

Valley Bible Church – Sermon Notes

Sermon Notes for August 14-15, 2004

"Christ's Equality with God"

John 5:19-24

In John 5:19-47 we see Jesus giving a very thorough defense against the charges brought against Him in a courtroom.

What are the three basic elements of Christ's defense in John 5:19-47?

The first basic element of Christ's defense was a description of His relationship to His Father (John 5:19-24).

He supports His claim that He is equal with God in three different ways in John 5:19-24.

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Christ first of all supports His claim that He was equal with God by inferring that He and God possessed the same nature (John 5:19).

When Christ speaks of seeing the Father, He is not talking about supernatural eyesight, but rather He is talking about supernatural insight; the ability to see God working (1 Corinthians 3:11).

The only way that Christ could have had the ability to see what His Father was doing or in other words to see His eternal plan was if He Himself was God, or in other words God the Son.

Since Jesus was the Son of God, or in other words God the Son, He knew as a good son that He could not do anything independent from His Father's will.

Christ secondly supports His claim that He was equal with God by telling the Jews that He does works that are associated with God alone (John 5:20-22).

Because God loved His Son, He revealed to His Son every detail of His eternal plan. He revealed to His Son every detail of what He was doing.

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The first work that Jesus presents to support His claim that He is equal with God is His role in giving life (John 5:21).

The second greater work that Jesus presents to support His claim that He is equal with God is His role in exercising judgment (John 5:22).

Christ has been entrusted with the office of judge but this does not mean that Jesus will exercise judgment independent of the Father. He can do nothing of Himself.

Christ thirdly supports His claim that He was equal with God by telling the Jews that He deserves the same honor as His Father (John 5:23-24).

Since there is a solidarity and unity between the Father and the Son, both as to their nature and their works, they must be accorded the same honor.

Are you presently honoring Christ?