

New Testament Church
The Book of John #10 – John 5:17-47 – We Work as He Works
March 8, 2026 - Pastor Paul Jehle

I The Gospel of John - Why expository preaching and why the Book of John at this time?

- A. Expository preaching brings depth, continuity and helps a congregation study together
 - 1. John reveals Christ as God – (eagle) - “behold your God” (Is. 40:9)
 - 2. The gospels reveal the “four faces” of Christ – king, servant, man, eagle
- B. John, author of John, 1st, 2nd, 3rd John and Revelation was a disciple of John the Baptist
 - 1. One of the sons of Zebedee (Salome his mother), a fisherman with Simon & Andrew
 - 2. ***John began as a critic but learned the balance of truth, grace and love...***
- C. We face a time right now when believers are called to be light in the midst of darkness
 - 1. We are called to be the stability in a time of chaos and increased hatred / violence
 - 2. The Gospel of John is a book that depicts *how to be light in the midst of darkness*
- D. One of the themes in John are the various **signs** that indicate critical aspects of Christ
 - 1. The first SIGN was water into wine (John 2) – there is New Life in Christ
 - 2. The second SIGN was healing the Nobleman’s son (John 4) – faith in Christ’s Word
 - 3. The third SIGN was healing the cripple (John 5) – Christ’s undeserving Grace

II We work as He works – John 5:17-47 – The nature of the Father and Son’s relationship

- A. v. 17-18 – *My Father works, and I work* – Christ is God – right after the Pool of Bethesda
 - 1. The following discussion, however, most likely took place near Jerusalem or beyond...
 - 2. From the moment Christ identified His relationship to the Father, the Jews wanted to kill him
 - 3. **Christ’s relationship with Father is the model for our relationship with Christ in the Spirit**
 - 4. Lesson – Christ is the center – the issue with the religious leaders is Christ’s authority from God
- B. v. 19-29 – if you hear the Son (Word) you hear the Father (God) – Heaven has invaded Earth!
 - 1. The Son does nothing but what He sees the Father doing – a relationship of love (model for us)
 - 2. The Son quickens whoever He wills since his will and the Father’s operate as one
 - 3. All judgment has been given to the Son (He is distinct from the Father) – they are a team
 - 4. The “hour is coming, and now is” when those dead (physically and spiritually) will hear the Son
 - 5. Father empowers the Son – making the decision on who has eternal life or eternal condemnation
 - 6. Lesson – In like manner, Christ and the Spirit empower us to discern His will – a team with Him
- C. v. 30-40 – Christ answers the charge that He is equal to God – four witnesses that He is God
 - 1. Apart from relationship with the Father, Christ can do nothing
 - a. Christ is God, yet He does not act in isolation – He works in covenant with Father and Spirit
 - b. The Father witnesses of the Son (1st witness) – so it is with us – does God witness of you?
 - 2. John the Baptist (2nd witness) - was partially accepted due to lineage, but presented Christ
 - 3. Christ’s works (3rd witness) - good works, character, and miracles) confirm He is God
 - 4. “Search the Scriptures” (4th witness) – they testify of Christ, not just knowledge that puffs up!
 - 5. Our walk needs the same witness and confirmation – *God as our Creator, the preparation God took to bring us to Him, the changed behavior and attitude, and the Scriptures come alive!*
 - 6. Lesson – God will confirm our walk in Him, allowing us to be empowered to bring life
- D. v. 41-47 – The **cause** of their unbelief rests on honoring man rather than God
 - 1. v. 41-42 - Christ’s enemies don’t really love God, they rehearse their allegiance to themselves
 - 2. v. 43-44 – Christ came in the Father’s name, the religious leaders came in their own (authority)
 - a. To believe in the NAME of Christ is to honor His character and authority in your life
 - b. The cripple healed at Bethesda did not ask, nor thank, *the goal is Christ, not healing*
 - 3. v. 45-47 - Christ doesn’t accuse them before the Father, Moses testifies against them
 - 4. If you reject Moses, you won’t believe me – New is in Old contained, Old is by New explained!
 - 5. Lesson – Belief rests on honoring of the Word (Law), and thus an honor of Christ (grace)