

The Son of God

In This Series...

1. We will learn that Jesus makes some amazing claims about Himself. (*Son of God, Messiah, Prophet, Son of Man, Bread of Life*)
2. We know that MANY people say, “Jesus never claimed to be . . .” and yet, these claims were the reason that He was killed!

“We are not stoning you for any of these,” replied the Jews, “but for blasphemy, because you, a mere man, claim to be God.” - John 10:33

The Sabbath Challenge

“So, because Jesus was doing these things on the Sabbath, the Jews persecuted Him. ¹⁷Jesus said to them, “My Father is always at His work to this very day, and I, too, am working.” ¹⁸For this reason the Jews tried all the harder to kill Him; not only was He breaking the Sabbath, but He was even calling God His own Father, making Himself equal with God.” - John 5:16-18

Jesus healed on the Sabbath day for two reasons:

- To antagonize the Jews and begin the persecution.
- To confront the Jews concerning their legalism.

There are seven Sabbath miracles recorded in the Gospels. Jesus used these to confront those who were rigid about mankind’s laws.

“Another time He went into the synagogue, and a man with a shriveled hand was there. ²Some of them were looking for a reason to accuse Jesus, so they watched Him closely to see if He would heal him on the Sabbath. ³Jesus said to the man with the shriveled hand, “Stand up in front of everyone.” - Mark 3:1-3

The Priority: Sabbath was made for man, not man for the Sabbath.

“Then He said to them, “The Sabbath was made for man, not man for the Sabbath. ²⁸So the Son of Man is Lord even of the Sabbath.” - Mark 2:27,28

Jesus declared that His Father (God) never takes a Sabbath, and so neither will He.

This statement infuriated the Jews who understood that Jesus was declaring that He was the Son of God and equal with God. They concluded that the only option was to kill Him.

The Son Is Equal to the Father (God)

“Jesus gave them this answer: “I tell you the truth, the Son can do nothing by Himself; He can do only what He sees His Father doing, because whatever the Father does the Son also does. ²⁰For the Father loves the Son and shows Him all He does. Yes, to your amazement He will show Him even greater things than these. ²¹For just as the Father raises the dead and gives them life, even so the Son gives life to whom He is pleased to give it. ²²Moreover, the Father judges no one, but has entrusted all judgment to the Son, ²³that all may honour the Son just as they honour the Father. He who does not honour the Son does not honour the Father, who sent Him.” - John 5:19-23

- In His **person** (substance): The Son is equal with the Father.
- In His **partnership**: The Son sees and does what the Father does (because of the Father’s love).
- In His **power**: The Son gives life as the Father gives life.
- In His **perception**: The Son is the judge of mankind as entrusted by the Father.
- In His **praise**: The Son deserves the same honour as the Father. If you don’t honour the Son, you can’t honour the Father.

Did the people of Jesus’ day understand what He was saying?

“The Jews insisted, “We have a law, and according to that law He must die, because He claimed to be the Son of God.” - John 19:7

“...and saying, “You who are going to destroy the temple and build it in three days, save yourself! Come down from the cross, if you are the Son of God!” - Matthew 27:40

The Salvation Provided through Christ

“I tell you the truth, whoever hears my word and believes Him who sent me has eternal life and will not be condemned; he has crossed over from death to life. ²⁵I tell you the truth, a time is coming and has now come when the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God and those who hear will live. ²⁶For as the Father has life in Himself, so He has granted the Son to have life in Himself. ²⁷And He has given Him authority to judge because He is the Son of Man. ²⁸“Do not be amazed at this, for a time is coming when all who are in their graves will hear His voice ²⁹and come out — those who have done good will rise to live, and those who have done evil will rise to be condemned. ³⁰By myself I can do nothing; I judge only as I hear, and my judgment is just, for I seek not to please myself but Him who sent me.” - John 5:24-30

“I tell you the truth...” (“Verily, verily,” or literally, “Amen, amen.”)

This is a statement of truth (foundational truth)!

Jesus declared that He is the avenue to eternal life.

- If we hear (obey) His word and believe in His Father, then we have already crossed over from death to life.
- God is life in Himself and He has granted this same power to the Son (self-existence).

The time had come for the *spiritually* dead to hear and live.

The time is coming for the *physically* dead to rise. Some will rise to live and others to be condemned.

Jesus concludes by repeating the words of verse 19 and stating that the Father and the Son are together!

The Verdict

Jesus’ claims are amazing! You can ignore or believe them, but you cannot say that they are not found in the Scriptures!

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