

The Work of the Son of God

Gospel of John, Part XVIII

John 5:17-47, Part Two

Stuart W. Bryan

I. The Person and Work of Christ

The Jews' fundamental error in their encounter with Jesus was failing to recognize *who _____ was*. If they had correctly recognized *who Jesus was* then they would have known that it was impossible that He should violate the Sabbath.

II. Jesus' Work

A. *The hour is coming, and now is...* (25-27)

1. Brings the spiritually dead to life (25-26 cf. 1:4)

In history, Jesus brings men and women who are born dead in trespasses and sins into newness of life.

Most assuredly, I say to you, the hour is coming, and now is, when the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God; and those who hear will live. For as the Father has life in Himself, so He has granted the Son to have life in Himself,

The Eternally Begotten Son of God has life in Himself – He is the source of _____. *"In Him was life and the life was the light of men"* (1:4). To imagine that we can have life apart from Jesus is like imagining that we can have life and light without the sun.

2. Passes judgment as the Christ (24, 27)

a. *To whom He will...* (21, 24, 26 cf. Is 66:2; Jn 3:18-21)

First, Jesus gives life *to whom He will* (21). So to whom does He will to give it? He answers in verse 24 – *Most assuredly, I say to you, he who hears My word and believes in Him who sent Me has everlasting life, and shall not come into judgment, but has passed from death into life.* Jesus passes judgment in this life – He gives life *only to those who recognize Him as God's Christ and who believe in the Father through Him.*

- *Challenge* –
- *Invitation* –
- *Warning* –

- I. Prologue: The Identity of the Son of God (1:1-18)
- II. Jesus Proven to be the Christ & the Son of God in His Public Ministry (1:19-12:50)
 - A. The Son of God Revealed (1:19-4:54)
 - B. The Son of God Rejected (5:1-12:36)
 1. Opposition in Jerusalem (5:1-47)
 2. Opposition in Galilee (6:1-71)
 3. Growing Opposition in Jerusalem (7:1-52)
 4. Settled Opposition in Jerusalem (7:53-10:39)
 5. Belief across the Jordan (10:40-42)
 6. Hardened Opposition in Jerusalem (11:1-12:36)
 7. The hour has come (12:20-36)
 - C. Conclusion (12:37-50)
- III. Jesus Proven to be the Christ & the Son of God in His Passion and Resurrection (13:1-20:31)
- IV. Epilogue: The Future Mission of the Son of God (21)

b. *Authority to execute judgment...* (cf. Ps 2:10-12; Dan 7:13-14; Mt 28:20)

Jesus not only passes judgment by giving life *to whom He will*, He also passes judgment (NB v. 27) *because He is the Son of Man*.

The phrase “Son of _____” originates in Daniel 7. God grants Daniel a vision of future history, of a time when He would act to judge the beastly kingdoms of the earth. He reveals to Daniel that the authority that used to be held by these beastly kingdoms would one day be held by the Son of _____. Jesus is telling us that that time is _____. He is the One who judges the nations. He is the One in authority. He has been granted His kingdom.

Now therefore, be wise, O kings; Be instructed, you judges of the earth. Serve the LORD with fear, And rejoice with trembling. Kiss the Son, lest He be angry, And you perish in the way, When His wrath is kindled but a little. Blessed are all those who put their trust in Him.

B. *The hour is coming...* (28-29)

Do not marvel at this; for the hour is coming in which all who are in the graves will hear His voice and come forth—those who have done good, to the resurrection of life, and those who have done evil, to the resurrection of condemnation.

1. The Resurrection of life (29 cf. Heb 11:6)

At that time, those who have done _____ will come forth to the resurrection of life; they will live eternally. So what is it to do “good”? Clearly to do good is to *hear Jesus’ word and to believe in Him who sent Him*.

2. The Resurrection of judgment (29-30)

The hour is coming in which He will pass judgment on those who have not listened to His voice: *and those who have done evil, to the resurrection of judgment*.

III. Conclusion (cf. Is 11:1-5)

There shall come forth a Rod from the stem of Jesse, And a Branch shall grow out of his roots. The Spirit of the LORD shall rest upon Him, The Spirit of wisdom and understanding, The Spirit of counsel and might, The Spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD. His delight is in the fear of the LORD, And He shall not judge by the sight of His eyes, Nor decide by the hearing of His ears; But with righteousness He shall judge the poor, And decide with equity for the meek of the earth; He shall strike the earth with the rod of His mouth, And with the breath of His lips He shall slay the wicked. Righteousness shall be the belt of His loins, And faithfulness the belt of His waist.