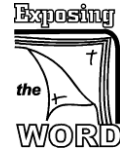




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11- Claims and Witnesses that Verify *John 5:19-47*

In our last session we saw that Jesus created quite the controversy when he healed a man on the Sabbath. Still the greater conflict arose when Jesus made Himself equal with God. The Jews knew exactly and certain that Jesus was claiming to be their Messiah.

I- Jesus Claims: *John 5:19-29*

There are at least three things here that Jesus claimed that only God could do in the Jewish mind.

1- That He was doing what He had seen the Father do:

Joh 5:19-20 Then answered Jesus and said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, The Son can do nothing of himself, but what he seeth the Father do: for what things soever he doeth, these also doeth the Son likewise. 20 For the Father loveth the Son, and sheweth him all things that himself doeth: and he will shew him greater works than these, that ye may marvel.

Jesus, remember had healed the man on the Sabbath. There are indications that this was not the first time Jesus had done something that broke the interpretation of the Jews concerning the Sabbath.

William Barclay said, "The Rabbis of Jesus' day solemnly argued that a man was sinning if he carried a needle in his robe on the Sabbath. They even argued as to whether he could wear his artificial teeth or his wooden leg." (P 178).

Jesus said the Father continued to work and never took off the Sabbath and He was only imitating the Father. This claim was that He and God were equal.

Warren Wiersbe said in essence Jesus said, "If healing a man on the Sabbath was a sin, then the Father was to blame! Jesus did nothing "of Himself" but only that which the Father was doing." (P 306)

2- That He had Authority to raise the dead as He wills:

Notice there are three different places in this text that Jesus claims to be the giver of life.

Joh 5:21 For as the Father raiseth up the dead, and quickeneth them; even so the Son quickeneth whom he will.

Joh 5:24 Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life. 25 Verily, verily, I say unto you, The hour is coming, and now is, when the dead shall hear the voice of the Son of God: and they that hear shall live. 26 For as the Father hath life in himself; so hath he given to the Son to have life in himself;

Joh 5:28 Marvel not at this: for the hour is coming, in the which all that are in the graves shall hear his voice, 29 And shall come forth; they that have done good, unto the resurrection of life; and they that have done evil, unto the resurrection of damnation.

The Old Testament plainly taught that God alone was the giver of life.

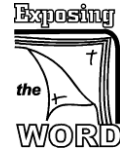
Deu 32:39 See now that I, even I, am he, and there is no god with me: I kill, and I make alive; I wound, and I heal: neither is there any that can deliver out of my hand.



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The Gospel of **Verifying** John the MESSIAH

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1Sa 2:6 *The LORD killeth, and maketh alive: he bringeth down to the grave, and bringeth up.*

So now this upstart Jesus was claiming to be able to make alive and give life back to the dead. I see also a prophecy here as well. If they did not believe Him now later He would fulfill this with Lazarus and others and this would verify Him Messiahship.

3- That the Father has made Him Judge:

Joh 5:22 *For the Father judgeth no man, but hath committed all judgment unto the Son: 23 That all men should honour the Son, even as they honour the Father. He that honoureth not the Son honoureth not the Father which hath sent him.*

Joh 5:27 *And hath given him authority to execute judgment also, because he is the Son of man.* Just as the Father was the giver of life the Jews also understood that only God could ultimately judge mankind. **Deu 1:17** *Ye shall not respect persons in judgment; but ye shall hear the small as well as the great; ye shall not be afraid of the face of man; for the judgment is God's; and the cause that is too hard for you, bring it unto me, and I will hear it.*

Christ we know is going to the Judge. Jesus claim here was again claiming that He was going to do what was alone reserved for God.

In **Acts 17:31** the Apostle Paul stated to the Greek intellectuals on Mars Hill, **“Because he hath appointed a day, in the which he will judge the world in righteousness by that man whom he hath ordained; whereof he hath given assurance unto all men, in that he hath raised him from the dead.”**

Romans 2:16 *In the day when God shall judge the secrets of men by Jesus Christ according to my gospel.*

Jesus Christ as Judge will set on the Judgment Seat bench. **2Co 5:10** *For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad.*

Also He will judge at the Great White Throne Judgment Seat. **Rev 20:11** *And I saw a great white throne, and him that sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away; and there was found no place for them.*

Let us not miss one more thing here. Jesus used the term Son of Man to refer to Himself often. (It is used 85 times in the NT). This was a name associated with the Promised Messiah by the Jews that had roots in the book of Daniel. **Daniel 7:13-14** *I saw in the night visions, and, behold, one like the Son of man came with the clouds of heaven, and came to the Ancient of days, and they brought him near before him. 14 And there was given him dominion, and glory, and a kingdom, that all people, nations, and languages, should serve him: his dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and his kingdom that which shall not be destroyed.*

So again Jesus was claiming to be the Messiah, the Promised One.

II- Witnesses that Verify: Joh 5:30-47

The Messiah next gives several witnesses that bear witness that He is who He is claiming to be.

1- Jesus Self Witness:

Joh 5:30 *I can of mine own self do nothing: as I hear, I judge: and my judgment is just; because I seek not mine own will, but the will of the Father which hath sent me. 31 If I bear witness of myself, my witness is not true.*

Jesus knew that His witness of Himself would be rejected.



2- Witness of John the Baptist:

Joh 5:32 There is another that beareth witness of me; and I know that the witness which he witnesseth of me is true. 33 Ye sent unto John, and he bare witness unto the truth. 34 But I receive not testimony from man: but these things I say, that ye might be saved. 35 He was a burning and a shining light: and ye were willing for a season to rejoice in his light.

The next witness was John the Baptist. We have already discussed this in our second lecture but lets look for a moment again. The Jews had interrogated John thoroughly. John continually declared that Jesus was the Lamb of God and the Messiah.

3- Witness of His Works:

Joh 5:36 But I have greater witness than that of John: for the works which the Father hath given me to finish, the same works that I do, bear witness of me, that the Father hath sent me.

This, you will recall, is the very premise that John wrote the Gospel with. *Joh 20:30-31 And many other signs truly did Jesus in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book: 31 But these are written, that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye might have life through his name.*

Jesus invited them to see the miracle that He did and judge if they were of God. He did not just heal and do miracles to show off. He did it to verify His Messiahship.

4- Witness of the Father:

Joh 5:37 And the Father himself, which hath sent me, hath borne witness of me. Ye have neither heard his voice at any time, nor seen his shape. 38 And ye have not his word abiding in you: for whom he hath sent, him ye believe not.

Jesus next calls the witness of God the Father to their attention. Remember Matthew records the testimony of God at the baptism of Jesus. *Mat 3:17 And lo a voice from heaven, saying, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.*

Then on the Mount of Transfiguration in *Mat 17:5 While he yet spake, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them: and behold a voice out of the cloud, which said, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased; hear ye him.*

5- Witness of the Scriptures:

Joh 5:39 Search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of me. 40 And ye will not come to me, that ye might have life. 41 I receive not honour from men. 42 But I know you, that ye have not the love of God in you. 43 I am come in my Father's name, and ye receive me not: if another shall come in his own name, him ye will receive. 44 How can ye believe, which receive honour one of another, and seek not the honour that cometh from God only? 45 Do not think that I will accuse you to the Father: there is one that accuseth you, even Moses, in whom ye trust. 46 For had ye believed Moses, ye would have believed me: for he wrote of me. 47 But if ye believe not his writings, how shall ye believe my words?

The final witness to verify the Messiah was the Word of God and specifically the Old Testament. The Old Testament testified time after time about Jesus coming. We know that He fulfilled all the prophecies and every promise of what Messiah would be like. *Mat 5:17 Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets: I am not come to destroy, but to fulfil.* Remember the words of Jesus on the cross, *"It is finished."* All if fulfilled, Jesus is Messiah.