of Jesus, we have to be followers of Jesus, doing what He says to do and surrendering our will in obedience to His. He has all power and all authority!