

God accepts those who accepts His Son
Scripture : John 5:16-23

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I. Introduction

- a) Last week we looked at Jesus visit to the pool of Bethesda, and how he miraculously heeled a man who had been crippled for 38 years. You would think that this story would have had a happy ending and Jesus would have become everyone's hero for what he had done! And yet this was the furthest thing from the truth. Jesus did not become everyone's hero, he instead found himself on Israel's' most wanted list. The moment Jesus gives the paralytic what he wants, he becomes wanted by everyone; however, the people that wanted Jesus most, did not want what Jesus could do for them through faith, they wanted to get rid of Jesus (John 5: 16).
- b) his response to Jesus simply because he has changed and transformed this individuals life , has been the typical response to Jesus throughout the history of the Christian faith. People either rejoice and praise God for what Jesus does, or reject Jesus and try to get rid of him. Either way Jesus become a wanted man.
- c) It is the idea that inspires the big question, why should we want Jesus?

II. Topic: God Accepts those who Accept His Son

1. Verses 16-17: The Jews Persecuted Jesus for Healing the Invalid man.

Jesus says, my work is hitherto, and I also work. It is as though he said; though my Father rested on the seventh day from his work of creation, he has never rested for a moment from his providential govt. of the world, and from his merciful work of supplying the daily needs of all his creatures. Was he to rest from such work? The whole frame of nature would stand still. And I also work: works of mercy on the Sabbath Day. I do not break the 4th commandment when I heal the sick, any more than my Father breaks it when He causes the sun to rise and the grass to grow on the Sabbath. Even still , the Lord supports the 4th commandment.

2. **Verse 18**. The Jews Tried Even Harder to Kill Jesus!

Jesus definitely challenged the legalistic traditions of the Scribes and Pharisees . They had transform the Sabbath, which God had given to man as a gift, into a prison house of regulations and restrictions. As we said before, the Sabbath was made for man, not man for the Sabbath.

3. **Verse 19**: Jesus Does Only What His Father Does.

Jesus defends his action by pointing out that he is only imitating his Father. Jesus states that Gods creative sustaining work upon which the world depend, has never ceased, nor will it. The Jews immediately new what he was saying. Jesus was saying , he was equal with God. The religious leaders changed their charge against Jesus from breaking the Sabbath to blasphemy, because Jesus claimed to be God.

4. **Verse 20**: The Father Loves His Son!

Jesus will continue to pray and walk with the Father. Jesus is still early in the his ministry. Jesus has already changed water to wine at the wedding and healed the man at the pool of Bethesda. Jesus continue to perform many healings and miracles in his ministry even the resurrection.

5. **Verse 21**: The Son Gives Life to Whom He Chooses!

He asserts in the next place, his own divine power to give life to whom he will. Life is the highest and greatest gift that can be bestowed. It is precisely that thing that man, with all his cleverness, can neither give to the work of his hands, nor restore when taken away, but life we are told, is in the hands of the Lord Jesus, to bestow and give at his discretion. Dead bodies and dead souls are both alike under his dominion. He has the keys of death and hell. In him is life. He is the life (John 1:4, rev. 1:18).

6. **Verses 22-23**: The Father Entrusted His Son to Judge.

He asserts, in the last place, his own authority to judge the world. The Father we are told, has committed to Christ's hands. He is the King and judge of

mankind. Before him every tongue shall confess that he is Lord. He that was once despised and rejected of man, condemned and crucified as a malefactor shall one day hold a great judgement, and judge all the world. God shall judge the secrets of man by Jesus Christ (Romans 2:16). God entrusted all things to His Son; **God did so that all may honor the Son just as they honor the Him.**

- **He who does not honor the Son, does not honor the Father who sent him.**
- **God Accepts Only those Who Accept His Son.**