

Valley Bible Church – Sermon Notes

Sermon Notes for August 21-22, 2004

"The Voice of Christ"

John 5:25-29

The first reference to the voice of Christ can be found in John 5:25-27.

John 5:25 speaks about Christ giving life to the dead.

"An hour is coming" based on John 5:28-29 certainly points to a future physical resurrection, but the phrase "and now is" points to a present dimension of that future reality.

The present dimension of a future physical resurrection is experienced when Christ gives life to those who are spiritually dead (Ephesians 2:4-6).

When Christ spoke about giving life in John 5:25, He was primarily, but not exclusively, talking about spiritual life.

When Jesus said that the Father has life in Himself, He meant that His Father has always been and always will be the source of all that is alive both physically and spiritually.

God the Father gave to His Son "life in Himself" in the beginning. This means that Christ, like His Father, has always been and always will be the source of all that is alive (John 1:1-4).

When it says that the Father has given all judgment to the Son, it is referring to the final judgment. No one but Christ will decide the eternal destiny of those who come before Him (John 5:27).

Son of Man is Christ's racial name, as the representative Man, in the sense of 1 Corinthians 15:45-47, as Son of David is His distinctively Jewish name.

The second reference to the voice of Christ can be found in John 5:28-29.

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The reference to the voice of Christ in John 5:25-27 results in people being spiritually resurrected and the voice of Christ in John 5:28-29 results in people being physically resurrected.

The judgment that follows this future and final resurrection is based on deeds. It is based on deeds because our deeds bear witness to our faith or lack of faith in Christ.

Will Christ, by the way we are living our mission, call us forth to a resurrection of life or will He call us forth to a resurrection of judgment?