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## The Sermons of Jesus Christ: The Source of Life Sermon

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# THE SERMONS OF JESUS

## THE SOURCE OF LIFE SERMON (John 5:12-47)

*“For as the Father hath life in himself; so hath he given to the Son to have life in himself” (Jn. 5:26).*

- **The oneness enjoyed by Christ:**

- A. His equality with the Father— *“Therefore the Jews sought the more to kill him, because he not only had broken the Sabbath, but said also that God was his Father, making himself equal with God” (Jn. 5:18).*

Humanly speaking, the reason the Jewish religious leaders attempted to kill Christ was not because he claimed to be the Messiah, but because He made Himself equal with God. This same incident occurred at a later date.

*“The Jews answered him, saying, For a good work we stone thee not; but for blasphemy; and because that thou, being a man, makest thyself God” (Jn. 10:33).*

- B. His dependence upon the Father— *“Then answered Jesus and said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, The Son can do nothing of himself, but what he seeth the Father do: for what things soever he doeth, these also doeth the Son likewise” (Jn. 5:19).*

This verse is associated closely with one found in the epistles in which Paul writes concerning Christ: *“But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men” (Phil. 2:7).* The *“made himself of no reputation”* is a translation of the Greek work *kenos*, which means *“to make empty.”*

**Question:** Of what did Christ empty Himself?

**Answer:** He did not give up (empty) His divine attributes (His omnipotence, omniscience, etc.) when coming to earth: but He did agree not to use them, depending totally upon the Father and the Holy Spirit.

- C. His responsibilities from the Father

1. Concerning future resurrection— *“For as the Father raiseth up the dead, and quickeneth them; even so the Son quickeneth whom he will” (Jn. 5:21).*
2. Concerning future judgment— *“For the Father judgeth no man, but hath committed all judgment unto the Son” (Jn. 5:22).*

Jesus later referred again to this profound truth, as does the Apostle Paul:

*“When the Son of man shall come in his glory, and all the holy angels with him, then shall he sit upon the throne of his glory: and before him shall be gathered all nations: and he shall separate them one from another as a shepherd divideth his sheep from the goats” (Mt. 25:31-32).*

*“And the times of this ignorance God winked at; but now commandeth all men every where to repent: because he hath appointed a day, in the which he will judge the world in righteousness by that man whom he hath ordained; whereof he hath given assurance unto all men, in that he hath raised him from the dead” (Acts 17:30-31).*

D. His esteem by the Father

1. He is loved — *“For the Father loveth the Son, and sheweth him all things that himself doeth: and he will shew him greater works than these, that ye may marvel” (Jn. 5:20).*
2. He is honored — *“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” (Jn. 5:23).*

E. His submission to the Father — *“I can of mine own self do nothing: as I hear, I judge; and my judgment is just; because I seek not mine own will, but the will of the Father which hath sent me” (Jn. 5:30).*

F. His authority from the Father — *“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” (Jn. 5:43).*

They will, indeed, and the one they receive will be the antichrist.

*“And all that dwell upon the earth shall worship him, whose names are not written in the book of life of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world” (Rev. 13:8).*

• **The two resurrections accomplished by Christ**

A. The resurrection of the saved

1. Present-day spiritual resurrection — *“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” (Jn. 5:24).*
2. Future-day physical resurrection — *“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 ... Marvel not at this: for the hour is coming in the which all that are in the graves shall hear his voice” (Jn. 5:25, 28).*

*“And shall come forth; they that have done good, unto the resurrection of life” (Jn. 5:29a).*

B. The resurrection of the unsaved — *“And hath given him authority to execute judgment also, because he is the Son of man” (Jn. 5:27).*

*“And they that have done evil, unto the resurrection of damnation” (Jn. 5:29b).*

This two-fold resurrection seems to refer to those occurring just prior to and following the Millennium, as described by both Daniel the prophet and John the

apostle.

*“And many of them that sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt” (Dan. 12:2).*

*“And I saw thrones, and they sat upon them, and judgment was given unto them: and I saw the souls of them that were beheaded for the witness of Jesus, and for the word of God, and which had not worshipped the beast, neither his image, neither had received his mark upon their foreheads, or in their hands; and they lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years. But the rest of the dead lived not again until the thousand years were finished. This is the first resurrection” (Rev. 20:4-5).*

- **The four witnesses concerning Christ**

- A. Witnessed to by John the Baptist (John 5:33-35)— *“Ye sent unto John, and he bare witness unto the truth” (John 5:33).*
- B. Witnessed to by His own works— *“But I have greater witness than that of John: for the works which the Father hath given me to finish, the same works that I do, bear witness of me, that the Father hath sent me” (John 5:36).*
- C. Witnessed to by the Father— *“And the Father himself, which hath sent me, hath borne witness of me. Ye have neither heard his voice at any time, nor seen his shape. And ye have not his word abiding in you: for whom he hath sent, him ye believe not” (John 5:37-38).*
- D. Witnessed to by the Scriptures (John 5:39-47)— *“Search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of me ... 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?” (John 5:39, 45-47).*

Where and when did Moses (author of the first five Old Testament books) refer to Christ?

He wrote of Him as follows:

The Seed of the woman (Gen. 3:15)

The giver of peace (Gen. 49:10)

The Passover Lamb (Exod. 12:3-13)

The slaughtered goat and the scapegoat (Lev. 16:7-10)

The red heifer (Num. 19:2)

The brazen serpent (Num. 21:8-9)

The great Prophet of God (Deut. 18:15)

The Angel of the Lord— as appearing to:

Hagar (Gen. 16:7)

Abraham (Gen. 22:11-18)

Jacob (Gen. 48:16)

Moses (Exod. 3:2)