

Series: John

Title: He That Heareth My Word

Text: John 5: 24

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John 5: 24: 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.

The great purpose for which God the Father sent his Son into this earth is to bring life to dead sinners. Christ said,

John 10: 10...I am come that they might have life, and that they might have *it* more abundantly.

That is the glorious purpose for which Christ came—"*I am come that they might have life.*" The Son of God came to give life to spiritually dead sinners. "*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.*"

About 4-5 years ago a man wrote me, using this verse to prove that man has a free will. He said what are you going to do with John 5:24? He said, "It says by a sinner hearing Christ's word and believing on Christ he passes from death to life. So by our will, receiving Christ, is how we are born-again." But Christ came to give dead sinners life.

Ephesians 2:1: And you *hath he quickened*, who were dead in trespasses and sins;

Ephesians 2:5 Even when we were dead in sins, *hath quickened us together with Christ*, (by grace ye are saved;)

John 10: 10...I am come that they might have life, and that they might have *it* more abundantly.

Proposition: Christ is declaring here that he is the Son of God, one with God the Father—equal with God the Father. So he declares that as the Father has power to give life to dead sinners, so he has power to give life to dead sinners.

John 5: 25 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. 26: For as the Father hath life in himself; so hath he given to the Son to have life in himself;

Christ is saying "I and my Father are one." The works the Father does the Son does and the works the Son does the Father does. Here he is saying God the Father and God the Son are one in sovereign power.

VERILY, VERILY

John 5: 24: Verily, verily, I say unto you,...

When our Lord says "*Verily, verily*" it means pay attention. Do not miss this. Hang on every word. This is sure and certain. He says, "*Verily, verily...*"

Then he says, "*I say unto you.*" This whole book is the inspired word of God. Every word is Christ's word for he is the Son of God, one with the Father and the Holy Spirit. So here he stands in human flesh and to make sure we get the solemn weight of this statement he says, "*Verily, verily, I say unto you....*" He attaches his very name and glory to this statement like he did in Isaiah,

Isaiah 25:8 He will swallow up death in victory; and the Lord GOD will wipe away tears from off all faces; and the rebuke of his people shall he take away from off all the earth: for the LORD hath spoken *it*.

In our text, the Lord Jesus says this is not a matter of speculation. This is truth declared by his own Authority as God in human flesh.

LIFE BY CHRIST'S WORD

John 5: 24: Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my word,...

Christ declares that it is by his word that life is given to dead sinners. Remember Samuel? When he was a boy in the temple with Eli, Samuel heard a voice, "Samuel." Samuel ran to Eli, "Here am I, you called me?" Eli, said, "I did not call you. Go back to bed." The second time Samuel did the same thing. Eli told him it is the Lord. The Lord called, "Samuel." Samuel answered, "Speak Lord, for thy servant heareth." That is what Paul declared to the Thessalonians concerning how they were born again.

1 Thessalonians 2: 13: For this cause also thank we God without ceasing, because, when ye received the word of God which ye heard of us, ye received *it* not *as* the word of men, but as it is in truth, the word of God, which effectually worketh also in you that believe.

The Lord Jesus said, "*Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my word.*" Christ is declaring life is given by his voice. This is why he came to this valley of dry bones. This is what Christ does when he sends his preacher with his word. The LORD took Ezekiel to the valley of dry bones, very dry. They were dead bones.

Ezekiel 37: 3: And he said unto me, Son of man, can these bones live? And I answered, O Lord GOD, thou knowest. 4: Again he said unto me, Prophecy upon these bones, and say unto them, O ye dry bones, hear the word of the LORD. 5: Thus saith the Lord GOD unto these bones; Behold, I will cause breath to enter into you, and ye shall live: 6: And I will lay sinews upon you, and will bring up flesh upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and ye shall live; and ye shall know that I *am* the LORD

This is what Christ declares in our text. God the Father has power to quicken the dead sinner to spiritual life, so Christ has the same power. It is by his word.

Ezekiel 37: 11: Then he said unto me, Son of man, these bones are the whole house of Israel: behold, they say, Our bones are dried, and our hope is lost: we are cut off for our parts. 12: Therefore prophecy and say unto them, Thus saith the Lord GOD; Behold, O my people, I will open your graves, and cause you to come up out of your graves, and bring you into the land of Israel. 13: And ye shall know that I *am* the LORD, when I have opened your graves, O my people, and brought you up out of your graves, 14: And

shall put my spirit in you, and ye shall live, and I shall place you in your own land: then shall ye know that I the LORD have spoken *it*, and performed *it*, saith the LORD.

Christ is declaring that he and his Father are one. **John 5: 25 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....28 Marvel not at this: for the hour is coming, in the which all that are in the graves shall hear his voice, 29 And shall come forth;**

But Christ makes his redeemed partake of the first resurrection first. The first resurrection is when Christ speaks into the sinner and raises us from spiritual death to spiritual life. He raises us out of the grave of spiritual death first. Then when he returns he shall raise us out of the grave of the earth. He that has part in the first resurrection, the second death has no power on him.

A sinner will only give God all the glory when Christ raises him by his voice in regeneration. A sinner will only give himself no credit when he has experienced the power Christ's voice quickening him to life. Only then will he not faint when tribulation and persecution comes because Christ continues to speak and quicken him all his days. Only then we renounce the dishonest ways of his own means and methods and speak the gospel and pray for the Spirit and wait on Christ to speak. It is because he knows he is but an earthen vessel and the excellency of the power is of God, not of us. That is a lesson we learn throughout the life of faith.

2 Corinthians 4: 1: Therefore seeing we have this ministry, as we have received mercy, we faint not; 2: But have renounced the hidden things of dishonesty, not walking in craftiness, nor handling the word of God deceitfully; but by manifestation of the truth commending ourselves to every man's conscience in the sight of God. 3: But if our gospel be hid, it is hid to them that are lost: 4: In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them. 5: For we preach not ourselves, but Christ Jesus the Lord; and ourselves your servants for Jesus' sake. 6: For God, who commanded the light to shine out of darkness, hath shined in our hearts, to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ. 7: But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellency of the power may be of God, and not of us.

FAITH WITH LIFE

John 5: 24: 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.

When Christ speaks the word, he not only gives life, but he also gives faith. Why did he say "*believeth on him that sent me?*" It is because he is declaring he and the Father are one. It is Christ's voice that speaks to his preacher and it is Christ we are to preach—Christ as the Son of God, one with the Father. Notice, the names given to Christ in Isaiah. We are only powerless, withered grass. Christ is God.

Isaiah 40: 6: The VOICE said, Cry. And he said, What shall I cry? All flesh *is* grass, and all the goodness thereof *is* as the flower of the field: 7: The grass withereth, the flower fadeth: because the spirit of the LORD bloweth upon it: surely the people *is* grass. 8: The grass withereth, the flower fadeth: but the word of our God shall stand for ever. 9:

O Zion, that bringest good tidings, get thee up into the high mountain; O Jerusalem, that bringest good tidings, lift up thy voice with strength; lift *it* up, be not afraid; say unto the cities of Judah, Behold YOUR GOD! 10 Behold, the LORD GOD will come with strong *hand*, and his arm shall rule for him: behold, his reward *is* with him, and his work before him. 11 He shall feed his flock like a SHEPHERD: he shall gather the lambs with his arm, and carry *them* in his bosom, *and* shall gently lead those that are with young.

So the Lord Jesus declares in our text that he and God the Father are one. Christ is God in human flesh proven by the fact that as God the Father quickens and gives faith so does Christ the Son.

John 5: 17:...My Father worketh hitherto, and I work....21: For as the Father raiseth up the dead, and quickeneth *them*; even so the Son quickeneth whom he will.... 23 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....25: 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. 26 For as the Father hath life in himself; so hath he given to the Son to have life in himself;

He that believes on the Son, believes on the Father that sent him. There is no way to honor the Father except through faith in the Son because “*I and my Father are one.*”

EVERLASTING LIFE

The GodMan says, “**and [he that] believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life.**” God makes us know we are justified, given eternal life, through faith in Christ. God the Father did this work in Christ his Son.

2 Corinthians 5: 18: And all things *are* of God, who hath reconciled us to himself by Jesus Christ, and hath given to us the ministry of reconciliation; 20: For God was in Christ reconciling the world unto himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them...21: For he hath made him *to be* sin FOR us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.

Acts 20: 28...the church of God, which he hath purchased with his own blood.

There is no way to believe on God the Father except by believing on the Son who the Father sent. Believing on Christ the Son is believing the Father who purposed salvation in and by his Son. Believing on the Son is believing on the Father who chose his Son and chose his people in his Son. Believing on the Son is believing on the Father who sent the Son and was in the Son and redeemed his people by his own blood.

Those who hear his Voice, who are made alive, believe on him that sent the Son and they “*have everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; [cometh not into the judgment] but is passed from death unto life.*” It is because Christ already bore the judgment for all who he calls to him—SUBSTITUTION!

Illustration: Horn

If you believe on the Father through faith in the Son, then Christ bore your judgment, died your death, robed you in his garments and gave you his name. He promises you “*have everlasting life and shall not come into condemnation; for I am passed from death to life.*”

That means through every stormy wind that blows—he shall never desert you to your foes—every stumble and every fall is to speak by his Voice to renew you in faith and grow you to know he alone is your Life!

John 6: 37: All that the Father giveth me shall come to me; and him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out. 38: For I came down from heaven, not to do mine own will, but the will of him that sent me. 39: And this is the Father’s will which hath sent me, that of all which he hath given me I should lose nothing, but should raise it up again at the last day. 40: And this is the will of him that sent me, that every one which seeth the Son, and believeth on him, may have everlasting life: and I will raise him up at the last day.

1 John 5: 10: 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. 11: And this is the record, that God hath given to us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. 12: He that hath the Son hath life; *and* he that hath not the Son of God hath not life.

Amen!