

The Journey of Faith

Father and the Son

John 5:19-47

Three bold claims Jesus makes that ultimately lead Him to the cross and highlights who in fact He really is

I. He claimed to be One with the Father (18-23)

A. Jesus' claim about Himself exasperated the Jews

1. Breaking the Sabbath/equal with God (18) (Father is mentioned at least 122 times in John)
 - a. Whatever the Father does, Jesus does (19)
 - b. No differences between the Father and Son. (My dad and I were alike in some ways)
 - c. Different functions within the Trinity but, one in character, conviction, mission and heart.
 - d. There is no generation gap between the Father and the Son!
2. The Father and the Son are alike in what they do- vv. 19-23 (2 things)
 - a. v. 21- **In their ability to give life**
 - b. v. 23- **and in their worthiness of honor (Philippians 2:9-11)**

B. Jesus knew He was declaring spiritual war against His opponents

II. He claimed a divine mission (24-29)

A. Two claims that distinguished Him as the Son of God

1. Possessor and giver of life vv. 24-26 (**Hallelujah My Father**) (He has crossed over)
2. The One who would execute judgment at the end of time. vv. 27-29

B. Jesus being judge does not make our religious world any happier with Him than when He first said it.

1. Judgment= unpleasant/ignored by many
2. Yet Jesus spoke freely about judgment (more in the NT)
3. Doctrine of the end times is fuel for world evangelism.

III. The claim of His witnesses- 30-47 (This is where I'm proud of Jesus)

A. If you were called to testify about your faith in a court of law, what would you say? Why do you believe?

B. Jesus gives us a reason to believe: He had five witnesses

1. The Father- vv. 32,37
2. John the Baptist- 33-35
3. His miraculous works- 36
4. The Scriptures- 38, 39
 - We can not be more interested in becoming Bible students rather than disciples of Christ.
 - We can underline it, memorize it, paraphrase it, and quote it at people.
 - We take its words apart and put them back together again... the Bible saves!!
 - It is Jesus Christ who saves- and who atones for our sins- and who forgives- and who gives eternal life- and who saves us by grace!

If we miss Him, we miss the whole message of the book!!

• **Read the vv. 40-45** (we need to wrestle more with what God thinks)

5. The final witness was Moses-46,47 great Law breaker/ the great Law giver- Moses
Now there is no doubt that Jesus has crossed the Rubicon after making these claims!
(no turning back)

Conclusion:

A. Today, most people do not take a strong stand for the truth (Jesus is just one story among

many others)

1. Our society is filled with pluralism (even in the church) and relativism in everything
 - a. All peoples and all religions are viewed as being right in their own way.
 - b. Our task, they say is to understand life from others' perspectives and to accept others' views
 2. In our study of John, no doubt we learn that Jesus teaches that His people should respect all people, love all people, and seek to understand all people.
 - a. But some principles can not be compromised
 - b. Some things are true & must be proclaimed as truth regardless of what our world thinks
- B. John 5- Jesus crosses the Rubicon and our journey of faith requires that we do nothing less than cross with Him
- C. The verdict is a serious choice
1. The witnesses have been carefully chosen
 2. The evidence has been presented and the defense rests
 3. As a member of the jury, you must deliberate.
 - a. You must weigh the evidence
 - b. It's a sobering decision-- it's a matter of life and death (your life or death)

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