

## **“I am God.”**

John 5:16-30

Let's play a game! I'm going to give you a statement, and you guess who I am.

- “Wow, being president is really hard work!” -- Barak Obama
- “Being the new host of ‘The Tonight Show’ is a great opportunity for me.” – Jimmy Fallon
- “Don't worry, someday I WILL be an NFL quarterback and make the Gator Nation proud.” – Tim Tebow
- “Honey, you are the best preacher-husband a woman could ever hope for ... I love you!” – Kim Wilder

In today's Bible passage we're going to examine the Words of Jesus Christ to reveal Who He is and how He can make a difference in our lives. He's not a president, doesn't host a late night T.V. show, and isn't interested in being a quarterback ... Jesus does tell us in this passage exactly who He is and even says IF you believe what He says, you'll receive a spectacular benefit.

### **A. “I am God.”**

John 5:16-30 (NLT)

<sup>16</sup> So the Jewish leaders began harassing Jesus for breaking the Sabbath rules.

<sup>17</sup> But Jesus replied, “My Father is always working, and so am I.”

<sup>18</sup> So the Jewish leaders tried all the harder to find a way to kill him. For he not only broke the Sabbath, he called God his Father, thereby making himself equal with God.

<sup>19</sup> So Jesus explained, “I tell you the truth, the Son can do nothing by himself. He does only what he sees the Father doing. Whatever the Father does, the Son also does.

-- verse 18 tells us what the experts knew about Jesus: “he claimed to be equal with God.”

### **B. “I give life.”**

John 5:20-21, 25-26, <sup>20</sup> For the Father loves the Son and shows him everything he is doing. In fact, the Father will show him how to do even greater works than healing this man. Then you will truly be astonished. <sup>21</sup> For just as the Father gives life to those he raises from the dead, so the Son gives life to anyone he wants ... <sup>25</sup> “And I assure you that the time is coming, indeed it's here now, when the dead will hear my voice—the voice of the Son of God. And those who listen will live. <sup>26</sup> The Father has

life in himself, and he has granted that same life-giving power to his Son.

**C. “I am the absolute judge.”**

John 5:22, 27, 30, In addition, the Father judges no one. Instead, he has given the Son absolute authority to judge ...<sup>27</sup> And he has given him authority to judge everyone because he is the Son of Man. ...<sup>30</sup> I can do nothing on my own. I judge as God tells me. Therefore, my judgment is just, because I carry out the will of the one who sent me, not my own will.

**D. “Worship me.”**

John 5:23, so that everyone will honor the Son, just as they honor the Father. Anyone who does not honor the Son is certainly not honoring the Father who sent him.

-- Of course Jesus doesn't come right out and say “worship me” but IF He is as honorable as God, the of course He is worthy of our worship.

**E. “My message of salvation is true.”**

John 5:24, “I tell you the truth, those who listen to my message and believe in God who sent me have eternal life. They will never be condemned for their sins, but they have already passed from death into life.”

-- “I tell you the truth” means “this is an undeniable certainty!”

-- Those who listen and believe have *already* passed from death to life.

**F. “You have an important choice to make!”**

John 5:28-29, Don't be so surprised! Indeed, the time is coming when all the dead in their graves will hear the voice of God's Son,<sup>29</sup> and they will rise again. Those who have done good will rise to experience eternal life, and those who have continued in evil will rise to experience judgment.

A closing prayer ... “Dear God, thank You for revealing Your true nature in the person of Jesus Christ. Today we worship You! We pledge to live our lives under Your leadership. Give us the good sense to listen to Your message and follow Your instructions daily. In Jesus' name, amen.”