

Preached at GBC on 4/10/22
Christ's Deity And Power, Pt.4

John 5:22-30

As our Lord continues to declare His Deity and Power, we have to keep in mind that it wasn't for the benefit of these unbelieving **JEWS** who hated Christ and sought His death - those **JEWS** who falsely accused Christ of breaking their Sabbath Day, and also thought in their minds that He was making Himself equal with God. **THIS WAS GOD** speaking to them, yet they **COULD NOT** and **WOULD NOT HEAR** Him. He actually tells these **JEWS** that truth a few chapters later - "***Why do ye not understand my speech?*** [even] ***because ye cannot hear my word.***"(Jn.8:3) The same John records these words concerning man's inability to **HEAR** - "***They are of the world: therefore speak they of the world, and the world heareth them. We are of God: he that knoweth God heareth us; HE THAT IS NOT OF GOD HEARETH NOT US. Hereby know we the spirit of truth, and the spirit of error.***"(I Jn.4:5,6) The issue wasn't with their auditory senses - **THESE JEWS HEARD CHRIST'S WORD!** Their problem was that they were **SPIRITUALLY DEAD**, and dead men cannot hear - actually can't do anything - **THEY ARE DEAD!** That being the case, Christ's Seven Declarations of His Deity and Power, that which confirmed that He **IS TRULY GOD** - qualified for, capable of, and willing to "***save His people from their sins***" - was for the sake of God's redeemed who **DID HEAR**, and all those **WHO WOULD HEAR** in each successive generation - "***Verily, verily, I say unto you, The hour is coming, and now is, WHEN THE DEAD SHALL HEAR THE VOICE OF THE SON OF GOD: AND THEY THAT HEAR SHALL LIVE.***"(Vs.25) I'm not going back over Christ's **FIRST FOUR DECLARATIONS** of His Deity - go listen to the recordings. We want to pick up with Christ's **FIFTH DECLARATION** or **PROOF** that **CHRIST IS GOD**.

Here's the **5th Declaration** of Christ's Deity And Power, that Christ the Son and God the Father are **ONE** in honor - "***For the Father judgeth no man, but hath committed all judgment unto the Son: That all [men] should honour the Son, even as they honour the Father. He that honoureth not the Son honoureth not the Father which hath sent him.***" If you'll notice, God the Holy Spirit connects this matter of **JUDGMENT** with that which "***should honour the Son.***" Christ stated it to these **JEWS** as a **FACT** - "***For the Father JUDGEETH no man, but hath committed all judgment unto the Son.***" We have to view all this under the Scriptural reality **THAT CHRIST IS GOD, CO-EQUAL** with the Father and the Spirit in **ALL THINGS**. When Christ declared: "***For the Father judgeth no man***", He didn't mean that **GOD THE FATHER DOESN'T JUDGE** men, but that the Father "***JUDGEETH NO MAN***" without or apart from the Son. This is another proof of **THEIR EQUALITY**. According to these words, the Father "***hath committed***", (which means 'to grant, give to one asking, or let have') ***all judgment unto the Son.***" Christ was given or granted this **RIGHT** as **JUDGE** because He purchased that **RIGHT** by His obedience into death. Listen to Paul - "***Forasmuch then as we are the offspring of God, we ought not to think that the Godhead is like unto gold, or silver, or stone, graven by art and man's device. And the times of this ignorance God winked at; but now commandeth all men every where to repent: Because he hath appointed***

a day, in the which he will judge the world in righteousness by [that] man whom he hath ordained; [whereof] he hath given assurance unto all [men], in that he hath raised him from the dead.”(Acts 17:29-30) The **STANDARD** by which all will be judged is **THAT RIGHTEOUSNESS** Christ established which glorifies and honors God as “both a just God and a Savior.” Having purchased this **RIGHT**, Christ as Judge of all the earth **WILL** and **MUST** be honored by **ALL**. The word translated “honour” means ‘to revere or venerate’. Think about what this meant to these men who **BLASPHEMED** the Son – “He that honoureth not the Son honoureth not the Father which hath sent him.” These **JEWS**, like all unregenerate sinners, were absolutely ignorant of the necessity of the Son being sent by the Father, and the Son’s willingness to come into the earth to magnify and honor the Father. They were **RELIGIOUS**, but **LOST!**

Here's the **6th Declaration** Of Christ’s Deity and Power – The Son and the Father are **ONE** in imparting **LIFE** – “Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life. Verily, verily, I say unto you, The hour is coming, and now is, when the dead shall hear the voice of the Son of God: and they that hear shall live. For as the Father hath life in himself; so hath he given to the Son to have life in himself.”(Vss.24-26) Look at Christ’s **first** “**verily, verily**” statement – “**Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that HEARTH my word, and BELIEVETH on Him that sent me, HATH everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but IS PASSED from death unto life.**” **TWO THINGS** man can’t do by nature – **HEAR** or **BELIEVE**. According to Paul – “**So then faith** [cometh] **by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.**”(Rom.10:17) The **ONLY WAY** “**faith**” can be known, is you’ve God to hear about it – somebody has to declare it to you – “**For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved. How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? and how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? and how shall they hear without a preacher? And how shall they preach, except they be sent? as it is written, How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things!**”(Rom.10:13-15) In other words, somebody has to **PREACH THE GOSPEL TO YOU**. But even hearing the words of the Gospel, unless those words are made **ALIVE** by the “**word of God**”, (**which is Christ the Son, the eternal Word or LOGOS of God**) the Gospel message is just words. **Quote Rom.1:16,17**. The way Christ stated this answers the question of **HOW** sinners are “born again”. Sinners aren’t born again **BECAUSE** they’ve heard or because they’ve believed - they **HEAR** Christ’s **WORDS** and “**BELIEVE ON HIM THAT SENT ME**”, **BECAUSE** they have eternal life. Listen to a literal translation of these words – “Verily, verily, I say to you — He who is hearing my word, and is believing Him who sent me, hath life age-during, and to judgment he doth not come, but hath passed out of the death to the life.” Christ states dogmatically that all **WHO ARE HEARING** His word (**this is a declaration of Deity**), and **ALL WHO ARE BELIEVING ON HIM THAT SENT HIM**, (**this is a declaration of the Father’s Deity**) they **HAVE** eternal life – “**And this is life eternal, that they might know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent.**”(Jn.17:3) The same Apostle made this crystal clear in his **1st Epistle** – “**If we receive the**

witness of men, the witness of God is greater: for this is the witness of God which he hath testified of his Son. He that believeth on the Son of God hath the witness in himself: he that believeth not God hath made him a liar; because he believeth not the record that God gave of his Son. And this is the record, that God hath given to us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. He that hath the Son hath life; [and] he that hath not the Son of God hath not life.”(I Jn.5:9-12) Christ also said that all believing and hearing shall “never come into condemnation” – Rom.8:31-39. **Look at Christ’s 2nd “verily, verily” statement** – “Verily, verily, I say unto you, The hour is coming, and now is, when the dead shall hear the voice of the Son of God: and they that hear shall live. For as the Father hath life in himself; so hath he given to the Son to have life in himself.” This lets us know conclusively that Christ alone can, **DID**, and would give **LIFE, SPIRITUAL LIFE, ETERNAL LIFE**, to every object of His love according to His own sovereign will and purpose – **Turn over to Eph.2:1-10**. The fact that Christ, **LIKE THE FATHER**, gives **LIFE**, is **PROOF CHRIST IS GOD**.

Here's the **7th Declaration** Of Christ’s Deity And Power – Christ the Son and God the Father are **ONE** in **JUDICIAL POWER** and **AUTHORITY** – Read **Vss.27**. Christ the Son, being **EQUAL** with the Father, having power and authority to “*give eternal life*” to as many as God the Father had given Him, “also” has been given the authority to execute judgment. If you notice, there is a change of language. In **Vs.22**, Christ declared that **ALL HIS PEOPLE** would honor or revere Him as the “Son of God”, seeing He IS God and worthy of the same honor as the Father. But in this verse, Christ declares that He has been given this authority of **ALL** judgment because He “is the Son of man.” I love the way one old author stated this: “It was because the Son of God had become clothed with flesh and walked this earth as Man, that He was despised and rejected and His Divine glories disowned. This supplies a further reason why it is meet that the Son of man should be Judge in the last great day. The despised One shall be in the place of supreme honor and authority. All will be compelled to bow the knee before Him; and thus will He be glorified before them and His outraged rights vindicated.” **Next** Christ told them and us about this **JUDGMENT** – “Marvel not at this: for the hour is coming, in the which all that are in the graves shall hear his voice, And shall come forth; they that have done good, unto the resurrection of life; and they that have done evil, unto the resurrection of damnation.” This speaks of the resurrection of all men and the final judgement of the reprobate. I’d have you notice, there are **TWO GROUPS** – **ONE GROUP** that “shall come forth”; “that hath done good” “unto” (which means **INTO OR IN**) “the resurrection of life.” Without stating **WAR AND PEACE** – How can those of whom it is declared “there are none good, know not one”; “there are none righteous, no not one” - be part of a group “that have done good”? **IT IS ONLY BY GOD’S GRACE** in Christ alone, based on **HIS RIGHTEOUSNESS ALONE**. The phrase “shall come forth” means ‘to go out or to flow forth’, You combine that with the next phrase - “they that have done” is **ONE WORD** which means ‘to make’, and it’s the same word translated “He hath made” in **II Cor.5:21**. **So this group is MADE** the “righteousness of God IN HIM.” But then there’s the **SECOND GROUP** – “and they that have DONE EVIL, unto the resurrection of damnation.” The phrase “they that have done” means ‘to

practice, exercise, or be busy with'. This second group is busy about, practicing, and exercising **ONE THING**, and it is on full display in these **RELIGIOUS JEWS** – “**EVIL**”. What is this “**EVIL**” they are practicing – “*And this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil. For every one that doeth evil hateth the light, neither cometh to the light, lest his deeds should be reproved.*”(John 3:19,20) The “**evil**” that is their **OCCUPATION** is denying the **LIGHT**, which is rejecting and dishonoring the Son who was sent of the Father to save His people from their sins – **Look at Vss.39,40**. This group goes out to the final judgment without the **ONLY RIGHTEOUS** that satisfies God – **Matt.7:21-23**.

One last thing and we'll close – **NOTICE** Christ's last words in this section – **Vs.30**. I'm not going to spend any time going back over the meaning of Christ's words in the first part of vs.30, because I've already explained what this means when we dealt with it in vs.19.. But I will point this out concerning Christ **DEITY** and **POWER** in **HIS JUDGMENT** – “*As I hear, I judge, and MY JUDGMENT IS JUST.*” What a solemn statement Christ's makes by these words. His **JUDGEMENT** is **JUST**. That word translated “*judgment*” is the same word translated “*damnation*” in **Vs.29**. In the original it means ‘sentence of condemnation, damnatory judgment, condemnation and punishment’. The word translated “*just*” means ‘**RIGHTEOUS**’. When Christ comes at the end of time to be glorified in His saints, **HE WILL DEAL** with all unbelievers in **STRICT JUSTICE** and according to **INFLEXIBLE RIGHTEOUSNESS**. There will be no grace or mercy or leniency. Christ will administer **JUSTICE**. Christ does this: “*because I seek not mine own will, but the will of the Father which hath sent me.*” Christ's **DEITY** shines forth in these last verses for **TWO REASONS**. **First**, the fact “*all that are in the grave shall hear His voice, and SHALL COME FORTH*” proves that Christ is infinitely more than the most exalted creature. Who but **GOD** can gather to gather **EVERY** ash of **EVERY** person and raise them from the dead? **And Second**, **WHO** is capable of being the **ONLY JUST JUDGE** at the Great Judgment but **ONE** who is Himself God, able to read the hearts of all men, possessing infinite wisdom to make just judgments on a group of individuals so vast and varied in numbers but One who is God? “*Happy [art] thou, O Israel: who [is] like unto thee, O people saved by the LORD, the shield of thy help, and who [is] the sword of thy excellency! and thine enemies shall be found liars unto thee; and thou shalt tread upon their high places.*”(Deut.33:29)

In light of such unquestionable evidence, like the centurion that day at the cross we can faithfully declare: “*Truly this is THE SON OF GOD.*” I hope these seven declarations of Christ's Deity and Power will be used by God to increase our faith and encourage us in our “walk of faith”.