



Who is Jesus? The Gospel of John – Week 14

Preacher – Sandy Mason | Text – John 5:30-47

Summary:

In this section John records the continuation of Jesus' sermon from last week, as Jesus gives evidence that the claims he makes concerning himself and his mission are true. He speaks of John the Baptist's witness to the truth of Jesus' message, the witness of the works he did - the witness of the Father himself, and the witness of the Scriptures concerning Jesus. Jesus rests his claims concerning himself not on his own testimony, but on the strength of unassailable witnesses, revealing a strength and certainty that proved a real challenge for those who opposed him.

Discussion:

1. What was the most important take-away for you from this week's message?
2. Verse 30 provides a transition from last week's passage. As a recap or summary of the preceding passage, what does v. 30 say about Jesus' relationship with the Father, and the impetus behind his ministry?
3. **Application:** Jesus made it clear that his one and only desire was to do his Father's will. Do you have this same desire? If an outsider were to look at all areas of your life (calendar, bank statements, internet/TV/reading habits, etc.), would they agree?

4. Jesus, as the God-man, was in a good position to bring testimony about himself – yet in v. 31 he refuses to rely on self-testimony. Why is this? How might this help those who were struggling with unbelief?

5. Jesus points to the witness of John the Baptist (v. 32-35). What was John’s testimony about Jesus, and why was it so powerful (review 1:19-34 and 3:22-30)?

6. Even greater than John’s testimony was the testimony of the Father, given through the works that he gave for Jesus to do (vv. 36-38). How did Jesus’ works bear witness to the truth of his claims? **Application:** What causes us to disbelieve Jesus even in the face of overwhelming evidence? How do you see unbelief surfacing in your own life, and how can you fight against it?

7. How do the “Scriptures” (the Old Testament) bear witness to Jesus (v. 39)?

8. Why did the people resist Jesus, or refuse to receive him (vv. 39-44)? What does v. 44 say about what makes us unable to receive Jesus? **Application:** What does it mean to ‘receive glory from one another’ instead of seeking glory from God? What does it look like in your life?

9. Why were the people especially guilty for rejecting Jesus (vv. 45-47)? What advantage did they have that they completely disregarded? **Application:** What advantage do **we** have, even more than those 1st century Jews, and how much more are we responsible for rejecting or accepting the claims of Jesus?

10. How would you ‘title’ this section? In other words, how would you restate the main purpose John had (as the author) in writing this passage?