**THE GOSPEL OF JOHN**

**That You Might Know You Have Eternal Life, John 4:46-5:47**

Sunday, January 22, 2023

**WE Slide 1 We’ve got a lot to cover so turn to John 5, pg. 1063.** We’ve been following Jesus as He travels back/forth between Jerusalem and Cana. **John 2: Jesus kicks off His ministry by turning water to wine in Cana then John 2-3 down to Jerusalem for Passover where He clears the temple, confronts the religious leaders, and explains to one of them, Nicodemus, that 1st- he knows nothing about the OT and then how a person can know they have eternal life.** **MAP Slide 2** The RLs are not happy at all with Jesus, but knowing it wasn’t His time to let them put Him on the cross, John 4 Jesus heads north through Samaria where He tells a Samaritan woman how she can have eternal life. **She then runs to town to tell the people there about Jesus, they ask Him to stay a few days, and many of them believe Jesus is God, their Savior/Lord.**

**TODAY: MAP Slide 3 With His work done there Jesus leaves Samaria and heads back to Cana.** Many of the people in Cana were in Jerusalem at that time so news has spread about all the miracles He did while in Jerusalem. **We won’t read it, but John tells us that while in Cana a gov’t official from Capernaum, probably worked for King Herod- Roman appt governor of Israel, found Jesus and asked Him to come heal his son. Slide 4**

**GOD**

1. **JESUS HEALS THE OFFICIAL’S SON, John 4:46-54**
2. **Details**
3. Jesus tests the man’s faith didn’t perform a miracle in his presence, He says “Go; your son lives.”
4. The man believed Jesus, went back home, heard his son was healed at 1 p.m./when he met Jesus.
5. The whole family believed in Jesus.

**Just some interesting points to pull from this interaction. Slide 5**

1. **Interesting Points**
2. Jesus can heal from a distance- He can be in one place and make impact in another place.
3. Jesus healed the son based on his dad’s asking; nothing said about the boy’s faith.
4. The man showed his belief by not hurrying back- 1 pm/20 mi/7-8 hr walk/home by 8-9 at the earliest. Travel was dangerous so he probably spent the night somewhere. **Why didn’t he hurry back? He believed Jesus healed his son; he trusted that Jesus had everything under control.**
5. This man’s belief in Jesus was seen/heard by his family who also believed.

**MAP Slide 6 After a while Jesus finishes up in Cana, heads back down to Jerusalem for another Jewish religious holiday. PICTURE Slide 7** John 5 tells us He passes by the Pool of Bethesda. **Once again we see Jesus’ compassion for the hurting/suffering.** I’m must going to summarize what happens. **Slide 8**

1. **JESUS HEALS THE SICK MAN, John 5:1- 18**
2. **Details-** Jesus heals one man out of 100’s/1000’s who are waiting to be healed in the pool/superstition.
3. Jesus tells him to “Get up, pick up mat and walk.”/RLs confront the man for breaking the Sabbath.
4. Jesus finds the man in the temple and says, “Stop sinning so nothing worse happens to you”.
5. The man isn’t grateful to Jesus but instead tells RLs it was Jesus.
6. RLs begin harassing Jesus for healing on the Sabbath.

**Before we look at Jesus’ response to their harassment, let me point out a few things. Slide 9**

1. **Interesting Points**
2. The man was not breaking the Sabbath- just the RLs’ additions to the Law of Moses/oral traditions.
3. Jesus didn’t heal based on this guy’s faith; he didn’t believe, he turned on Jesus.
4. Some sin causes physical sickness- Jesus says stop sinning so nothing worse happens- Moses/Deut. 28; King David/Psalm 32; Paul/1 Cor. 11; James/James 5. **EX:** Over time thinking wrongly about life/self/circumstances and not trusting God and how He says to live life will have deep emotional/mental/physical impact in our lives. It’s why God wants to renew our minds with His Word/Bible.
5. Jesus healed this guy to initiate a teaching moment for the RLs and for us his readers.

**Let’s pick it up in v. 16 and see what it is Jesus wants them to know. Slide 10-12** Jesus wants them to know that He is EQUAL to God and they apparently got the message. **Jesus didn’t say they’d like what He had to say which is obvious- they moved from harassing Him to wanting to KILL Him. How does Jesus saying “My Father is working until now, and I Myself am working” make Him equal with God? Slide 13**

1. **JESUS CLAIMS EQUALITY WITH GOD, John 5:17-29**
2. **“My Father Is Working Until Now, and I Myself am Working.”, John 5:17**
3. “My Father”- Jesus is claiming God’s authority. Jewish culture- sons did business on their father’s behalf, it was as if the father was there.
4. “…is working…”- Jesus is saying God is not constrained by the Sabbath; especially not man’s additions to it. He gave it to man as a gift to rest physically and renew spiritually.
5. “I am working”- Jesus is saying the same is true for Me. I am not constrained by the Law/Sabbath.
6. No matter what you/I may think about what Jesus said, the RLs knew exactly what He was saying, “He was God” and they wanted to kill Him for it.

**Here’s the sad thing- according to Revelation 22 today we have all the information about God that He plans to give us on earth.** But throughout the OT God continually revealed new information about Himself/His works and said there would be more to come. **These RLs of all people should have understood this and been excited because they were living at a time when God was revealing new things about Himself- AND DOING IT IN PERSON!** Jesus goes on to explain that He is equal to God by detailing the different works of God that He does. **Look at the first one. READ John 5:19-20a Slide 14-17** The 1st thing Jesus says is…

1. **Jesus Does the Work that God the Father Does, John 5:19-29**
2. Jesus does the miracles/signs that God does, vv. 19-20a.
3. The Father/Son are united in their work; Jesus is an obedient Son; He’s not doing His own thing.
4. The fact that Jesus can do these things, has the power to do them, shows He is God.
5. The healing/signs God did in the OT Jesus is doing in their presence now.
6. God “loves” the Son and wants Him to do these things- phileo; deep feelings, warm affection, enjoying the presence of another, present tense- this is an eternally existing love.

**Jesus says “but wait there’s more”!** There will be even greater demonstrations of His deity and they will cause the Pharisees/people to marvel/either impress or disturb. **READ John 5:20b-21 Slide 18-20**

1. Jesus gives physically dead people life. **Will raise people from the dead.**
2. The Bible says that raising one from dead is something only God can do, Deut, 32:39; 1 Sam. 2:6; 2 Kings 5:7; Acts 26:8; 2 Cor. 1:9; Heb. 11:19.
3. Jesus will demonstrate this power several times, John 11:43; Matt. 9:25; Luke 7:14.
4. Later in John we’ll see how upset the RLs are after Jesus raises Lazarus from the dead.

**Jesus doesn’t stop with the physical but moves on to the spiritual.** Not only can Jesus give back physical life, but He gives eternal/spiritual life as well. **Look what He says. READ John 5:22-27 Slide 21-27**

1. Jesus gives spiritually dead people spiritual life.
2. God’s given Jesus the authority to judge people’s hearts and actions, John 3- **Do they honor Jesus as they say they honor God?** Do they believe Jesus as they say they believe God?
3. Those who truly honor God will hear Jesus’ word and believe that God sent Him- that He’s Savior/Lord- He gives eternal life.
4. Those who have eternal life do not receive His judgment of death- eternity in hell because they’ve been given spiritual life through believing Jesus is God/Savior.
5. Jesus is not only the Son of God- 100% God, but also the Son of Man- 100% and as such He’s the only one able to make this judgment and give eternal life.

**Then Jesus moves from the SPIRITUAL to the ETERNAL- something still in our future. READ 5:28-30 Slide 28-32** Jesus is referring here the day we all stand before Him at the end of time and pronounces our eternal destiny. **One day we’ll all stand before Jesus as the Judge of our lives.**

1. Jesus will pronounce each person’s eternal destiny, John 5:25-30
2. “those who did the good deeds to a resurrection of life” I thought good deeds don’t save you. They don’t.
3. “deeds”- editors added the word could read “do the good”, “commit the evil”- good being believing and evil being failing to believe. **Whatever the case Jesus is not talking “works based” salvation.**
4. John 3- salvation is a work of the Holy Spirit and those who have spiritual life will pursue the Light, Jesus Christ, will pursue doing life God’s way by the power of God the Holy Spirit like Jesus.
5. Only those with spiritual life can do good deeds as God defines it.
6. Therefore, those who have spiritual life, will do good deeds, and they will spend eternity with the God who saved them.

**Unfortunately many will choose to not really hear what Jesus is saying and won’t believe what God says about Him and Jesus will have to declare their judgment of an eternity in hell.**

1. “those who committed the evil deeds to a resurrection of judgment”.
2. Those who don’t turn to Jesus for forgiveness of their sin and spiritual life remain in their sin and guilty before Jesus.
3. Even the good they attempt to do thinking that will get them to heaven is motivated by selfishness, which is sin, so they are left without any excuse.
4. **It’s scary to think-** Jesus said in Matthew 7:21-23 **READ Matt. 7:21-23 Slide 33-36**

**The OT Law said that it took 2-3 witnesses to confirm the truth of a matter.** We won’t take the time this morning, but Jesus finishes out by providing 4 witnesses that confirm for the RLs that what He is saying is true- John the Baptist who they interrogated- John 1, Jesus’ works which are the works that only God can do, God’s testimony in their hearts but since they don’t know God they can’t hear Him, and the OT Scriptures, especially Moses who wrote about the Messiah-Jesus.

**So what is it that we should TAKEAWAY from what God had John write down for us? Slide 37**

**YOU TAKEAWAYS**

1. **Are you trusting Jesus to fulfill His promises? The gov’t official believed Jesus’ promise of healing his son and because of that didn’t rush back, get frazzled, or worked up emotionally- he trusted Jesus’ promise.** Jesus has made numerous promises to meet your emotional, mental, physical, and spiritual needs. Do you know what those promises are? Have you asked Him and looked into the Bible?

**Slide 38**

1. **Have you thanked Jesus for the healing/victory over sin He’s brought into your life?** Or have you turned on Jesus and gone back to your old way of thinking/living/holding on to whatever brought your struggle? **Jesus doesn’t heal/give victory for us to return to our old way of thinking/living, but to live life His way, to show Him to others, to do the good that He wants to do through us, not for salvation but because of salvation.**

**Slide 39**

1. **What oral traditions of men are you trusting in to make you right with God? This ties directly to eternal life for many people.** They think doing the religious things man has added to God’s Word/Bible makes them right with God. **I get it that it’s hard to break from what you’ve always believed but it makes no sense to continue believing what is wrong especially if it will cause you to be separated from God for eternity.** Jesus came to tell us they are wrong and He should know- He is God, Son of God/Son of Man. **Hear what He is saying; believe what God says about Him- He is God, Savior, and Lord and turn to Him for eternal life.**

**TAKE TIME RIGHT NOW TO ASK GOD FOR THE ETERNAL LIFE JESUS OFFERS- ask Him to forgive your sins and tell Him you believe Jesus died your eternal death for you.**

**PODCAST- Jesus is God? Take a listen and hear how He explains it.** John 4:46-5:47, Matthew 7:21-23