

LESSON 9: APRIL 18, 2018

JOHN 5

OVERVIEW

- . The sign of healing on the Sabbath – John 5:1-15
- . Controversy regarding the Sabbath – John 5:16-17
- . Controversy regarding Jesus' equality with God – John 5:18-47

THE SIGN OF HEALING ON THE SABBATH – JOHN 5:1-15

- . The Pool of Five Porches was a popular place for people with physical disabilities to gather
 - . This pool did not always have water in it
 - . It was a subterranean spring that would well up from time to time bringing hot water to the surface
 - . People believed this to be the work of angels with great healing power
- . The mans condition and the Lord's compassion – John 5:1-5
 - . Jesus noticed that the mans condition made it impossible for him to get to the pool
 - . Jesus also noticed he was alone whereas the others had companions to help them
 - . Jesus was moved by his look of helplessness and utter despair
 - . The man had suffered under these conditions for thirty-eight years
 - . Though no one at the pool was eager to help him, they all knew of him
- . The conversation – John 5:5-7
 - . Jesus asks him if he wants to get well
 - . Jesus understands that some people have grown so comfortable with their disability that they may not want change
 - . Jesus is not just referring to the mans physical condition but also his spiritual condition
 - . People may not like their spiritual condition but don't want to accept the responsibility that would come with change
 - . The man's answer is "Sir, I have no one"
 - . The man is alone and has absolutely no one to help or comfort him
- . The call to active faith – John 5:8
 - . Jesus' command to this sick, helpless man is full of spiritual significance

- . Jesus has come to restore those who will respond to his call to full wholeness
- . "Get up, pick up your mat and walk"
 - . Jesus doesn't say you are healed, now you can walk
 - . This man has never been able to walk
 - . This command requires a leap of faith and a willingness to be obedient to the call
- . The changed life – John 5:9-15
 - . Not until the man obeyed did he experience the totally new life and strength created within him
 - . He immediately runs in to spiritual opposition
 - . The mans knowledge of Jesus and who He was still incomplete
 - . Jesus finds the man later in the temple and tells him to stop sinning
 - . Jesus warns him of the danger that will come if he keeps sinning
 - . From that point forward we get the impression that the man now knows Jesus, is forever changed and begins to tell others of Him

CONTROVERSAY REGARDING THE SABBATH – JOHN 5:16-17

- . It is possible this event may never had come to attention of the Jewish leaders had Jesus not commanded him to pick up and carry his mat
 - . The man was stopped and questioned because he was carrying his mat on the Sabbath, a form of work that was forbidden
 - . This rule was only the Jewish adaptation of God's law
- . Jewish accusations regarding the Sabbath and Jesus' answer – John 5:17
 - . "My Father is always at His work . . . and I, too, am working"
 - . It is more important to be doing the works of the Father and being obedient to His will, then it is to a slave to the law
 - . Whereas the Pharisees were knowledgeable to and masters of the law, Jesus was the embodiment and fulfillment of the law
 - . The Pharisees were blinded by the law and couldn't see beyond it to how God was at work through the law
 - . The Sabbath was meant to be a day set-aside by God for the purpose of worshipping God and enjoying His blessing

CONTROVERSAY REGARDING JESUS' EQUALITY WITH GOD – JOHN 5:18-47

- . The unique relationship of Jesus to His Father – John 5:19-20
 - . "The Son can do nothing by Himself"
 - . What Jesus is saying here is that he will not do anything that is not in accordance with God's will
 - . Jesus was fully human and had the same free will as the rest of us

- . He chose to refuse to act upon His own initiative apart from God
 - . He carried this in to every aspect of His life
- . Jesus did these things because He loved God, not feared Him
- . In these verses Jesus also acknowledges the Father's love for His Son
 - . God wants to reveal Himself to us because He loves us
- . Authority given to Christ by God – John 5:21-47
 - . Jesus gives spiritual Life to the spiritually dead
 - . Jesus speaks of eternal life, without judgment that is available through Him – John 5:24
 - . To fully surrender ones life to Christ is to become a part of the body of Christ, which has already passed from death to eternal life
 - . The Holy Spirit, which lives within us, is eternal, not bound by death
 - . The more of us we choose to give over to the spirit, the more of us that becomes immune to death
 - . Christ has been given the authority to judge
 - . His judgment is just, because is One with the Father and is merely doing the work of the Father
 - . Because he chooses to do nothing outside of the will of His Father, His judgments mirror that of His Father
 - . Jesus receives honor through the witness of the Father – John 5:37
 - . Here He is possibly referring to the words of His Father at His baptism – Matthew 3:17
 - . Jesus receives honor through the witness of John the Baptist – John 5: 32-35
 - . Jesus receives honor through His works – John 5:36
 - . The works that Jesus is doing that others have been witness to is evidence of the authority given to Him by the Father
 - . The Old Testament testifies about Jesus and gives honor to Him – John 5:38
 - . The Lord's final appeal to His hearers – John 5:39-47
 - . A person's basic insincerity and desire to focus first on self, can blind one to the truth
 - . Many of the Pharisees were experts on what the Old Testament said
 - . However, because of their interest first in self, they were blinded to the truth that all Old Testament prophesy pointed to Jesus as the fulfillment of prophesy
 - . "You refuse to come to me to have Life" – John 5:40
 - . Was there fear rooted in having to let go of all they had
 - . By surrendering to Jesus did they fear having to then depend on Jesus

NEXT LESSON: WEDNESDAY, MAY 2, 2018 – JOHN 6:1-21