

SERMON-BASED STUDY: JESUS SAYS, PART 2

John 5:31-47, ESV – ³¹ If I alone bear witness about myself, my testimony is not true. ³² There is another who bears witness about me, and I know that the testimony that he bears about me is true. ³³ You sent to John, and he has borne witness to the truth. ³⁴ Not that the testimony that I receive is from man, but I say these things so that you may be saved. ³⁵ He was a burning and shining lamp, and you were willing to rejoice for a while in his light. ³⁶ But the testimony that I have is greater than that of John. For the works that the Father has given me to accomplish, the very works that I am doing, bear witness about me that the Father has sent me. ³⁷ And the Father who sent me has himself borne witness about me. His voice you have never heard, his form you have never seen, ³⁸ and you do not have his word abiding in you, for you do not believe the one whom he has sent. ³⁹ You search the Scriptures because you think that in them you have eternal life; and it is they that bear witness about me, ⁴⁰ yet you refuse to come to me that you may have life. ⁴¹ I do not receive glory from people. ⁴² But I know that you do not have the love of God within you. 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 do not seek the glory that comes from the only God? ⁴⁵ Do not think that I will accuse you to the Father. There is one who accuses you: Moses, on whom you have set your hope. ⁴⁶ For if you believed Moses, you would believe me; for he wrote of me. ⁴⁷ But if you do not believe his writings, how will you believe my words?"

Notes:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.

QUICK REVIEW

Looking back at your notes from this week's teaching, was there anything you heard for the first time or that caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?

ENGAGE WITH THE MESSAGE

- 1 This week we see Jesus making a reference to John's witness about Him. Why is the witness of others so important?

2 Share a time when your witness to what Jesus has done in your life or the life of others helped someone believe in Him.

3 Why do people find it difficult to believe in the miraculous? How would you answer someone who says that the miracles we see in the Bible are not real?

DIGGING DEEPER

A **Romans 15:18-19, ESV** – ¹⁸ For I will not venture to speak of anything except what Christ has accomplished through me to bring the Gentiles to obedience—by word and deed, ¹⁹ by the power of signs and wonders, by the power of the Spirit of God—so that from Jerusalem and all the way around to Illyricum I have fulfilled the ministry of the gospel of Christ;

Acts 3:11-16, ESV – ¹¹ While he clung to Peter and John, all the people, utterly astounded, ran together to them in the portico called Solomon's. ¹² And when Peter saw it he addressed the people: "Men of Israel, why do you wonder at this, or why do you stare at us, as though by our own power or piety we have made him walk? ¹³ The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, the God of our fathers, glorified his servant Jesus, whom you delivered over and denied in the presence of Pilate, when he had decided to release him. ¹⁴ But you denied the Holy and Righteous One, and asked for a murderer to be granted to you, ¹⁵ and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. ¹⁶ And his name—by faith in his name—has made this man strong whom you see and know, and the faith that is through Jesus has given the man this perfect health in the presence of you all.

4 Looking at the passages above, what is the purpose of miracles and signs?

5 Why was the witness/testimony of Paul, Peter, and John necessary to accompany the miracle?

6 One aspect of their witness is that they point solely to Jesus and not to themselves. How can a follower of Christ keep themselves from falling into the trap of taking credit for what Jesus has done?

B *Ephesians 1:18-21, ESV – ¹⁸ having the eyes of your hearts enlightened, that you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints, ¹⁹ and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power toward us who believe, according to the working of his great might ²⁰ that he worked in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, ²¹ far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the one to come.*

7 What does Paul mean when he says, “Having the eyes of your hearts enlightened”?

8 How does an open heart help us when reading/studying Scripture? How does it help our witness/testimony?

9 How can the manner in which we share our testimony impact the way it is received?

TAKING IT HOME

Jesus makes it clear that the testimony of others supports His proclamations. Those testimonies did not stop in the first century, but have carried on for two thousand years. As followers of Christ, we each have witnessed Jesus at work and have a testimony to share. How are you doing in sharing that testimony with others? Share with your group or accountability partner what God has been showing you. Pray for one another as you seek to be witnesses of King Jesus.

PRAISES AND PRAYER REQUEST

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FOR FURTHER STUDY

Matthew 4:4

Mark 16:17-20

Acts 16:14, 19:11-12

Hebrews 10:22