

Jesus Claims Equality with God

John 5:16-24 Part 3

For this reason the Jews persecuted Jesus, and sought to kill Him, because He had done these things on the Sabbath.

17 But Jesus answered them, “My Father has been working until now, and I have been working.”

18 Therefore the Jews sought all the more to kill Him, because He not only broke the Sabbath, but also said that God was His Father, making Himself equal with God.

19 Then Jesus answered and said to them, “Most assuredly, I say to you, the Son can do nothing of Himself, but what He sees the Father do; for whatever He does, the Son also does in like manner.

20 For the Father loves the Son, and shows Him all things that He Himself does; and He will show Him greater works than these, that you may marvel.

21 For as the Father raises the dead and gives life to *them*, even so the Son gives life to whom He will.

22 For the Father judges no one, but has committed all judgment to the Son,

23 that all should honor the Son just as they honor the Father. He who does not honor the Son does not honor the Father who sent Him.

24 “Most assuredly, I say to you, he who hears My word and believes in Him who sent Me has everlasting life, and shall not come into judgment, but has passed from death into life.

Introduction

Charles Taze Russell was born on February 16, 1852 in Allegheny, Pennsylvania, the second of five children born to Joseph and Ann Russell. Charles grew up in a devout home and his parents were respected members of the Presbyterian church. When he was young, his family moved to Pittsburgh, where his father came to own a number of haberdashery stores. In his early teens Charles became a partner in this business and soon owned several of the locations.

As a boy Charles had a great deal of religious enthusiasm, and while still only a teenager left his Presbyterian congregation to attend a Congregational church. As a form of evangelism he would often go to public locations and use chalk to write out Bible verses related to sin and damnation. But then, at the age of sixteen, he engaged in a debate with a friend that led him to question the reliability of the Bible and the validity of the Christian faith. He embarked on a period of religious searching and dabbled in many Eastern religions before determining that they, too, were empty and unsatisfying.

When Charles was eighteen he encountered Adventist preaching and began to regularly attend a Bible study. It was not long before he determined that he could not reconcile an eternal hell with a merciful God. Over the next two years he came to question many other historic Christian doctrines and became convinced that the historic creeds betrayed true Christianity. At the same time he adopted Adventist teachings: that the end times had begun in 1799, that Christ had returned

invisibly in 1874 and been crowned King of Heaven four years later, that all Christians who had already died would be resurrected before the end of 1878, and that 1914 would mark the end of a harvest period and usher in Armageddon. He sold his five clothing stores, an act that generated a substantial amount of money (today's equivalent of several million dollars), and committed his life to writing, publishing, and funding the propagation of the message of Christ's imminent return. He did this at first through a partnership with Nelson H. Barbour and his Adventist periodical *Herald of the Morning*. When 1878 came and went without any of the predicted events, he was forced to re-examine his beliefs and to distance himself from some of his Adventist peers, including Barbour. He founded his own periodical which he titled *Zion's Watch Tower and Herald of Christ's Presence*. At this time he also married Maria Frances Ackley in an apparently celibate union that would last until 1897 before ending in an acrimonious divorce.

In 1881 Russell founded the Watch Tower Bible and Tract Society which grew to a substantial publishing venture, and there were soon some 16 million of his books and booklets in print. His ministry and his opportunities to preach grew exponentially and Pastor Russell, as he became known, soon had followers all over the Northern and Eastern states. He preached and wrote constantly, his sermons were printed in several thousand newspapers around the globe, and he became one of the most famous preachers in the world. He eventually moved the headquarters of the Watch Tower Society to Brooklyn, New York, where they remain today. Russell died of cystitis on October 31, 1916, near Pampa, TX, as he attempted to return to his home in Brooklyn. By the time of his death, his writings had become among the most widely-

distributed works in the world. Some estimate that when he died, only the Bible and the Chinese almanac were in greater circulation than his myriad books and pamphlets.

FALSE TEACHING

Unlike so many other false teachers before and after him, Russell did not rely upon visions or other extra-biblical revelation. Rather, he simply interpreted, and misinterpreted, the Bible. While claiming to be a Christian and, in fact, a Christian who was restoring the faith of the New Testament, he denied many key Christian doctrines including eternal punishment, the Trinity, the deity of Christ, and the existence of the Holy Spirit.

Russell, as with most Adventists, denied the existence of hell as a place where the wicked face God's wrath. He also held that the soul simply ceases to exist after death.

As with **Arius** centuries before, he held that Jesus was a created being, and was actually Michael the Archangel in human form. While he taught that this Jesus died on behalf of humanity, he also taught that Jesus rose only spiritually rather than physically. While he denied the *divinity* of Jesus, he denied the *existence* of the Holy Spirit, teaching that the Spirit is not a person, but simply a name given to express a specific manifestation of God's power. In denying the divinity of Jesus and the existence of the Holy Spirit, he necessarily denied the Trinity.

Is the Watch Tower Society Reliable?

In 1910 Russell wrote, "If anyone lays the *Scripture Studies* [short for a 7-volume WTS publication entitled *Studies in the Scriptures*, hereafter abbreviated as *Studies*] aside, even after he has used them, after he has become familiar with them, after he has read them for ten years—if he lays them aside and ignores them and goes to the Bible alone, though he has understood the Bible for ten years, our

experience shows that within two years he goes into darkness. On the other hand, if he had merely read the *Scripture Studies* with their references and had not read a page of the Bible, as such, he will be in the light at the end of two years . . . " (*WT Reprints*, 9-15-1910, 4685). The WTS maintains that it is God's reliable mouthpiece to the nations, and it claims to be God's inspired prophet (WT, 4-1-1972, 197)—and yet its prophecies have repeatedly proven to be false. The only conclusion to be drawn is that the WTS is to be rejected as a false prophet.

Can You Trust the New World Translation?

The *New World Translation* (NWT), the JW's own Bible version, was created between 1950-61 in several parts, beginning with New Testament (NT). The translation was made by an "anonymous" committee, which transliterated and altered passages that were problematic for earlier JW's. Nathan Knorr, Fred Franz, Albert Schroeder, George Gangas, and Milton Henschel were later identified as the men that created the text, which is used by no other sect. Franz studied non-biblical Greek for two years, and taught himself Hebrew. The rest had no formal training in any biblical language. The text of the NWT is more of a transliteration to fit theological presumptions than it is a true translation. This can be seen in key verses that the WTS changed in order to fit its doctrines.

Below are the highlights of [what JW's believe](#) concerning their source of authority, the Godhead, Christ, sin, salvation, heaven and hell, etc.:

1. Source of Authority. JW's claim the Bible as their final authority, but Russell's writings, especially *Studies in the Scriptures*, are considered "the light of the Scriptures." JW's have their own translation of the Scriptures (*New World Translation*, published in 1961), which reflects *the binding interpretations* of the group's leaders. The JW's' *New World Translation* greatly perverts the Scriptures to avoid placing themselves under the judgment of God (cf. Jn. 1:1; 8:58; I Tim. 2:6; Ac. 10:36; Col. 1:16-17; 2:9-10; etc.). Hence, the leader's interpretation of the Bible, not

the Bible itself, is the final authority of JWs. *The Watchtower* magazine is one of the JWs main sources of doctrine, and is considered authoritative by its members.

2. Trinity. JWs believe that God is not a triune God, but only "Jehovah God" (*Let God Be True*, pp. 100-101); they teach that Trinitarianism is a belief in three gods, and thereby, Satan-inspired polytheism. Rutherford wrote: "... sincere persons who want to know the true God and serve him find it a bit difficult to love and worship a complicated, freakish-looking, three-headed God. The clergy who inject such ideas will contradict themselves in the very next breath by stating that God made man in his own image; for certainly no one has ever seen a three-headed human creature" (*Let God Be True*, 2nd ed., pp. 101-102).

3. God the Father. Known as Jehovah, the Watchtower considers Him to be the only true eternal God, the Almighty. They write, "There was, therefore, a time when Jehovah was all alone in universal space" (*Let God Be True*, p. 25). Being alone, the first creative act of Jehovah was to create His Son.

4. Jesus Christ. Since JWs do not believe in the Trinity, they also do not believe that Jesus is God in the flesh. They add the word "other" four times to Colossians 1:16,17, teaching that Christ was God's *first* creation, i.e., the reincarnation of Michael the archangel created by Jehovah, rather than *the Creator*. [The "Watchtower" teaches that Jehovah God created Michael the Archangel before the foundation of the world; Michael was His only begotten son by virtue of the fact that he was the only creature directly created by Jehovah. It was this created Michael who became the JW Jesus (i.e., a denial of the eternality of Christ). JWs say that "Since actual conception took place, it appears that Jehovah God caused an ovum or egg in Mary's womb to become fertile, accomplishing this by the transfer of the life of his first born son (Michael) from the spirit realm to the earth" (*Aid to Bible Understanding*, p. 920). "Marvelously, Jehovah transferred the life-force and the personality pattern of his first born heavenly son (Michael) to the

womb of Mary. God's own active force, his holy spirit, safeguarded the development of the child in Mary's womb so that what was born was a perfect human" (*Reasoning*, p. 255).] JW's also add an "a" in John 1:1, making the verse read, "the Word was *a* god" (which in essence, makes the JW's guilty of the same polytheism of which they accuse Trinitarians).

5. Use of Name Jehovah. JW's use the name "Jehovah" only for God (in order to distinguish between God and Jesus Christ), while failing to recognize that Jesus is the fulfillment of "Jehovah" in Isaiah 40:3 and Matthew 3:3. [HJB]

6. Resurrection of Christ . JW's deny the bodily resurrection of Christ through their teaching that the body of Christ was annihilated by God -- not risen -- but rather a new one was *created* three days after His death. This they call the "resurrection" of Christ. Thus, Jesus was "resurrected" as a "glorious spirit creature" and does *not* now have a glorified physical body. Instead, they claim Jesus arose spiritually and only "materialized" at various times after His resurrection so He could be seen alive. (*Awake!*, 7/22/73, p. 4)

7. The Holy Spirit. JW's deny the deity of the third person of the Trinity, as either God or as a person; they claim that the Holy Spirit is only an impersonal "active force of Almighty God which moves His servants to do His will" (*Reasoning From the Scriptures*, pp. 406-407; *The Watchtower*, 6/1/54, p. 24). They have written, "But the holy spirit has no personal name. The reason for this is that the holy spirit is not an intelligent person. It is the impersonal, invisible active force that finds its source and reservoir in Jehovah God and that he uses to accomplish his will even at great distances, over light years of space" (*Let Your Name Be Sanctified*, p. 269).

8. Sin. JW's believe that the first man, Adam, disobeyed Jehovah when tempted by the angel Lucifer, who was jealous of man. As a result of

disobedience, Adam and all his descendants lost the right to life and so became liable to death. This liability is applied to temporal death only.

9. Salvation . JWs claim everlasting life is a reward for doing the will of God and carrying out one's dedication -- in other words, salvation is a reward for good works. (JWs are expected to spend five hours per week in door-to-door visitation and witnessing, are responsible for selling twelve subscriptions to *The Watchtower* magazine each month, and are responsible for conducting a "Bible study" each month in the homes of their converts.) According to JW theology, a person has one of three possible destinies. The Anointed (144,000) will be in heaven to reign with Jehovah God. The rest of the faithful Jehovah's Witnesses (not of the 144,000) will live forever on a paradise Earth. Both of these classifications are determined to a great extent on membership in the Watchtower organization as well as going door-to-door spreading the message of the Watchtower. Those people who are not members of the Watchtower organization will be destroyed by Jehovah God and cease to exist. There is no concept of eternal punishment or hell in Watchtower theology (*Let God Be True*, pp. 90-95, 289). They also believe that men will have a second chance, after death, to be saved.

10. The Body of Christ. JWs believe that the members of the spiritual Body of Christ, or "Christian Congregation," number only 144,000 (Rev. 7:4-8). Most of those members of Christ's Body are now deceased and are reigning with Jesus in heaven since 1918. (Anybody born after 1936 cannot be in that number.) The remaining members still on earth, approximately 8,000 (out of whom are selected the "Governing Body"), are known as the "Remnant." They are collectively known as Jehovah God's "channel of communication" to men. They are the only ones "born again" and are the only ones who have a hope of going to Heaven. The rest of Jehovah's faithful witnesses only hope to be worthy enough to inherit the Earth, and will never see "Jesus/Michael," nor will they ever go to Heaven. All "so called Christendom" will be destroyed at Armageddon.

11. Soul Sleep. JWs deny the immortality of the soul. They do not believe the soul can exist apart from the body, but that a corpse remains in an unconscious state in the grave waiting for the resurrection. [HJB]

12. Annihilation of the Wicked. JWs teach that the "second death" is annihilation and extinction -- the wicked will cease to exist and will not suffer everlasting torment. They claim that a "doctrine of a burning hell" is "wholly unscriptural," "unreasonable," "contrary to God's love," and "repugnant to justice." [HJB] They claim that "hell" is the grave.

13. Prophecy . The Bible lists six identifying marks of false prophets, any one of which is sufficient for identification: (1) through signs and wonders they lead astray after false gods (Dt. 13:1-4); (2) their prophecies don't come to pass (Dt. 18:20-22); (3) they contradict God's Word (Isa. 8:20); (4) they bear bad fruit (Mt. 7:18-20); (5) men speak well of them (Lk. 6:26); and (6) they deny that Jesus, the one and only Christ, has come once and for all in the flesh (1 Jn. 4:3), thereby denying His sufficiency in all matters of life and godliness (2 Pe. 1:3). Most cults are founded upon false prophecies, which, if pointed out, offer an effective way to open blind eyes and rescue cultists. Russell's false prophecies formed the basis for what became The Watchtower Bible and Tract Society and the Jehovah's Witnesses. Russell declared that the Second Coming had taken place invisibly in October 1874, and the Lord was truly present, and that in 1914 the faithful (the 144,000) would be translated to heaven and the wicked destroyed. Armageddon (which began in 1874) would culminate in 1914 with the complete overthrow of earth's rulers and the end of the world. C.T. Russell, still on earth, died in 1916.

In the early 1920s, JWs zealously distributed on the streets and from door to door a book titled *Millions Now Living Will Never Die*. It was prophesied, "The year 1925 is a date definitely and clearly marked in the Scriptures, even more clearly than that of 1914 ... we may confidently expect that 1925 will mark the return of Abraham, Isaac, Jacob and the

faithful prophets of old ... to the condition of human perfection" ("Millions Now Living Will Never Die," *The Watchtower*, 7/15/24, p. 89). The JW's even built a house in San Diego where the patriarchs were to live and tried to deed it to King David. (The house was quietly sold in 1954.) In the early 1940s, JW's were declaring that Armageddon, only months away, would end World War II and the defeat of the Nazis would usher in God's rule on earth (*The Watchtower*, 12/41). Their book, *Children*, suggested that plans to marry and have children be postponed until after Armageddon. It's been a long wait! Not giving up, they later prophesied that God's millennial kingdom would commence in 1975. Again JW's were told not to engage in any plans for this world, including marriage and having children. Many quit their jobs, sold their homes, and dedicated themselves to going door to door. (Source: 3/97, *The Berean Call*.) All in all, the Watchtower has predicted the end of the world for 1874, 1914, 1918, 1925, 1941, 1975, and 1989, 1995

Review

- I. He Is Equal in Nature
- II. He is Equal in Works
- III. He is Equal in Life
- IV. He is Equal in Judgement
- V. He is Equal in Worship
- VI. He is Equal in Salvation

John 5:16-24

16. For this reason the Jews persecuted Jesus, and sought to kill Him, because He had done these things on the Sabbath.
- 17 But Jesus answered them, “My Father has been working until now, and I have been working.”
- 18 Therefore the Jews sought all the more to kill Him, because He not only broke the Sabbath, but also said that God was His Father, making Himself equal with God.
- 19 Then Jesus answered and said to them, “Most assuredly, I say to you, the Son can do nothing of Himself, but what He sees the Father do; for whatever He does, the Son also does in like manner.
- 20 For the Father loves the Son, and shows Him all things that He Himself does; and He will show Him greater works than these, that you may marvel.
- 21 For as the Father raises the dead and gives life to *them*, even so the Son gives life to whom He will.
- 22 For the Father judges no one, but has committed all judgment to the Son,
- 23 that all should honor the Son just as they honor the Father. He who does not honor the Son does not honor the Father who sent Him.
- 24 “Most assuredly, I say to you, he who hears My word and believes in Him who sent Me has everlasting life, and shall not come into judgment, but has passed from death into life.

I. He Is Equal in Nature

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- 17 But Jesus answered them, “My Father has been working until now, and I have been working.”
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II. He is Equal in Works

- 19 Then Jesus answered and said to them, “Most assuredly, I say to you, the Son can do nothing of Himself, but what He sees the Father do; for whatever He does, the Son also does in like manner.
- 20 For the Father loves the Son, and shows Him all things that He Himself does; and He will show Him greater works than these, that you may marvel.

III. He is Equal in Life

21 For as the Father raises the dead and gives life to *them*, even so the Son gives life to whom He will.

Lesson

I. He Is Equal in Nature

II. He is Equal in Works

III. He is Equal in Life

IV. He is Equal in Judgement

22 For the Father judges no one, but has committed all judgment to the Son,

Jn 5:27

27 and has given Him authority to execute judgment also, because He is the Son of Man.

Jn 5:30

30 I can of Myself do nothing. As I hear, I judge; and My judgment is righteous

Mt 16:27

27 For the Son of Man will come in the glory of His Father with His angels, and then He will reward each according to his works.

Mt 25:31–34

- 31** “When the Son of Man comes in His glory, and all the holy angels with Him, then He will sit on the throne of His glory.
- 32** All the nations will be gathered before Him, and He will separate them one from another, as a shepherd divides *his* sheep from the goats.
- 33** And He will set the sheep on His right hand, but the goats on the left.
- 34** Then the King will say to those on His right hand, ‘Come, you blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world:

Ac 10:42

42 And He commanded us to preach to the people, and to testify that it is He who was ordained by God *to be* Judge of the living and the dead.

Ac 17:30–31

- 30** Truly, these times of ignorance God overlooked, but now commands all men everywhere to repent,
- 31** because He has appointed a day on which He will judge the world in righteousness by the Man whom He has ordained. He has given assurance of this to all by raising Him from the dead.”

Ro 2:16

16 in the day when God will judge the secrets of men by Jesus Christ, according to my gospel.

Ro 14:10–12

- 10** But why do you judge your brother? Or why do you show contempt for your brother? For we shall all stand before the judgment seat of Christ.
- 11** For it is written:
*“As I live, says the Lord,
Every knee shall bow to Me,
And every tongue shall confess to God.”*
- 12** So then each of us shall give account of himself to God.

2 Co 5:10

10 For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive the things *done* in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad.

2 Th 1:7–12

- 7** and to *give* you who are troubled rest with us when the Lord Jesus is revealed from heaven with His mighty angels,
- 8** in flaming fire taking vengeance on those who do not know God, and on those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ.
- 9** These shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of His power,
- 10** when He comes, in that Day, to be glorified in His saints and to be admired among all those who believe, because our testimony among you was believed.
- 11** Therefore we also pray always for you that our God would count you worthy of *this* calling, and fulfill all the good pleasure of *His* goodness and the work of faith with power,
- 12** that the name of our Lord Jesus Christ may be glorified in you, and you in Him, according to the grace of our God and the Lord Jesus Christ.

2 Ti 4:1

4:1 I charge *you* therefore before God and the Lord Jesus Christ, who will judge the living and the dead at His appearing and His kingdom:

Re 19:11–17

- 11** Now I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse. And He who sat on him *was* called Faithful and True, and in righteousness He judges and makes war.
- 12** His eyes *were* like a flame of fire, and on His head *were* many crowns. He had a name written that no one knew except Himself.
- 13** He *was* clothed with a robe dipped in blood, and His name is called The Word of God.
- 14** And the armies in heaven, clothed in fine linen, white and clean, followed Him on white horses.
- 15** Now out of His mouth goes a sharp sword, that with it He should strike the nations. And He Himself will rule them with a rod of iron. He Himself treads the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God.
- 16** And He has on *His* robe and on His thigh a name written:
KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS

Re 20:11–12

- 11** Then I saw a great white throne and Him who sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away. And there was found no place for them.
- 12** And I saw the dead, small and great, standing before God, and books were opened. And another book was opened, which is *the Book of Life*. And the dead were judged according to their works, by the things which were written in the books.

He hath given all judgement unto the Son (την κρισιν πασαν δεδωκεν τῷ υἱῷ [*tēn krisin pāsan dedōken tōi huiōi*]). Perfect active indicative of διδωμι [*didōmi*], state of completion (as in 3:35; 6:27, 29; 10:29, etc.).

Robertson, A. T. (1933). *Word Pictures in the New Testament* (Jn 5:22). Nashville, TN: Broadman Press.

Judgeth no man - Jesus in these verses is showing his “equality with God.” He affirmed [John 5:17](#) that he had the same power over the Sabbath that his Father had; in [John 5:19](#), that he did the same things as the Father; in [John 5:21](#) particularly that he had the same power to raise the dead. He now adds that God has given him the authority to “judge” men. The Father pronounces judgment on no one. This office he has committed to the Son. The power of judging the world implies ability to search the heart, and omniscience to understand the motives of all actions. This is a work which none but a divine being can do, and it shows, therefore, that the Son is equal to the Father.

Hath committed ... - Hath appointed him to be the judge of the world. In the previous verse he had said that he had power “to raise the dead;” he here adds that it will be his, also, to “judge” them when they are raised. See [Acts 17:31](#).

V. He is Equal in Worship

23 that all should honor the Son just as they honor the Father. He who does not honor the Son does not honor the Father who sent Him.

kathos: just as, as**Original Word:** καθώς**Part of Speech:** Adverb**Transliteration:** kathos**Phonetic Spelling:** (kath-ocē')**Short Definition:** just as, as**Definition:** according to the manner in which, in the degree that, just as, as.**HELPS Word-studies**

2531 *kathōs* (an adverb derived from **2596** /*katá*, "according to" and **5613** /*hōs*, "as compared to, to the extent of") – properly, "in proportion, to the degree that" (J. Thayer); *just as* (in direct proportion), corresponding to fully (exactly).

Honor

timaó: to fix the value, to price**Original Word:** τιμάω**Part of Speech:** Verb**Transliteration:** timaó**Phonetic Spelling:** (tim-ah'-o)**Short Definition:** I value at a price, honor**Definition:** (a) I value at a price, estimate, (b) I honor, reverence.**HELPS Word-studies**

Cognate: **5091** *timáō* – properly, *assign value* (give honor), as it reflects the *personal* esteem (value, preciousness) attached to it by the *beholder*. See **5092** (*timē*).

Worship is only given to God

Isa 42:8

- 8** I *am* the Lord, that *is* My name;
And My glory I will not give to another,

Nor My praise to carved images.

Ex 20:1–6

- 20:1** And God spoke all these words, saying:
- 2** “I *am* the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage.
- 3** “You shall have no other gods before Me.
- 4** “You shall not make for yourself a carved image—any likeness *of anything* that *is* in heaven above, or that *is* in the earth beneath, or that *is* in the water under the earth;
- 5** you shall not bow down to them nor serve them. For I, the Lord your God, *am* a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children to the third and fourth *generations* of those who hate Me,
- 6** but showing mercy to thousands, to those who love Me and keep My commandments.

Dt 6:4–5

- 4** “Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord *is* one!
- 5** You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your strength.

Ps 29:2

Give unto the Lord the glory due to His name;
Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness.

Ps 81:8–10

- 8** “Hear, O My people, and I will admonish you!
O Israel, if you will listen to Me!
- 9** There shall be no foreign god among you;
Nor shall you worship any foreign god.
- 10** I *am* the Lord your God,

Is 43:10–11

- “You *are* My witnesses,” says the Lord,
“And My servant whom I have chosen,
That you may know and believe Me,
And understand that I *am* He.
Before Me there was no God formed,
Nor shall there be after Me.
- 11** I, *even* I, *am* the Lord,
And besides Me *there is* no savior.

Is 45:21–22

- 21** Tell and bring forth *your case*;
Yes, let them take counsel together.
Who has declared this from ancient time?
Who has told it from that time?
Have not I, the Lord?
And *there is* no other God besides Me,
A just God and a Savior;
There is none besides Me.
- 22** “Look to Me, and be saved,

All you ends of the earth!
 For I *am* God, and *there is* no other.

Je 25:6

Do not go after other gods to serve them and worship them, and do not provoke Me to anger with the works of your hands; and I will not harm you.'

(Mt 4:10

'*You shall worship the Lord* your God, and Him only you shall serve.' "

Re 19:10

10 And I fell at his feet to worship him. But he said to me, "See *that you do not do that!* I am your fellow servant, and of your brethren who have the testimony of Jesus. Worship God!

Re 22:8–9

- 8** Now I, John, saw and heard these things. And when I heard and saw, I fell down to worship before the feet of the angel who showed me these things.
- 9** Then he said to me, "See *that you do not do that.* For I am your fellow servant, and of your brethren the prophets, and of those who keep the words of this book. Worship God."

Jn 15:23

23 He who hates Me hates My Father also.

1 Jn 2:23–24

23 Whoever denies the Son does not have the Father either; he who acknowledges the Son has the Father also.

Lk 10:16

16 He who hears you hears Me, he who rejects you rejects Me, and he who rejects Me rejects Him who sent Me.”

2 Jn 9

9 Whoever transgresses and does not abide in the doctrine of Christ does not have God. He who abides in the doctrine of Christ has both the Father and the Son.

Mt 14:31–34

31 And immediately Jesus stretched out *His* hand and caught him, and said to him, “O you of little faith, why did you doubt?”

32 And when they got into the boat, the wind ceased.

33 Then those who were in the boat came and worshiped Him, saying, “Truly You are the Son of God.”

Mt 15:22–25

- 22** And behold, a woman of Canaan came from that region and cried out to Him, saying, “Have mercy on me, O Lord, Son of David! My daughter is severely demon-possessed.”
- 23** But He answered her not a word.
And His disciples came and urged Him, saying, “Send her away, for she cries out after us.”
- 24** But He answered and said, “I was not sent except to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.”
- 25** Then she came and worshiped Him, saying, “Lord, help me!”

Mt 28:8–10

- 8** So they went out quickly from the tomb with fear and great joy, and ran to bring His disciples word.
- 9** And as they went to tell His disciples, behold, Jesus met them, saying, “Rejoice!” So they came and held Him by the feet and worshiped Him.
- 10** Then Jesus said to them, “Do not be afraid. Go *and* tell My brethren to go to Galilee, and there they will see Me.”

Mt 28:16–17

- 16** Then the eleven disciples went away into Galilee, to the mountain which Jesus had appointed for them.
- 17** When they saw Him, they worshiped Him; but some doubted.

Lk 24:52–

- 52** And they worshiped Him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy,
53 and were continually in the temple praising and blessing God. Amen.

Jn 9:35–38

- 35** Jesus heard that they had cast him out; and when He had found him, He said to him, “Do you believe in the Son of God?”
36 He answered and said, “Who is He, Lord, that I may believe in Him?”
37 And Jesus said to him, “You have both seen Him and it is He who is talking with you.”
38 Then he said, “Lord, I believe!” And he worshiped Him.

Jn 20:28

And Thomas answered and said to Him, “My Lord and my God!”

Hebrews 1:6

⁶ But when He again brings the firstborn into the world, He says:

“Let all the angels of God worship Him.”

Mt 2:1–2

2:1 Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem,

- 2** saying, “Where is He who has been born King of the Jews? For we have seen His star in the East and have come to worship Him.”

Php 2:9–12

Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name,

- 10** that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth,
- 11** and *that* every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ *is* Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

That all may honour the Son (ἵνα πάντες τιμῶσιν τον υἱον [*hina pantes timōsin ton huion*]). Purpose clause with ἵνα [*hina*] and present active subjunctive of τιμᾶω [*timaō*] (may keep on honouring the Son). **He that honoureth not the Son** (ὁ μὴ τιμῶν τον υἱον [*ho mē timōn ton huion*]). Articular present active participle of τιμᾶω [*timaō*] with negative μὴ [*mē*]. Jesus claims here the same right to worship from men that the Father has. Dishonouring Jesus is dishonouring the Father who sent him (8:49; 12:26; 15:23; 1 John 2:23). See also Luke 10:16. There is small comfort here for those who praise Jesus as teacher and yet deny his claims to worship.

Robertson, A. T. (1933). *Word Pictures in the New Testament* (Jn 5:23). Nashville, TN: Broadman Press.

If Jesus Christ shares the nature of God, we are called to worship Him ***without cessation***, obey Him ***without hesitation***, love Him ***without reservation*** and serve Him ***without interruption***. To Him be all glory for ever - Milne

VI. He is Equal in Salvation

24 “Most assuredly, I say to you, he who hears My word and believes in Him who sent Me has everlasting life, and shall not come into judgment, but has passed from death into life.

Jn 3:18–19

18 “He who believes in Him is not condemned; but he who does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.

19 And this is the condemnation, that the light has come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil.

4100 [e]

akouōn

ἀκούων ,

hearing

V-PPA-NMS

He that heareth my word - To “hear,” in this place, evidently denotes not the outward act of hearing, but to receive in a proper manner; to suffer it to make its proper impression on the mind; to obey. The word “hear” is often used in this sense, Matthew 11:15; John 8:47; Acts 3:23. Many persons outwardly hear the gospel who neither understand nor obey it.

He who is of God hears God’s words; therefore you do not hear, because you are not of God.”

The New King James Version. (1982). (Jn 8:47). Nashville: Thomas Nelson.

pisteuōn

ΠΙΣΤΕΥΩΝ

believing

V-PPA-NMS2192

echei

ἔχει

has

V-PIA-3S2064

erchetai

ἔρχεται ,

comes

V-PIM/P-3S

metabebēken

μεταβέβηκεν

has passed

Perf.

metabainó: to pass over, withdraw, depart

Original Word: μεταβαίνω

Part of Speech: Verb

Transliteration: metabainó

Phonetic Spelling: (met-ab-ah'-ee-no)

Short Definition: I leave, depart, remove, pass over

Definition: I change my place (abode), leave, depart, remove, pass over.

But is passed from death unto life - Has “passed over” from a state of spiritual death to the life of the Christian. The word translated “is passed” would be better expressed by “has passed.” It implies that he has done it voluntarily; that none compelled him; and that the passage is made unto “everlasting” life. Because Christ is the author of this life in the soul, he is called the “Life” [John 1:4](#); and as he has “always” existed, and is the Source of “all life,” he is called the “eternal life,” [1 John 5:20](#).

Jn 8:51

Most assuredly, I say to you, if anyone keeps My word he shall never see death.”

Jn 12:44

44 Then Jesus cried out and said, “He who believes in Me, believes not in Me but in Him who sent Me.

Ro 8:1

There is therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus,

Jn 10:27–33

27 My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me.

28 And I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; neither shall anyone snatch them out of My hand.

29 My Father, who has given *them* to Me, is greater than all; and no one is able to snatch *them* out of My Father’s hand.

30 I and *My* Father are one.”

31 Then the Jews took up stones again to stone Him.

32 Jesus answered them, “Many good works I have shown you from My Father. For which of those works do you stone Me?”

33 The Jews answered Him, saying, “For a good work we do not stone You, but for blasphemy, and because You, being a Man, make Yourself God.”

George Bernard Shaw had it right when he observed, “The statistics on death are quite impressive: one out of one people die.” In light of the certainty of death, you would think that everyone would be very concerned to prepare for what lies beyond. And yet many push it out of their minds and focus on other things that really won’t matter on the day of death. The evangelist, George Whitefield, told of seeing some criminals riding in a cart on the way to the gallows. They were arguing about who should sit on the right side of the cart, with no more concern than children today arguing about who gets to sit in the front seat of the car.