

CAN YOU HANDLE THE TRUTH?

John 5:17-30

Introduction:

1. Most Assuredly I Say to You – God the Son does what God the Father does (John 5:19-23)

A) The Father works on the Sabbath and so the Son works on the Sabbath

- > What about the creation principle – God rested on the seventh day?
- > The Jews knew this about God’s providential care for His creation
- > When Jesus tells them that it is appropriate for Him to “work” on the Sabbath because His Father works, they understood what He was seeing all too clearly (John 5:18)

B) The Son has the ability and authority to do what He sees the Father doing

- > Think about the picture of a son following in his father’s footsteps (John 5:19)
- > Just as the Father is capable of greater deeds than healing a man with an infirmity, and so is the Son (John 5:20)

God the Father is able to raise the dead and gives life (John 5:21a)
Revealed in the Law (Deut. 32:39)
Revealed in the Prophets (1 Kings 17:17-24)

So, God the Son is able to give life (John 5:21b)
Physical life – Lazarus (John 11:25-26)
Everlasting life – the woman at the well (John 4:13-14)

- > The authority to judge man is the prerogative of God

There is no higher authority than God, therefore He is the Judge of what is right / wrong

God the Father has entrusted this authority to Jesus Christ (John 5:22)

This position of authority demands honor (John 5:23)

2. Most Assuredly I Say to You – God the Son calls us to believe what God the Father is saying (John 5:24)

A) He who hears My words AND BELIEVES HIM WHO SENT ME (John 5:24a)

- > The Prologue to John’s gospel is like a purpose statement for the book. (John 1:18)

> The arrival of God's Prophet (Deuteronomy 18:15-18) must be recognized and His message believed because He speaks with the authority of God the Father (John 5:24a)

Jesus will repeatedly remind His listeners that He is speaking on the Father's behalf (John 8:28; 12:44-50; 14:8-11)

B) The Father's message revealed by and through His Son is His plan of redemption

> Jesus has come from the Father

To give everlasting life to those who believe in Him (John 5:24b)

To remove the judgment of condemnation (John 5:24c)

To make those who were dead alive (John 5:24d)

> This message is the heart of John's gospel and reveals the heart of the Father (John 3:16-17)

3. Most Assuredly I Say to You – God the Son calls us to believe what He is saying (John 5:25)

A) The focus now is upon hearing the voice of the Son of God (John 5:25)

> Jesus' voice is equally authoritative as the Father's because it is also the voice of God

B) The message of the Son of God is a message of life

> The Son of God has life in Himself – He is God (John 5:26)

> The Son of God has the authority to execute judgment because He is the Son of Man (John 5:27)

Daniel's prophecy (Daniel 7:13-14)

C) The message of the Son of God is a message of warning

> Every human – dead or alive, will stand before the Judge (John 5:28)

> Every human will be resurrected to meet the Judge (John 5:29)

D) Jesus' judgment will be righteous

> He will judge according to the will of His Father (John 5:30)

> His judgment will be final

> The problem