



## Believing Christ - Responding to John's Gospel

### John 5:19-29 Like Father, Like Son

#### The context of the Dialogue - Or the Sign Before the Words

- John 5:16-18

#### John 5:19-24

- In 19, 24 and 25, Jesus says 'truly, truly I tell you.' These are significant and truthful sayings.
- Verses 19-24 – The motif is of a son learning/apprenticing with his father.

"The Father initiates, sends, commands, commissions, grants; the Son responds, obeys, performs his Father's will, receives authority."

D. A Carson, *The Gospel According to John*, Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1991. Page 251.

A man who was merely a man and said the sort of things Jesus said would not be a great moral teacher. He would either be a lunatic—on a level with the man who says he is a poached egg—or else he would be the Devil of Hell. You must make your choice. Either this man was, and is, the Son of God: or else a madman or something worse.

C. S. Lewis, *Mere Christianity*, London: Collins, 1952. Page 54–56.

- Vs 19 - The Son does what the Father does - unity in purpose.
- Vs 20 - The Father shows him everything - unity in essence and effect. (cf John 1:18).
- Vs 21 - The Father and the Son BOTH have authority to give life and to raise the dead - unity in omnipotence. In the Old Testament, this is only something that God can do (Deuteronomy 32:39; 1 Samuel 2:6 AND Genesis 18:25; Psalm 98:9 and Isaiah 2:4).
- Vs 22 - The Father has given judgement to the Son - that all may honour the Son as they do the Father – worship and honour.

The Father bestows the authority and the Son exercises it; the Father sends, and the Son is sent. Yet so completely one are the Father and the Son, so perfectly does the Son manifest the Father, that no one can at the same time refuse the Son's claims and pay honour to the Father.

F. F. Bruce, *The Gospel & Epistles of John*, Eerdmans: 1983, page 90.

#### John 5:25-29

- Jesus reinforces this by referring to himself here as "the Son of God" which is only one of three places that Jesus is called the Son of God in John's Gospel (John 10:36, 11:4 cf 19:7).
- Vs 25 begins with the final "truly, truly I say to you".
- Vs 25-27: in the present, all who hear and receive Jesus have life in them now - "an hour is coming, and is now here."
- Vs 28-29: in the future, Jesus will bring all people back to life, the righteous to the "resurrection of life" and evil doers to a "resurrection of judgement."

## DO YOU KNOW THIS JESUS TODAY?