

John 5:16-47 **Evidence of Jesus' Equality with God the Father**

The Jews sought to Kill Jesus

¹⁶ For this reason the Jews persecuted Jesus, and sought to kill Him, because He had done these things on the Sabbath. ¹⁷ But Jesus answered them, "My Father has been working until now, and I have been working." ¹⁸ Therefore the Jews sought all the more to kill Him, because He not only broke the Sabbath, but also said that God was His Father, making Himself equal with God.

God the Father and Jesus the Son Both working until now

¹⁹ Then Jesus answered and said to them, "Most assuredly, I say to you, the Son can do nothing of Himself, but what He sees the Father do; for whatever He does, the Son also does in like manner. ²⁰ For the Father loves the Son, and shows Him all things that He Himself does; and He will show Him greater works than these, that you may marvel.

Raising the Dead and Judgment

²¹ For as the Father raises the dead and gives life to them, even so the Son gives life to whom He will. ²² For the Father judges no one, but has committed all judgment to the Son, ²³ that all should honor the Son just as they honor the Father. He who does not honor the Son does not honor the Father who sent Him.

Everlasting Life – Granted to Believers

²⁴ "Most assuredly, I say to you, he who hears My word and believes in Him who sent Me has everlasting life, and shall not come into judgment, but has passed from death into life.

The Son's authority to execute Judgment – Resurrection at the Voice of the Son of God

²⁵ Most assuredly, I say to you, the hour is coming, and now is, when the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God; and those who hear will live. ²⁶ For as the Father has life in Himself, so He has granted the Son to have life in Himself, ²⁷ and has given Him authority to execute judgment also, because He is the Son of Man. ²⁸ Do not marvel at this; for the hour is coming in which all who are in the graves will hear His voice ²⁹ and come forth--those who have done good, to the resurrection of life, and those who have done evil, to the resurrection of condemnation. ³⁰ I can of Myself do nothing. As I hear, I judge; and My judgment is righteous, because I do not seek My own will but the will of the Father who sent Me.

Witnesses of Truth concerning Jesus

³¹ "If I bear witness of Myself, My witness is not true. ³² There is another who bears witness of Me, and I know that the witness which He witnesses of Me is true.

Witness of John

³³ You have sent to John, and he has borne witness to the truth. ³⁴ Yet I do not receive testimony from man, but I say these things that you may be saved. ³⁵ He was the burning and shining lamp, and you were willing for a time to rejoice in his light.

Witness of Works

³⁶ But I have a greater witness than John's; for the works which the Father has given Me to finish--the very works that I do--bear witness of Me, that the Father has sent Me.

Witness of God the Father

37 And the Father Himself, who sent Me, has testified of Me. You have neither heard His voice at any time, nor seen His form. 38 But you do not have His word abiding in you, because whom He sent, Him you do not believe.

Witness of Scriptures

39 You search the Scriptures, for in them you think you have eternal life; and these are they which testify of Me. 40 But you are not willing to come to Me that you may have life.

Honor from men

41 I do not receive honor from men. 42 But I know you, that you do not have the love of God in you. 43 I have come in My Father's name, and you do not receive Me; if another comes in his own name, him you will receive.

Witness of Moses

44 How can you believe, who receive honor from one another, and do not seek the honor that comes from the only God? 45 Do not think that I shall accuse you to the Father; there is one who accuses you--Moses, in whom you trust. 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?" NKJV

Facts Revealed:

The Jews sought to Kill Jesus

- ✚ The Jews persecuted Jesus and sought to kill Him, because He had healed on the Sabbath. [\[John 5:1-16\]](#)
- ✚ Jesus said, ""My Father has been working until now, and I have been working." [\[John 5:17\]](#)
- ✚ Therefore the Jews sought all the more to kill Him, because He not only broke the Sabbath, but also said that God was His Father, making Himself equal with God. [\[John 5:18\]](#)
 - ✧ The Jews clearly understood that Jesus claimed to be the Son of God and equal with God.
 - ✧ This is what they called Blasphemy and was additional basis for their hot desire to kill Him. [\[Matthew 9:3, 26:65, Mark 14:64, John 5:16-18, 10:31-38\]](#)

God the Father and Jesus the Son – Both working until now

- ✚ Jesus did nothing on His own, but only what the Father commanded and enabled Him to do as He followed the Father's example. [\[John 5:19\]](#)
 - ✧ God The Father demonstrated His love for Jesus the Son, by what He had revealed of Himself, and the works He had given Jesus to do. [\[John 5:20\]](#)

Raising the Dead

- ✚ For as the Father raises the dead and gives life to them, even so the Son gives life to whom He will. [\[John 5:21\]](#)
 - ✧ Jesus demonstrated that He has power to raise the dead just as God the Father does. [\[Matthew 9:18-26, 10:8, 11:5, Mark 5:21-43, Luke 7:11-16, 22, John 11:1-44, 12:1-18\]](#)

Judgment Committed to Jesus

- ✚ The Father judges no one, but has committed all judgment to the Son, that all should honor the Son just as they honor the Father. He who does not honor the Son does not honor the Father who sent Him. [\[John 5:22-23\]](#)
 - ✧ We need to be careful to honor Jesus, just as we honor God, because Jesus has been given authority for all final judgment.
 - ✧ God the Father has committed all Judgment to Jesus so Jesus should receive honor equal to God the Father as is demonstrated in the Throne Room of Heaven where they are worshipped equally together. [\[Matthew 25:31-46, Revelation 4:1-11, 5:1-14\]](#)

Everlasting Life – Granted to Believers

- ✚ "Most assuredly, I say to you, he who hears My word and believes in Him who sent Me has everlasting life, and shall not come into judgment, but has passed from death into life." [John 5:24]
- ✧ The decision between Eternal Life or Eternal Death is made at the Judgment Seat of Christ at the beginning of the Kingdom of God, and at the Great White Throne at the end of the Kingdom of God (the thousand year reign of Jesus Christ and perfect Justice Righteousness and Peace).
- ✧ The deciding factor is, belief of the one being Judged. [Matthew 21:31-32, Mark 16:16, John 1:6-7, 12, 3:14-18, 36, 5:24, 6:40, 47, 8:24, 11:26, 20:30-31, Acts 10:43, 13:38-39, 48, 16:31, Romans 1:16, 9:33, 10:1-13, 1 Corinthians 1:21, Galatians 2:16, 3:22, 1 Timothy 1:16, 4:10, Hebrews 10:39, 1 Peter 2:6, 1 John 5:13]
- ✧ Belief, guarantees the positive decision on the day of Judgment and we can know that we have passed from death into Life. This is confident assurance in the here and now.
- ✧ This applies to those who hear the teachings of Jesus and have confident trust in God Who sent Him.

The Son's authority to execute Judgment – Resurrection at the Voice of the Son of God

- ✚ Most assuredly, I say to you, the hour is coming, and now is, when the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God; and those who hear will live. [John 5:25]
- ✧ The Hour that is coming, is a reference to the resurrection of the last days.
- ✧ The Hour that now is, is a reference to those Jesus raised from the dead while He was here.
- ✧ In both cases, the resurrection from the dead is at the word of Jesus.
- ✚ For as the Father has life in Himself, so He has granted the Son to have life in Himself. [John 5:26, 10:15-18]
- ✧ It is the fact that Jesus has life in Himself as does the Father, that Jesus was able to lay His life down and take it back up again. [John 5:26, 10:15-18]
- ✚ God The Father has given Jesus authority to execute judgment also, because He is the Son of Man. [John 5:27]
- ✧ Therefore, in all things He had to be made like His brethren, that He might be a merciful and faithful High Priest in things pertaining to God, to make propitiation for the sins of the people. For in that He Himself has suffered, being tempted, He is able to aid those who are tempted. [Hebrews 2:17-18]
- ✧ For we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but was in all points tempted as we are, yet without sin. [Hebrews 4:15]
- ✧ God the Father has given all authority for Judgment to God the Son, because God the Son has personal and physical experience in the weakness and limitations of humanity, and thus personal knowledge regarding our ability or disability in regard to temptation, making Him a merciful and just judge over mankind.
- ✚ Do not marvel at this; for the hour is coming in which all who are in the graves will hear His voice and come forth--those who have done good, to the resurrection of life, and those who have done evil, to the resurrection of condemnation. [John 5:28-29]
- ✧ This speaks of the day of Judgment when the dead will be raised to stand before God to receive the Eternal reward, either to Eternal Life for the Saints, or Eternal Condemnation for the unbelievers.
- ✧ Eternal resurrection is at the Word of Jesus the Son of God as was the temporal resurrection to mortal life when Jesus was here. [Matthew 9:18-26, 10:8, 11:5, Mark 5:21-43, Luke 7:11-16, 22, John 5:28-29, 11:1-44, 12:1-18, Revelation 20:4-6, 11-15]
- ✚ I can of Myself do nothing. As I hear, I judge; and My judgment is righteous, because I do not seek My own will but the will of the Father who sent Me. [John 5:30]

- ✧ The Judgment of Jesus will be accurate from full knowledge of the truth. [Matthew 7:13-23, 13:24-30, 36-43, 47-50, 22:1-14, 24:45-51, 25:14-30, 31-46, Luke 12:35-48, 13:23-30, 1 Corinthians 4:5, 2 Thessalonians 1:3-10, 2 Timothy 4:1, Jude 1:14-15]
- ✧ His Judgment will not be based on His own considerations, but it will be fully Just and Righteous, in order to faithfully accomplish the Will of God the Father. [John 5:30]

Witnesses of Truth concerning Jesus

- ✧ "If I bear witness of Myself, My witness is not true. There is another who bears witness of Me, and I know that the witness which He witnesses of Me is true." [John 5:31-32]
- ✧ Because Jesus always speaks the truth, what He said concerning Himself is true, but He does not ask us to just take Him at His Word because it is always true, but to look at the testimony of others as evidence that confirms the truth about Jesus.

Witness of John

- ✧ You have sent to John, and he has borne witness to the truth. Yet I do not receive testimony from man, but I say these things that you may be saved. He was the burning and shining lamp, and you were willing for a time to rejoice in his light. [John 5:33-35]
- ✧ John the Baptist rightly witnessed the truth concerning Jesus. [John 1:6-8, 14-18, 19-23, 24-28, 29-34, 35, 5:33-35, Matthew 3:1-12, Mark 1:1-8, Luke 3:1-18]
- ✧ Jesus is not dependent on the testimony of men alone, even though their testimony is true.
- ✧ People will accept the word of men to a limited extent.
- ✧ Jesus is calling the people to look at the evidence that they may believe and be saved.
- ✧ People will honor and rejoice at the word of man for a limited time.

Witness of Works

- ✧ But I have a greater witness than John's; for the works which the Father has given Me to finish--the very works that I do--bear witness of Me, that the Father has sent Me. [John 5:36]
- ✧ The things Jesus did are valid evidence that testifies to His identity.

Witness of God the Father

- ✧ And the Father Himself, who sent Me, has testified of Me. You have neither heard His voice at any time, nor seen His form. But you do not have His word abiding in you, because whom He sent, Him you do not believe. [John 5:37-38]
- ✧ The Father spoke from Heaven, bearing witness as to the identity of Jesus. [Matthew 3:17, 17:5, Mark 9:7, Luke 3:22, 9:34-35, John 1:33-34, 1 John 5:9]

Witness of Scriptures

- ✧ You search the Scriptures, for in them you think you have eternal life; and these are they which testify of Me. But you are not willing to come to Me that you may have life. [John 5:39-40]
- ✧ Scriptures testify of Jesus. [Matthew 26:54, 56, Mark 14:49, Luke 18:31, 24:25-27, 44]
- ✧ Though the Jews search the Scriptures to find Eternal Life, they fail to recognize where Scriptures testify of Jesus.
- ✧ The evidence of Scripture is compelling, still the Jews refused to make the connection between Scripture and Jesus, by which if they believed they might have Eternal Life.
- ✧ They allow their human reasoning to block their acceptance of the evidence.

Honor from men

- ✧ I do not receive honor from men. [John 5:41]
- ✧ Jesus is looking to receive His honor from a higher source. [Matthew 6:1-16]
- ✧ But I know you, that you do not have the love of God in you. [John 5:42]
- ✧ Jesus knows the heart of the Jews, and that they do not have the love of God in them, their religion is based on traditional form based on the commandments of men. [Matthew 15:1-20, Mark 7:1-23]

- ✚ But the hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for the Father is seeking such to worship Him. God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth." [\[John 4:23-24\]](#)
- ✚ I have come in My Father's name, and you do not receive Me; if another comes in his own name, him you will receive. [\[John 5:43\]](#)
 - ✧ Though they refuse to receive Jesus Who came in the name of the Father, they will receive men who come in their own name.
 - ✧ This is a reference to the Antichrist and False Prophet of the End Time. [\[Revelation 13:1-17, Matthew 24:4-5, 11, 23-24, Mark 13:5-6, 21-22, Luke 17:23, 21:8\]](#)
 - ✧ It also applies to all the false prophets from the time of Christ until now which are multitudinous, and the vast number of people who accept and follow them.
- ✚ How can you believe, who receive honor from one another, and do not seek the honor that comes from the only God? [\[John 5:45, Matthew 6:1-16\]](#)

Witness of Moses

- ✚ Do not think that I shall accuse you to the Father; there is one who accuses you--Moses, in whom you trust. For if you believed Moses, you would believe Me; for he wrote about Me. But if you do not believe his writings, how will you believe My words?" [\[John 5:46-47\]](#)
 - ✧ One of the basis of Judgment, on the Day of Judgment, will be on whether we believed the Scriptures and looked at the evidence they provide.