



Judging Christianity

JOHN 5:18-47

"Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life. He does not come into judgment, but has passed from death to life." (John 5:24, ESV)

Introduction

In this text, Jesus stands as the accused in court. But, in his response, the tables are turned on his accusers. He demonstrates that he is equal with the Father, the Source of Life, and the ultimate Judge. His "witnesses" testify to his identity while also exposing their unbelief. The lesson is clear: the only proper response is not to stand in judgment of Jesus, but to surrender our lives to him.

Review the Sermon

Read John 5:18-47.

What had Jesus done that motivated his accusers to confront him? What did their complaints reveal about their hearts?

What is the difference between standing in judgment of God and lamenting to God?

How does this "trial" ultimately turn around on Jesus' accusers? What is exposed in them?

Assess your Life

How have you approached God's Word with an openness to be corrected rather than a determination to critique what it teaches?



How have you allowed past hurts to impact the way you receive present truth from God's Word?

In the challenging seasons of life, how have you struggled to lament rather than accuse God of being wrong?

Apply the Truth

What is one area of your life you need to surrender to God's authority rather than doing things your own way?

How can you respond to God more effectively when you don't understand what he's doing?

How should Jesus' authority over life, death, and final judgment change the way you live today? How should it shape your attitude toward him?

Commit this Week

This week, I will examine my heart for any hidden bitterness toward God, and I will surrender to his perfect will.

"For as the Father raises the dead and gives them life, so also the Son gives life to whom he will." (John 5:21, ESV)