

Sermon Title: Why Jesus Only: Because He is Equal with God in Nature

Sermon Text: John 5:17-18

Sermon Purpose: To call the hearer to recognize the deity of Christ revealed in the Christology of Jesus.

Sermon Proposition: There are 6 facts communicated by Christ on His nature of the Father.

Introduction: The heart and soul of the Gospel is a right view of Jesus Christ and a right view of mankind. The attack on the nature of Jesus and His deity begins here in the Gospels. This section of Chapter 5 is Jesus exposition on His deity and equality with God the Father.

- I. The **name** of Jesus validates Jesus equality with God the Father. V.17a
- II. Manifesting His **works** validates Jesus equality with God the Father. V.17b
- III. The **threats** from His enemies validates His equality with God the Father. V.18a
- IV. The **breaking** of the Sabbath validates Jesus equality with God the Father. V.18b
- V. **Claiming** God as His Father validates Jesus equality with God the Father. V.18c
- VI. **Revelation** of His nature validates Jesus equality with God the Father. V.18d

I. The **name of Jesus validates Jesus equality with God the Father. V.17a**

The expression the “Name” of Jesus is frequent and highly significant in New Testament usage in that it parallels the use of the name of God in the Old Testament. The early Christians had no difficulty substituting the name of Jesus for the name of God. Indeed, for them the Divine name YHWH, was given to Jesus, “that every knee should bow to Him and every tongue confess that He is Lord.”

(Philippians 2:9-11)

Isaiah 45:20-23 "Assemble yourselves and come; Draw near together, You *who have* escaped from the nations. They have no knowledge, Who carry the wood of their carved image, And pray to a god *that* cannot save. **21** Tell and bring forth *your case*; Yes, let them take counsel together. Who has declared this from ancient time? *Who* has told it from that time? *Have* not I, the LORD? And *there is* no other God besides Me, A just God and a Savior; *There is* none besides Me. **22** "Look to Me, and be saved, All you ends of the earth! For I *am* God, and *there is* no other. **23** I have sworn by Myself; The word has gone out of My mouth *in* righteousness, And shall not return, That to Me every knee shall bow, Every tongue shall take an oath.

New Testament believers are to live their lives in Jesus’ name just as the Old Testament believers were to live in the name of God the Father. (Yahweh is Salvation)

Just as in the Old Testament where the name of God represents the person of God and all He is, so in the New Testament “the Name” represents Jesus as God. [**Leslie R. Keylock: “BakerTheological Dictionary of the Bible” Baker Books, Grand Rapids, Michigan: Walter A. Elwell p.407**]

II. Manifesting His **works validates Jesus equality with God the Father. V.17b**

7 truths that speak to the importance of His name

A. Unsaved people must call upon the name of Jesus for salvation.

Acts 2:21 And it shall come to pass *That* whoever calls on the name of the LORD Shall be saved.'

B. Unsaved people must put their faith in Jesus name.

John 1:12 But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name:

1 John 5:13 These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, that you may know that you have eternal life, and that you may *continue to* believe in the name of the Son of God.

- C. Forgiveness is received in Jesus name.
Acts 10:43 "To Him all the prophets witness that, through His name, whoever believes in Him will receive remission of sins."
1 John 2:12 I write to you, little children, Because your sins are forgiven you for His name's sake.
- D. People are baptized into Jesus name.
Acts 2:38 Then Peter said to them, "Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit."
Acts 10:48 And he commanded them to be baptized in the name of the Lord. Then they asked him to stay a few days.
- E. Believers have new life in Jesus name.
John 20:31 but these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in His name.
- F. Believers are to glorify the name of Jesus.
2 Thessalonians 1:12 that the name of our Lord Jesus Christ may be glorified in you, and you in Him, according to the grace of our God and the Lord Jesus Christ.
- G. Believers give thanks in Jesus name, and do everything in Jesus name.
Ephesians 5:20 giving thanks always for all things to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ,
Colossians 3:17 And whatever you do in word or deed, *do* all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.

III. The threats from His enemies validates His equality with God the Father. V.18a

IV. The breaking of the Sabbath validates Jesus equality with God the Father. V.18b

God rested on the seventh day [**Genesis 2:2-3** *And on the seventh day God ended His work which He had done, and He rested on the seventh day from all His work which He had done.* **3** *Then God blessed the seventh day and sanctified it, because in it He rested from all His work which God had created and made.*] from His work of Creation. But Jesus pointed to the continuous (work) of God as justification for His Sabbath activity. God as Creator sustains all things in the universe, He creates life, maintains life, meads out judgment, grace, mercy, and love. Therefore it is not wrong for the Son to work on the Sabbath, if the Father works on the Sabbath. The Jews had some 39 rules and regulations for the Sabbath practice.

Luke 13:14-17 But the ruler of the synagogue answered with indignation, because Jesus had healed on the Sabbath; and he said to the crowd, "There are six days on which men ought to work; therefore come and be healed on them, and not on the Sabbath day." **15** The Lord then answered him and said, "Hypocrite! Does not each one of you on the Sabbath loose his ox or donkey from the stall, and lead *it* away to water it? **16** "So ought not this woman, being a daughter of Abraham, whom Satan has bound-- think of it-- for eighteen years, be loosed from this bond on the Sabbath?" **17** And when He said these things, all His adversaries were put to shame; and all the multitude rejoiced for all the glorious things that were done by Him.

Matthew 12:2-8 And when the Pharisees saw *it*, they said to Him, "Look, Your disciples are doing what is not lawful to do on the Sabbath!" **3** But He said to them, "Have you not read what David did when he was hungry, he and those who were with him: **4** "how he entered the house of God and ate the showbread which was not lawful for him to eat, nor for those who were with him, but only for the priests? **5** "Or have you not read in the law that on the Sabbath the priests in the temple profane the Sabbath, and are blameless? **6** "Yet I say to you that in this place there is *One* greater than the temple. **7** "But if you had known what *this* means, 'I desire mercy and not sacrifice,' you would not have condemned the guiltless. **8** "For the Son of Man is Lord even of the Sabbath."

Mark 2:24-28 And the Pharisees said to Him, "Look, why do they do what is not lawful on the Sabbath?" **25** But He said to them, "Have you never read what David did when he was in need and hungry, he and those with him: **26** "how he went into the house of God *in the days* of Abiathar the high priest, and ate the showbread, which is not lawful to eat, except for the priests, and also gave some to those who were with him?" **27** And He said to them, "The Sabbath was made for man, and not man for the Sabbath. **28** "Therefore the Son of Man is also Lord of the Sabbath."

V. **Claiming God as His Father validates Jesus equality with God the Father. V.18c**

- A. I am the bread of life. 6:35
- B. I am the light of the world. 8:12
- C. I am the gate for the sheep. 10:7
- D. I am the good shepherd. 10:11
- E. I am the resurrection and the life. 11:25 (**John 6:32-42; Matthew 6:9-13**)

Exodus 3:13-15 Then Moses said to God, "Indeed, *when* I come to the children of Israel and say to them, 'The God of your fathers has sent me to you,' and they say to me, 'What *is* His name?' what shall I say to them?" **14** And God said to Moses, "I AM WHO I AM." And He said, "Thus you shall say to the children of Israel, 'I AM has sent me to you.'" **15** Moreover God said to Moses, "Thus you shall say to the children of Israel: 'The LORD God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you. This *is* My name forever, and this *is* My memorial to all generations.'

John 14:8-11 Philip said to Him, "Lord, show us the Father, and it is sufficient for us." **9** Jesus said to him, "Have I been with you so long, and yet you have not known Me, Philip? He who has seen Me has seen the Father; so how can you say, 'Show us the Father'?" **10** "Do you not believe that I am in the Father, and the Father in Me? The words that I speak to you I do not speak on My own *authority*; but the Father who dwells in Me does the works. **11** "Believe Me that I *am* in the Father and the Father in Me, or else believe Me for the sake of the works themselves.

John 10:30-33 "I and My Father are one." **31** Then the Jews took up stones again to stone Him. **32** Jesus answered them, "Many good works I have shown you from My Father. For which of those works do you stone Me?" **33** The Jews answered Him, saying, "For a good work we do not stone You, but for blasphemy, and because You, being a Man, make Yourself God."

VI. **Revelation of His nature validates Jesus equality with God the Father. V.18d**

Colossians 1:15-18 He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. **16** For by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. All things were created through Him and for Him. **17** And He is before all things, and in Him all things consist. **18** And He is the head of the body, the church, who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in all things He may have the preeminence.

Colossians 1:19-22 For it pleased *the Father* that in Him all the fullness should dwell, **20** and by Him to reconcile all things to Himself, by Him, whether things on earth or things in heaven, having made peace through the blood of His cross. **21** And you, who once were alienated and enemies in your mind by wicked works, yet now He has reconciled **22** in the body of His flesh through death, to present you holy, and blameless, and above reproach in His sight—

Ephesians 1:20-23 which He worked in Christ when He raised Him from the dead and seated *Him* at His right hand in the heavenly *places*, **21** far above all principality and power and might and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this age but also in that which is to come. **22** And He put all *things* under His feet, and gave Him *to be* head over all *things* to the church, **23** which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills all in all.