

John 5:18-23

Jesus & the Father

1) Jesus' Response to Charge of Sabbath-Breaking – v. 16-17

2) The Son Only Acts in Accord with the Father – v. 19

3) The Father Loves the Son – v. 20

a) The Logic is Tight

b) The Father's Love

1. Source of Salvation

2. Not a Response

3. The Relational Flow

Chalcedonian Creed (451AD):

We, then, following the holy fathers, all with one consent teach men to confess one and the same Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, the same perfect in Godhead and also perfect in manhood; truly God and truly man, of a rational soul and body; of one substance with the Father as regards the Godhead, and one substance with us as regards manhood...

John 5:18-23

4) God's Three Persons Act Collectively – v. 21

a) Not a Statement of Independence

b) Jesus is not a Delegate

5) God's Three Persons Act Distinctly – v. 22

6) Purpose: Equal Honor to All Three Persons – v. 23

Praxis

1. How might our thoughts & expressions of worship reflect the truth that the Father, Son, Holy Spirit are all equally the one God, and all that is done by any one of them is a reflection of their single will?
2. Read through John 5:19-23... Which false religions / beliefs about God do these statements cut off (i.e., show that these beliefs contradict the Bible)?
3. How does John 5:23-24 along with Acts 4:12 bear on the question of the possible salvation of a present-day "god-fearing" person who has never heard of Jesus? How does Rom 10:10-17 further direct us in response?