JOHN 5:19-47

Review...

- John 5:1-18 The pools of Bethesda...
 - o Jesus returned to Jerusalem for the feast of Pentecost...
 - He stopped by the Pools of Bethesda where the sick waited for the water to 'stir'...
 - He asked a lame man if he wanted to be healed told him to take up his bed and walk!
 - o The religious leaders saw the man 'working' on the Sabbath...
 - The healed man told them it was Jesus who had healed him told him to carry his bed...
 - So the leaders wanted to kill Jesus for breaking the Sabbath day...

THE AUTHORITY OF JESUS... (4 THINGS)

- JESUS ANSWER TO THE LEADERS...
 - o In the other three Gospels we saw Jesus confront the leaders about the Sabbath...
 - But uniquely in John we have a record of the first time Jesus healed on the Sabbath...
 - And the conversation that followed as Jesus explained His Authority...
 - o Jesus was still relatively unknown at this point in His ministry...
 - The Religious leaders up till now had only been curious and had not confronted Jesus...
 - There were even some such as Nicodemus who believed in Jesus...
 - That is why unlike in later encounters where Jesus simply rebukes them 'Hypocrites'...
 - Jesus takes the time to explain here why He has Authority to heal even on the Sabbath...
- 1st The example Jesus followed... vs. 19-23
 - o Jesus opened up by saying 'I TELL YOU THE TRUTH'...
 - Jesus uses this phrase three times in His explanation to the religious leaders...
 - It is Jesus way of saying that what follows is an ABSOLUTE truth!
 - o 'I tell you the Truth'- the Son can only do what He sees the Father do... vs. 19
 - The leaders were upset Jesus had told the lame man to carry his bed on the Sabbath...
 - Jesus defense is was He was only following the example the Father had given to Him...
 - That Father did not stop helping people just because it was the Sabbath...
 - Can you imagine one day a week God answered no prayers / was not there to help...
 - You 'call up God' and get His 'voice mail' try again tomorrow!
 - And since the Father set the example of not taking a day off neither did the Son!
 - Children will follow the example of their Father Ephesians 6:1...
 - Our kids are like sponges they soak up every word we say…
 - Our kids are like mirrors they reflect everything we do...
 - Our kids hear us talking / see what we do and the whole time they are learning...
 - We can choose to show them the ways of the world or give them a Godly example!
 - o The Father Loves the Son... vs. 20-23
 - Jesus points out that the Father shows Jesus EVERYTHING He is doing nothing hidden...
 - And the Father had shown Jesus even greater things than healing 'a lame man'...
 - So Jesus would also do GREATER works so that the people would be amazed!

- Including being able to raise people from the dead power over death!
 - God is able to raise the dead I Kings 17 the widow's son / so Jesus could as well...
 - Although to this point in Jesus ministry He had yet to raise the dead...
 - The widow's son Luke 7:11 / Jairus' daughter Matthew 9:18 were not far off...
- Including being able to render judgment for sin...
 - God is ultimately the one who will hold all men accountable for their actions...
 - But He has given to Jesus His authority to execute the judgment of sin...
 - II Timothy 4:1 "Christ Jesus... will someday judge the living and the dead..."
 - The reason is so that all men will respect the Son just as they respect the Father...
 - If anyone does not respect Jesus as a result does not respect the Father who sent Him!
- Dads want their children to grow up to be respectable men and women...
 - But many Fathers limit their children by keeping things from them...
 - When they go through trials they put on an act and pretend everything is ok...
 - But then their kids never get to see how the Lord provides / works in their lives...
 - It is one thing to 'talk about God' to our kids only hearing about Jesus...
 - It is far more amazing to let our kids see God work in our lives so they see Jesus...
 - So that they will grow up to be Godly men and women respected by all...
 - We love our kids when we show them EVERYTHING keep nothing hidden!

• 2^{ND} - The reason why Jesus came... vs. 24-30 (2 reasons)

- o 1st The Son came to save those who believe... vs. 24-26
 - 'I TELL YOU THE TRUTH' those who believe have passed from death into life...
 - Jesus did what no one else could– He lived a perfect sinless life...
 - Then Jesus the only perfect man paid the price for our sin Death Romans 6:23
 - **II Corinthians 5:21** "For God made Christ, who never sinned, to be the offering for our sin, so that we could be made right with God through Christ."
 - And if we believe His Message we are forgiven and will stand blameless before God...
 - God will look down on us and not see our sinful mistakes/flaws...
 - Instead He will see the perfect life of His Son Jesus He sees us as perfect/flawless!
 - 'I TELL YOU THE TRUTH' if those who are 'spiritually dead' listen to My voice...
 - They will live the Father gives life and He has given the Son the ability to give life!
 - Not because we earned it it is given to us as a free gift given through Grace!
 - **Ephesians 2:8** "By grace you have been saved through faith... it is the gift of God."
 - All it takes to be saved is to simple hear the Word of God and believe...
 - God did all the work for us made it easy because He wants everyone to be saved!
- o 2nd The Son came to Judge those who refuse to believe... vs. 27-30
 - If we only have this life to live then there are no consequences for our actions...
 - There is no right there is no wrong / there is no heaven there is no hell...
 - We mind as well live it up eat / drink / and have all the fun we can...
 - Because when it is over there is nothing we cease to exist...
 - Much of the world lives by this doctrine as though there are no consequences...
 - The DAY WILL COME when everyone will listen to the Jesus' voice...
 - All of those who are in the grave all who have died both good and bad...
 - And they will all be resurrected to spend eternity in either heaven or hell...
 - **Daniel 12:2** "Those whose bodies lie dead and buried will rise up, some to everlasting life and some to shame and everlasting disgrace..."

- Everyone will live forever the question is where you will spend eternity...
- Salvation is as simple as a choice look to Jesus and spend eternity in heaven...
- Or choose to look away and spend eternity separated from God in hell...
- God chose Jesus to be the Judge because He is 'a son of man' (not a title here)...
 - Jesus is the perfect judge because He knows what it means to be human...
 - **Hebrews 4:15** "He faced all of the same testings we do, yet he did not sin."
 - If the Father judged we could argue 'you don't understand what it means to be human'
 - But like a jury of our peers Jesus understands and takes away that excuse!
- Jesus will not judge by His own authority...
 - Jesus said 'I can do nothing on my own I only Judge what I hear from the Father.
 - o Up to this point Jesus has referred to Himself as 'the Son' now He makes it personal...'
 - o He wants to make it clear his judgment is not 'His opinion' it is the Father's...
 - Since Jesus does not make His own judgments they are always going to be right!
 - o The symbol for justice is a blind woman holding a scale...
 - o The idea being true justice is not swayed by options but only weights the truth...
 - o Jesus does not judge men according to His mood His personal preferences...
 - o He will judge according to the perfect standard set down by the Father in His Word...
 - No one will be able to stand before God and say 'I did not know I was a sinner'...
 - o We all have the standard the Word that we will one day be judged by...
 - o A standard of perfection we all failed Matthew 5:48 we all sinned Romans 3:23
 - o So unless we have faith in Jesus the only thing that waits us is certain judgment!
 - o **Hebrews 10:27** "There is only the terrible expectation of God's judgment and the raging fire that will consume his enemies."
- 3RD The proof of Jesus' authority... vs. 31-39 (3 things)
 - o 1st The witness of John the Baptist... vs. 31-35
 - If Jesus were alone in His claim to be the Savior / Judge then He would be a liar...
 - According to the Law a truth had to be established by 2 or more **Deuteronomy 17:6**
 - Anyone could go around 'claiming' they were the 'messiah' but where is the proof...
 - The Father sent John the Baptist to testify Jesus was the Savior / Judge...
 - John understood and told everyone exactly who Jesus was and why He came...
 - Jesus was the 'Lamb of God' who came to take away the sin of the world John 1:29
 - The leaders even sent investigators to find out about John's message...
 - John was a burning shining light willing to show Jesus to anyone would see!
 - And for a while the leaders were excited about what he had to say but it did not last...
 - Who would not like the message of salvation the free gift of eternity with God...
 - But the message is about repentance that leads to salvation...
 - It is not enough to not want to go to hell we must choose to live for Jesus today...
 - Most are not willing to give up the 'pleasures' of this life in order to inherit eternal life!
 - Yet Jesus was not content to only accept the endorsement of a man...
 - o 2nd The witness of Jesus' works... vs. 36
 - The Father had given Jesus Miracles to perform that showed He was the Savior / Judge...
 - Turning water into wine in Cana / the healing of a lame man at Bethesda...
 - The feeding of the 5000 / opening the eyes of the blind / raising of the dead!
 - There was no shortage of miracles given to validate the authority of Jesus!
 - But Jesus knew even miracles were not enough...

- Jesus used signs and wonders to prove his authority but 'miracles' can be counterfeited...
 - Satan can and will imitate God so he looks like the real thing...
 - II Corinthians 11:14 "Satan himself transforms himself into an angel of light."
 - Why do the Mormons have meet in pretty 'churches' on Sunday morning for 'worship'...
 - Satan can come in pretty packages sin / false teachings can look really good...
 - But you can always spot a false sign because they will contradict the Word...
- o 3rd The witness of the Father... vs. 37-39
 - The leaders had never seen the Father no man has even seen God Exodus 33:11
 - But they did have the Word of the Father the Bible but they refused to listen...
 - They studied their Bibles thinking their 'religion' had the power to save them...
 - But the Bible is ALL ABOUT JESUS it is meant to point us to Him!
 - Empty religion does not have the power to save us from judgment...
 - Just because you carry around a big Bible does not mean you are safe...
 - Just because you can quote a 1000 verses does not mean you are forgiven...
 - It is only a relationship with Jesus that brings salvation...
 - The Bible is meant to introduce us to let us get to know our God who loves us!
- 4^{TH} The rejection of Jesus... vs. 40-47
 - o The Leaders refused to come to Jesus so they might live... vs. 40-44
 - Jesus knew them and so knew they did not Love God...
 - Jesus came from the Father and they still rejected Him...
 - If they had loved God they would also have loved Jesus who came from God...
 - But they had so much love for the praises of men they cared nothing for God!
 - **John 12:43** "They loved [agape] the praise of men more than the praise of God."
 - Ultimately the only reason someone reject the free gift of salvation...
 - Is because there is something else that they Love more than God in their life...
 - It could be a love the acceptance of people/family unwilling to stand up for Jesus...
 - Or it could be the love of drugs/alcohol the love of pleasure living for the moment...
 - Or it could even be the love of money desiring the things of this world...
 - In the end they rejected Jesus and instead would receive another...
 - Jesus is referring to the 'anti-christ' deceived they would follow a false messiah...
 - Daniel 9:24-27 the man of sin who will make peace in Israel...
 - He will build the 3rd Temple and be received and the promised Messiah...
 - When we reject Jesus we open ourselves up to being deceived...
 - Trusting in someone / something that has not power to save us
 - o Jesus would not be the one who judged the leaders it would be Moses... vs. 45-47
 - The one who they trusted to save them the 'Law-giver' would in fact condemn them...
 - This all began with the leaders accusing Jesus of breaking Moses' Law...
 - Yet it was in fact Moses Law that stood in judgment of them...
 - Because the Law of Moses had only one purpose to point people to Jesus Christ...
 - An since they did not believe the message of Moses they could not believe in Jesus!
 - The Law has only one purpose show us our need for Jesus...
 - The Law can only tell us what is right is has not power to make us right...
 - God never intended His Law to make us good no more than a mirror makes you pretty...
 - The purpose of the Law was to show the perfect standard of God so we would see...
 - Just how sinful we were and how much we desperately need Jesus!