

It is important to ensure fellowship with God before the study of the Word.
If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness (**1 John 1:9**).

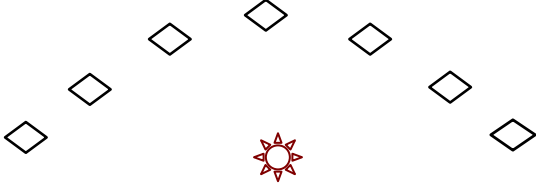
Standing on the Promises of God -

Philippians 4:6 (NET BIBLE)

Do not be anxious about anything. Instead, in every situation, through prayer and petition with thanksgiving, tell your requests to God.

Passage – John 5:25-47

Jesus Christ is now answering charges being leveled at Him by the Pharisees and scribes for Sabbath breaking and the blasphemy of claiming to be equal with God the Father.



Righteousness - -> Works + Heritage

- What this religious crowd believes:**
1. They are righteous based on their **works** and physical **heritage** (as descendents of Abraham).
 2. Father - God has authority over life and death.
 3. As such, He is the creator and sustainer of life.
 4. Father has authority to judge all men.
 5. Father would resurrect the righteous to eternal life (and, in their eyes, that resurrection was based on point #1 – works righteousness and heritage).

25 “Truly, truly, I say to you, an hour is coming and now is, when the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God, and those who hear will live.

- He is going to raise people from the dead in the near future as a demonstration of His divine authority over the realms of life and death.
 - ✓ Matthew 9:23-26
 - ✓ Luke 7:11-17 (see notes from last class)
 - ✓ John 11:14, 38-46

26 “For just as the Father has life in Himself, even so He gave to the Son also to have life in Himself;
Jesus Christ is claiming coequality with God the Father.

²⁷ and He gave Him authority to execute judgment, because He is *the Son of Man*.

Son of Man

1. The title was one ascribed to the prophet (Ezekiel 2:1; 36:1; Daniel 8:17).
2. The title emphasizes the genuine humanity of the person to which it is ascribed (Ezek 40:4; Psalm 144:3; Dan. 7:13).
3. Jesus Christ referred to Himself as the Son of Man (Matt 8:20; 20:28).
4. Therefore, the term signified that Jesus Christ was God's appointed representative for man.
5. (*NEW*) As such, He will judge all men (John 5:30; Revelation 19:11).
 - ✓ Believers at the Judgment Seat of Christ or the BEMA (2 Corinthians 5:10)
 - ✓ Unbelievers at the Great White Throne (Revelation 20:11-15)

Going to church
Giving money to a church
Donating to charity
Refraining from committing a mortal sin
Treating your fellow man kindly
Obeying the 10 Commandments
Being baptized or christened
Doing more good deeds than bad
Living a good life
Obeying the Golden Rule

No matter how noble these deeds are, they are not capable of getting the unbeliever into heaven.

All these things are filthy rags in the sight of God - Isaiah 64:6

He saved us, not on the basis of deeds which we have done in righteousness, but according to His mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewing *by means of God the Holy Spirit*, **Titus 3:5**
For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God; not as a result of works, so that no one may boast. **Ephesians 2:8-9**

John 5 -

- ²⁸ "Do not marvel at this; for an hour is coming, in which all who are in the tombs will hear **His** voice,
²⁹ and will come forth; those who did the good *deeds* to a resurrection of life, those who committed the evil *deeds* to a resurrection of judgment.
³⁰ "I can do nothing on My own initiative. As I hear, I judge; and My judgment is just, because I do not seek My own will, but the will of Him who sent Me.

"I do not seek My own will, but the will of Him who sent Me."

End of His personal defense

Beginning the testimony of others -

- ³¹ **"If I alone testify about Myself, My testimony is not true.**

According to the Law, there has to be two or more witnesses, so He offers four additional witnesses as testimony that He is not a blasphemer.

The testimony of others vv. 32-47:

- A. **John the Herald's testimony vv. 32-35**
- B. **The works of Christ vs. 36**
- C. **The Father's testimony vv. 37-38**
- D. **The Scripture's testimony vv. 38-47**
- E. **The testimony of Moses . . . (the Law)**

A. John the Herald's witness vv. 32-35 -

32 "There is another who testifies of Me, and I know that the testimony which He gives about Me is true.

- ✓ John's testimony was that Jesus was the Son of God – "I myself have seen, and have testified that this is the Son of God." **John 1:34**

33 "You have sent to John, and he has testified to the truth.

Compare John 1:19 with 1:24 - - The Pharisees sent Priests & Levites to John.

John 1:19 This is the testimony of John, when the **Jews** sent to him priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, "Who are you?"

"**Jews**" were the self-righteous religious crowd!

John 1:24 Now they had been sent from the Pharisees.

And what was John's testimony?

John 1:23 He said, "I am A VOICE OF ONE CRYING IN THE WILDERNESS, 'MAKE STRAIGHT THE WAY OF THE LORD,' as **Isaiah** the prophet said." (note **Isaiah 40:3ff**)

34 "But the testimony which I receive is not from man, but I say these things **so that you may be saved.**

35 "He was the lamp that was burning and was shining and you were willing to rejoice for a while in his light.



B. The Lord's own works as a demonstration of His divine authority vs. 36 -

36 "But the testimony which I have is greater than *the testimony of John*; for the works which the Father has given Me to accomplish—the very works that I do—testify about Me, that the Father has sent Me.

➤ **What were the works that He was doing?**

- ✓ Teaching and proclaiming with authority that the Kingdom of God was on the brink of being established.

Matthew 4:23 Jesus was going throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom,

Mark 1:15 and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; **repent** and **believe** in the gospel."

The believer priest has the responsibility of offering intercessory prayer for the unbeliever!

- ✓ "and healing every kind of disease and every kind of sickness among the people."
- ✓ This was evidence.
 - Showing mercy as a merciful God
 - Bestowing His unmerited favor upon the people as a gracious God

C. God the Father's testimony at His baptism vv. 37-38

37 "And the Father who sent Me, He has testified of Me . . .

✓ Remember the Lord's baptism - "This is My beloved Son in whom I am well-pleased" **Matt 3:17**

. . . You have neither heard His voice at any time nor seen His form.

38 "You do not have His word abiding in you, for you do not believe Him whom He sent.

D. The witness or testimony of the Scriptures vv. 39ff - (specifically, the Prophets)

39 "You search the Scriptures because you think that in them you have eternal life; it is these that testify about Me;

Acts 10:43 "Of Him all the prophets bear witness that through His name everyone who believes in Him receives forgiveness of sins."

Isaiah 53 - note this passage

40 and you are unwilling to come to Me so that you may have life.

John 14:6 "Jesus said to him, 'I am **the way**, and **the truth**, and **the life**; no one comes to the Father but through Me.

The issue is *what do you think about Christ?*

41 I do not receive glory from men;

42 but I know you, that you do not have the love of God in yourselves.

43 'I have come in My Father's name, and you do not receive Me; if another comes in his own name, you will receive him.

44 'How can you believe, when you receive glory from one another and you do not seek the glory that is from the *one and only* God?

The religious crowd seeks the glory of each other – not the glory of the Lord.

45 'Do not think that I will accuse you before the Father; the one who accuses you is Moses, in whom you have set your hope.

46 'For if you believed Moses, you would believe Me, for he wrote about Me.


47 'But if you do not believe his writings, how will you believe My words?"

➤ There is nothing they could do with this defense.

✓ As undiminished deity, He is the Eternal Son of God, coequal with the Father.

✓ As true humanity, He is the Son of Man and the Father has given all authority and power to the Son.

✓ He does not act on His own initiative, but on the initiative of the Father.

✓ He's going to prove it. 

John 5:25 "... an hour is coming and now is, when the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God, and those who hear will live."

After this the Lord and His disciples returned to Galilee while the religious crowd flanked Him in hot pursuit to catch Him breaking the Sabbath -

Matthew 12:1

¹ At that time Jesus went through the grainfields on the Sabbath, and His disciples became hungry and began to pick the heads of *grain* and eat. ² But when the Pharisees saw *this*, they said to Him, "Look, Your disciples do what is not lawful to do on a Sabbath."

In fact, it was lawful - **Deuteronomy 23:24-25**

For a person who was traveling. . .

24 “When you enter your neighbor’s vineyard, then you may eat grapes until you are fully satisfied (*according to the satisfaction of your soul*), but you shall not put any in your basket.

25 “When you enter your neighbor’s standing grain, then you may pluck the heads with your hand, but you shall not wield a sickle in your neighbor’s standing grain.

So, were the disciples violating the Law on the Sabbath? **No!**

POD - Arrogance blinds people to the liberty of the spiritual life.

POD - Arrogance prevents people from making correct applications.

Psalms 26:2

Examine me, O LORD, and try me; test my mind and my heart.

How willing are you?

All Scriptures quoted are from New American Standard unless otherwise noted.