

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

Sermon Text: John 5:22-30

Sermon Purpose: To call the hearer to an understanding of the authority of Jesus Christ.

Sermon Proposition: There are 3 aspects of the authority of Jesus Christ that equal Him with God.

Introduction: The Supreme Court of humanity is and will be presided over by Jesus Christ.

Acts 17:31 "because He has appointed a day on which He will judge the world in righteousness by the Man whom He has ordained. He has given assurance of this to all by raising Him from the dead."

Matthew 25:32 "All the nations will be gathered before Him, and He will separate them one from another, as a shepherd divides *his* sheep from the goats.

Romans 2:16 in the day when God will judge the secrets of men by Jesus Christ, according to my gospel.

2 Timothy 4:1 I charge *you* therefore before God and the Lord Jesus Christ, who will judge the living and the dead at His appearing and His kingdom:

1 Peter 4:5 They will give an account to Him who is ready to judge the living and the dead.

I. Because of the equality of authority there should be honor. Vv.22-23

- A. The purpose of this responsibility of judgment is so that all will honor the Son, just as they honor the Father. (**John 15:23**)
1 John 2:22-23 Who is a liar but he who denies that Jesus is the Christ? He is antichrist who denies the Father and the Son. **23** Whoever denies the Son does not have the Father either; he who acknowledges the Son has the Father also.
- B. The practice is to be mutual honor and worship of the Father and Son, who are equal. V.23
Mark 8:38 "For whoever is ashamed of Me and My words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of him the Son of Man also will be ashamed when He comes in the glory of His Father with the holy angels."

These two verses provide the reasons that God has entrusted all judgment to the Son (v.22). It is so that all men should honor the Son just as they honor the Father. This verse goes far beyond making Jesus just an ambassador, teacher, healer, doctor, philosopher, and overall good man. These verses will provide a biblical rationale for full and complete equality with God the Father.

Philippians 2:9-11 Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name, **10** that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth, **11** and *that* every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ *is* Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Jesus turns the table on the Jewish leaders and the people's accusation against Him of blasphemy. (**vv.16-18**) Instead, Jesus affirmed the truth, that the only way anyone can honor the Father is through receiving and believing in the Son. Therefore, the Jews were the one's who actually were committing blasphemy against the Father by rejecting the Son. (**John 6:28; John 15:23**) [Jesus flipped the tables in the temple physically, but here flips the tables intellectually.]

II. Because of the equality of authority there should be faith. Vv.24-27

Jesus verifies that only He and the Father have equal authority over the destiny of mankind, the power and authority to deliver mankind from death to life, resides in Him, and must be accessed by faith in Him.

- A. People are saved by hearing Jesus' Word and responding with commitment and obedience. V.24
Romans 10:9-10 that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. **10** For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.

B. People are saved by hearing God, and believing God has sent His Son to save them. (John 3:16; Romans 5:8)

C. People are saved from eternal death into eternal life.

A person passes from a state of death in sins and trespasses [*Ephesians 2:1-3 And you He made alive, who were dead in trespasses and sins, 2 in which you once walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit who now works in the sons of disobedience, 3 among whom also we all once conducted ourselves in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, just as the others.*] into a state of life, from a state of condemnation, to a state of justification as a result of faith in Jesus Christ alone, and believing what God the Father has said about Him. (John 3:36; 10:27-30; 17:1-3; 10:36-38)

This develops the eternal non-negotiable truth in (v.21), that Jesus gives life to whomever He desires. The people who receive that life are identified here as those who hear the Word and believe the Father and Son. These are the people who have eternal life and never will be condemned. (Romans 8:1)

Colossians 1:13 He has delivered us from the power of darkness and conveyed *us* into the kingdom of the Son of His love,

D. People who are saved look forward to the resurrection. V.25

The theme of these verses is resurrection. Jesus shared that all men saved and unsaved will literally and physically be resurrected from the dead. However only the saved experienced a spiritual (born again), as well as physical resurrection unto eternal life. The unsaved will be resurrected unto judgment and eternal punishment through separation from God (i.e. the second death [*Revelation 20:6 Blessed and holy is he who has part in the first resurrection. Over such the second death has no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with Him a thousand years. ... 14 Then Death and Hades were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death. Revelation 21:18 The construction of its wall was of jasper; and the city was pure gold, like clear glass.*]).

1 Corinthians 15:35-54

Verse 26 states: God has life within Himself. Jesus has the very energy of this life and the authority to give life as the Son of God. Jesus possesses the very source, power, and energy to sustain life within Himself. Therefore, Jesus has the authority and ability to give eternal life, to those who are spiritually and physically dead, and can sustain this life once given. (**Genesis 2:7; Deuteronomy 30:20; Job 33:4; John 10:10; 11:25**)

E. People will ultimately be judged by Jesus. V.27

Jesus Christ is not only the Son of God, but His favorite phrase for Himself was that of the Son of Man. Having lived as all humans have lived. He walked through life as a man, facing all the weight and pressure, trials, troubles, tribulations, and temptations. This would include love, rejection, suffering, death, joy and victory that all mankind experiences. (**John 3:13-14; 6:27, 53, 62; Acts 17:31**)

Acts 10:42 "And He commanded us to preach to the people, and to testify that it is He who was ordained by God *to be* Judge of the living and the dead.

Daniel 7:13 "I was watching in the night visions, And behold, *One* like the Son of Man, Coming with the clouds of heaven! He came to the Ancient of Days, And they brought Him near before Him.

III. Because of the equality of authority there should be resurrection. Vv.28-30

- A. There will be a resurrection of all who believed. V.28-29a
1 Corinthians 15:22 For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ all shall be made alive.
John 6:40 "And this is the will of Him who sent Me, that everyone who sees the Son and believes in Him may have everlasting life; and I will raise him up at the last day."
- B. There will be a resurrection of all who did not believe. V.29b
Acts 24:15 "I have hope in God, which they themselves also accept, that there will be a resurrection of *the* dead, both of *the* just and *the* unjust.
Daniel 12:2 And many of those who sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, Some to everlasting life, Some to shame *and* everlasting contempt.
- C. There will be a resurrection based on righteous judgment. V.30
(**2 Corinthians 5:10; Revelation 20:12-15; 1 Thessalonians 4:15-17**)
Matthew 16:27 "For the Son of Man will come in the glory of His Father with His angels, and then He will reward each according to his works.
1 Peter 1:17 And if you call on the Father, who without partiality judges according to each one's work, conduct yourselves throughout the time of your stay *here* in fear;