

“I Know You”
John 5:41-47

Introduction:

1. Please Turn In Your Bibles:
 - To John 5 - Where:
 - After Jesus Performed:
 - A Great Miracle Of Healing:
 - For A Man Who Was Disabled:
 - And Couldn't Walk:
 - For 38 Years!
 - He Gave An “Answer” To:
 - The Unspoken Objections:
 - Of The Jewish Leaders:
 - Because He Did That Miracle:
 - On A Sabbath Day!
2. And - Jesus' Answer:
 - Extends From 5:17 - All The Way:
 - To The End Of The Chapter - 5:47:
 - To Which We Will Come:
 - In Our Message This Morning!
 - But - Just To Review:
 - From 5:17-24:
 - Jesus Explains His:
 - Divine Authority:
 - To Work **When** He Did!
 - Even On A Sabbath Day!
 - Because His Work:
 - Was The Same As:
 - The Work Of God The Father!
 - Then - In 5:25-30:
 - Jesus Explains His:
 - Divine Ability:
 - To Work **How** He Did!
 - With Miraculous Power!
 - Because His Power:
 - Was The Same As:
 - The Power Of God The Father!
 - And Then - From 5:31-40:
 - Jesus Explains The:
 - Divine Affirmation:
 - Of Both His Ability & Authority!
 - Because - There Was Plenty Of Testimony:
 - To Back Up:
 - The Truth Of His Claims!
 - And - All They Had To Do Was:
 - Listen To Those Witnesses & Believe!
 - But - Instead:
 - Because Of Their Own Sin & Stubbornness:
 - They Would Not Come To Him:
 - As Jesus Said - In 5:40 - “That Ye Might Have Life!”
3. Well - All Of This:
 - Leads To:
 - The Final Section Of Jesus' Answer:
 - Which Goes From 5:41-47:
 - Where Jesus Gives His Own:
 - Divine Assessment:
 - Of Their Response To Him & His Claims!

- Let's Read These Verses Together:

- 5:41-47 - "I receive not honour from men. / But I know you, that ye have not the love of God in you. / I am come in my Father's name, and ye receive me not: if another shall come in his own name, him ye will receive. / How can ye believe, which receive honour one of another, and seek not the honour that cometh from God only? / Do not think that I will accuse you to the Father: there is one that accuseth you, even Moses, in whom ye trust. / For had ye believed Moses, ye would have believed me: for he wrote of me. / But if ye believe not his writings, how shall ye believe my words??"

4. In 5:41 - Jesus First Tells His Jewish Audience:

- "I Receive Not Honor From Men!"

- "Honor" Can Also Be Translated:

- "Glory" Or "Praise!"

- And - By This - He Meant That:

- He Didn't Do Any Of His Works:

- For The Applause Of Men!

- Instead - He Was Only There:

- For His Father's Glory & For Their Good!

- So - Jesus Did What He Did:

- Out Of Selfless Love!

- Love For God - And - Love For Them!

- And - The Appropriate Response:

- Would Have Been:

- For Them To Love & Glorify God:

- In Return!

- But Instead - Jesus Exposes Them:

- And Their True Hearts!

- So - In 5:42 - Jesus Says:

- "But I Know You!"

5. Jesus Knew:

- All About Them!

- He Knew What:

- Their Response To Him:

- Would Be! And:

- He Knew What:

- The Reasons For Their Response:

- Would Be!

- Back In 2:25 - We Were Already Told:

- That Jesus:

- "Knew What Was In Man!"

- Jesus Could Penetrate:

- The Deepest Recesses:

- Of Their Minds & Hearts:

- And Expose Them:

- For Who They Truly Were!

- Even As David Said Of The Lord:

- In Psalm 139:1-3 - "O LORD, thou hast searched me, and known me. / Thou knowest my

downsitting and mine uprising, thou understandest my thought afar off. / Thou compassest my path and my lying down, and art acquainted with all my ways!"

6. And - What Was True:

- For Jesus Then, About Them! Is True:

- For Jesus - Even Today:

- About You & About Me!

- He Knows You!

- And - There's Nothing:

- You Can Hide From Him!

- Because - Just Like He Said:

- To Those Religious Jews:

- He Knows All About:

- 1. **Your True Affections** - As Well!
 - Your True Affections!
 - As He Said In 5:42:
 - “But I know you, that ye have not the love of God in you!”
 - The Love That Jesus Had:
 - For God The Father:
 - Was Full & Fervent!
 - That Is Why He Sought After The Glory Of God:
 - And Not The Glory Of Man! (5:41)
 - “But” - He Knew Them!
 - That They Did Not Have Any True Love:
 - For God - Within Them!
 - They May Have Honored Him With Their Lips!
 - Even With Words Of Praise & Songs Of Love!
 - But - Jesus Knew Them!
 - And That Their:
 - Hearts Were Far From Him! (Mark 7:6)
 - He Knew That They Had:
 - A Lack Of Love For God!
 - So - In Spite Of How:
 - They Looked, Or Sounded, Or Even Felt:
 - As Jews:
 - They Really Didn’t:
 - Love God!
 - And - Jesus Knew This!
 - He Could See Right Through Them!
 - And Though Even Today:
 - Many Still Lack This Love:
 - For God - There Are Many More:
 - Who Have Experienced:
 - A Loss Of Love For God!
 - And Jesus Knows This:
 - About You As Well!
 - In Revelation 2:4 - Jesus Himself Said To The Church Of Ephesus:
 - “I have somewhat against thee, because thou hast left thy first love!”
 - Is This Something:
 - That Jesus Knows & Could Say About:
 - This Church?
 - Is This Something:
 - That Jesus Knows & Could Say About:
 - Your Heart?
 - As Jesus Said Then:
 - He Still Says Today:
 - “I Know You!”
 - He Knows Your True & Innermost:
 - Affections!
 - And - You Can’t Hide Them:
 - From Him!
 - Is There Something Or Someone In Your Life Today:
 - That You Love More Than Lord?
 - If So - Why? And:
 - What Is The Solution?
 - Well - We Will Get To The Solution:
 - In A Bit - But - As We Read From This Passage:
 - There Is Something Else:
 - That Jesus Knows:
 - About You! And That Is:

2.

Your True Allegiance!

- Your True Allegiance!

- Even As He Told Those Jews In 5:43:

- "I am come in my Father's name, and ye receive me not: if another shall come in his own name, him ye will receive!"

- Jesus Knows That:

- Who You Follow:

- Reveals Who You Love!

- And - The Jews Were Given:

- A Great Opportunity!

- The Had The Opportunity:

- Right Then & Right There:

- To Follow Jesus:

- Who Was:

- A Faithful Representative:

- Of God! After All - Jesus Came:

- "In His Father's Name!"

- This Meant That:

- Jesus Came Into This World:

- To Represent God The Father:

- To Them & To Us!

- **IE:** Like An Ambassador To Another Country! To Reveal The Will, Speak The Words, & Do The Works - Of The One Who Sent Him!

- This Is Why & How Jesus Came!

- Jesus Humbled Himself:

- So That He Might:

- Honor His Father!

- The Same Father:

- They Claimed:

- To Be Their God!

- But - How Did They Respond?

- "Ye Receive Me Not!"

- And - Instead - Jesus Knew:

- That They Would Follow:

- A Faithless Representative!

- Who Was Only Out:

- For His Own Glory:

- Instead Of God's!

- "In His Own Name!"

- And - This Faithless One:

- Would Come - Not To Serve:

- As Jesus Did - But:

- To Be Served! **IE:** Politicians!

- And - Sadly:

- Jesus Knew That:

- "Him Ye Will Receive!"

- And - As Jesus Said Then:

- He Still Says Today:

- "I Know You!"

- Not Only Does He Know:

- Your True Affections!

- He Also Knows:

- Your True Allegiance!

- And - You Can't Hide This:

- From Him Either!

- Who Or What Is It:

- That You Follow:

- Most In Your Life Today?

- **IE:** Shepherds - Only One - Faithful - Soul!
- Do You Follow:
 - The Word Of God Over:
 - The Words Of Man?
- Do You Follow:
 - The Will Of God Over:
 - The Will Of Society?
- If So - Why? And:
 - What Is The Real, Root Problem?
- Well - Jesus Will Get To The Heart Of The Problem:
 - In A Minute - But - As We Continue:
 - There Is Something More:
 - That Jesus Knows:
 - About You! And That Is:

3. *Your True Aspiration!*

- Your True Aspiration!
 - Even As The Jews Had - In 5:44 - When Jesus Said:
 - “How can ye believe, which receive honour one of another, and seek not the honour that cometh from God only?” - Or - “The Only God!”
 - Jesus Knew That:
 - The Biggest Obstacle:
 - To Their Belief In Him:
 - Was What They Sought After Most!
 - And - What Was That?
 - They Were Seeking After:
 - More Than Anything Else:
 - The Praise Of Men!
 - All They Were After:
 - Was “Honor” & “Praise” From:
 - Each Other!
 - Later - Jesus Would Say:
 - Even More Clearly:
 - In John 12:43 - That - “They loved the praise of men more than the praise of God!”
 - This Is A Common Problem:
 - For All Of Us!
 - Seeking After:
 - The Praise Of Men:
 - Even More Than:
 - The Praise Of God!
 - Their “Receiving” Of Man’s Praise:
 - Got In The Way Of Them:
 - “Seeking” After God’s Praise!
 - And Yet - Whose Praise Is Greater?
 - After All - There Is & Can Only Be:
 - One True God!
 - And - Whose Honor:
 - Will Last Longer?
 - In Romans 2:7 - Paul Tells Us That:
 - “To them who by patient continuance in well doing seek for glory and honour and immortality” - God Will Give Them:
 - “Eternal Life!”
 - Jesus Sure Knew Those Men:
 - He Was Speaking With In Jerusalem That Day!
 - But - He Knows You:
 - In The Same Way!
 - “I Know You” - He Says!
 - Not Only Does He Know:

- Your Affections & Your Allegiance:
 - He Also Knows:
 - Your True Aspiration!
- That Is - What You Are Seeking After:
 - Most In Your Life?
 - The Praise Of Man - Or:
 - The Praise Of God!
 - Sometimes - This Can Be:
 - A Very Subtle Thing:
 - Even In Our Lives As Christians!
- You Want To Do Your Best:
 - In Whatever Role Or Responsibility:
 - God Has Given You!
 - Whether It Is:
 - At Work / At Home!
 - But - Do You Do Your Best:
 - To Be Seen & Recognized:
 - My Others? Or:
 - For The Glory & Praise Of God?
 - **IE:** Actors - Stage - Applause!
 - The Praise Of Man:
 - Can Be Such A Distraction:
 - To Seeking After:
 - The Praise Of God!
- In Fact - This Kind Of Aspiration:
 - Can Be The Biggest Barrier:
 - To Your Belief:
 - In Christ!
 - Which Is Why Jesus Asked:
 - In 5:44 - "How Can You Believe?"

- * And - It Is This Main Problem - That Jesus Deals With In 5:44-47:
 - Which He Begins & Ends With The Same Question:
 - "How Can You Believe?"
 - You See - Only When You Get:
 - This Right - Your Belief Right:
 - Will You Ever Be Able To:
 - Love & Follow & Seek After God Right!
 - And So - Wants To Get You To Think About:

4. *Your True Assurance!*

- Your True Assurance!
 - In 5:45 - Jesus Tells The Jews:
 - That Its Not Just:
 - What He Knew About Them:
 - That Mattered!
 - Even Though Jesus Knew All About Them!
 - All About Their:
 - Affections & Allegiance & Aspirations!
 - It Was Also What:
 - Their Great Leader Moses:
 - Knew About Them & Even:
 - Wrote About Them!
 - Jesus Said:
 - "Do not think that I will accuse you to the Father: there is one that accuseth you, even Moses, in whom ye trust!" (Hope)
 - The Jews Believed:
 - That Moses Was:

- Their Biggest Advocate!
- As He Prayed For Israel:
 - On Earth - Many Believed:
 - He Still Prayed For Them:
 - In Heaven! So - In Moses Was Their Hope!
- But - Back In Deuteronomy 31:26:
 - Moses Told The Israelites To - "Take this book of the law, and put it in the side of the ark of the covenant of the LORD your God, that it may be there for a witness against thee!"
 - Moses Knew Them!
 - He Knew All About Their:
 - Disobedience & Unbelief!
 - And So - The Book He Wrote:
 - Was To Be A "Witness" Against Them!
 - And - Instead Of Their Advocate:
 - He Became Their Accuser!
- And - What Was True Then:
 - About Them:
 - Is Still True Today:
 - About Us!
- Moses Himself:
 - Reveals The Truth:
 - About You & About Me!
 - He Even "Accuses" Us Before God:
 - Through The Law That He Was Given & Wrote Down!
 - Even Through The Ten Commandments:
 - We Can See - If We Are Honest With Ourselves:
 - Just How "Short" We Have Come:
 - "Of The Glory Of God!" (Romans 3:23)
 - Jesus Doesn't Need To Accuse Us:
 - Because - We Have God's Own Word:
 - Recorded By Moses:
 - To Accuse Us:
 - Of Our Disobedience!
 - But Also:
- Moses Himself:
 - Reveals The Truth:
 - About Christ!
 - Because - As Jesus Said Next In 5:46:
 - "For had ye believed Moses, ye would have believed me: for he wrote of me!"
 - In So Many Places & In So Many Ways:
 - Moses Wrote About Jesus!
 - This Is Why - When Jesus Rose From The Dead & Met With Some Unsuspecting Disciples On The Road To Emmaus:
 - In Luke 24:27 - "And beginning at Moses and all the prophets, he expounded unto them in all the scriptures the things concerning himself!"
 - Moses Wrote About Jesus - As:
 - The Seed! The Star! The Scepter!
 - The Sheep! The Sacrifice! The Sin-Bearer!
 - And He Did So:
 - Through Prophecies & Pictures & Promises & Even Personal Presentations:
 - All Of Jesus Christ!
 - And - All Those Who Believed In:
 - Moses' Words Then:
 - At The Same Time:
 - Believed In The One Who:
 - Moses Wrote About:
 - And Were Saved By Grace Through Faith!
 - Faith - Not In Moses:

- But In “Me” - Jesus Said!
- And - This Is Still True!
 - How You Think About & Trust In:
 - The Scripture - Is How:
 - You Will Think About & Trust In:
 - Christ!
 - “The Testimonies Of Moses And Jesus Are So Closely Interrelated That To Believe One Is To Believe The Other; To Refuse One Is To Refuse The Other!” (F. F. Bruce)
 - And Yet - Jesus Still Asks:
 - 5:47 - “But if ye believe not his writings, how shall ye believe my words?”

Conclusion:

1. One Of The Things That:
 - We Discover In The Gospel Of John:
 - Is That - Jesus Wants You:
 - To Believe In Him!
 - He Does Everything He Can:
 - To Convince You Of:
 - His Authority!
 - His Ability! And:
 - His Affirmation:
 - By Many Witnesses!
 - But - What Would His:
 - Assessment Be Of You:
 - Today?
2. Remember:
 - Jesus Knows All About You!
 - Just As He Said To Them:
 - He Says To You:
 - “I Know You!” And:
 - He Knows About:
 - Your True Affections:
 - And Love For God!
 - He Knows About:
 - Your True Allegiance:
 - And Who It Is You Are Following!
 - He Knows About:
 - Your True Aspiration:
 - And What You Are Seeking After:
 - Most In Life:
 - The Praise Of Men Or God!
3. But - He Also Knows:
 - That The Only Solution:
 - To Remedy What Is Lacking:
 - In Your Heart & Life:
 - Is Faith & Belief:
 - In Him!
 - This Is Where It Starts!
 - Only When You Believe - And:
 - Only When Your Assurance Grows:
 - Will You Be Able To:
 - Love & Follow & Seek After:
 - The Lord As You Ought To!
4. Be Honest With Yourself This Morning!
 - How Is Your:
 - Love For The Lord? (Affection)
 - Has It Grown Cold?
 - Who Are You:

- Following Most:
 - In Your Life? (Allegiance)
 - What Are You:
 - Seeking Most?
 - Praise Of Men Or God? (Aspiration)
 - If You Are Lacking:
 - In Any Of These Ways:
 - Pray & Ask The Lord:
 - Even As His Disciples Did:
 - In Luke 17:5 - "Lord, Increase My Faith!"
5. Because - Only When Your Faith & Confidence:
 - In Christ Grows - Will:
 - Your Affection For Him!
 - Your Allegiance To Him! And:
 - Your Aspiration Of Him:
 - Grow As Well!
 - Remember:
 - Jesus Knows:
 - All About You!
 - He Knows All About:
 - Your Infirmities! And:
 - He Knows All About:
 - Your Solution!
 - Belief In Him!

Grace Baptist Church
Stephen Elmer, Pastor
4245 North 200 West
Greenfield, Indiana 46140
317-326-2362
www.sermonaudio.com/wordofgrace
www.growatgrace.org
pastor-elmer@hotmail.com