

(18) This was why the Jews were seeking all the more to kill Him, because not only was He breaking the Sabbath, but He was even calling God His own Father, making Himself equal with God. So, Jesus said to them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, the Son can do nothing of His own accord, but only what He sees the Father doing. For whatever the Father does, that the Son does likewise.

(20) “For the Father loves the Son and shows Him all that He Himself is doing. And greater works than these will He show Him, so that you may marvel. For the Father raises the dead and gives them life, so also the Son gives life to whom He will.

(22) “For the Father judges no one, but has given all judgment to the Son, that all may honor the Son, just as they honor the Father. Whoever does not honor the Son does not honor the Father who sent Him. 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.

(25) “Truly, truly, I say to you, an hour is coming --- and is now here --- when the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God, and those who hear will live. For as the Father has life in Himself, so He has granted the Son also to have life in Himself. And He has given Him authority to execute judgment, because He is the Son of Man.

(28) “Do not marvel at this, for an hour is coming when all who are in the tombs will hear His voice and come out, those who have done good to the resurrection of life, and those who have done evil to the resurrection of judgment.”

Think on these things:

- 1) Some non-believers state that Jesus never claimed to be God. Looking at v.18 above, and John 4:23-26, would you agree with the non-believer’s statement? Why was it already so clear to the Jewish leaders that Jesus was not like other “prophets” who rose up in Israel from time to time? What did the leaders decide they must do?

Did Jesus claim to be God? _____

The leaders decided they must ... _____

- 2) Who does Jesus claim He imitates (v.19)? Jesus also stated He would do even greater works. What is the reason for Him to perform greater works (miracles, v.20)?

Imitates who? _____

Why greater works? _____

- 3) Thinking about Jesus as God, the Son, what kinds of things about Jesus cause you to marvel and think about His greatness as the Son of Man (His self-name), humanity’s Savior?

- 4) Jesus now clarifies the major topic most everyone considers in this lifetime. Will people ever be judged for how they live in this world? Is there really a heaven and a hell, as taught in the Bible?

Jesus previously covered how people will be saved (delivered) from judgment in John 3:16-17. Let's look closely at what He explains here:

Who will judge us (v.22, 27)? _____

When we reject Jesus, who else do we reject (v.23)? _____

What 2 things does Jesus say about "believers" (v.24)? _____

What 2 resurrections are announced (v.29)? _____

- 5) Many people believe that gaining eternal life comes after we die and go to heaven. Is that what Jesus teaches here (v.24, 26)? How might Jesus' statement here impact how we choose to live today and into the future? Does it...?

Eternal life starts when? _____

The impact on life today? _____

- 6) How does "belief" in Jesus differ from "belief" in George Washington or Abraham Lincoln? Consider these verses in your answer:

John 3:1-7 _____

Romans 6:6, 11-14 _____

Romans 12:1-2 _____

1 Corinthians 6:19-20 _____

Ephesians 1:13-14 _____

Bottom Line: Belief in Washington or Lincoln is factual. Belief in Jesus must be **transformative**! Life is not expected to go on as usual, but we are to be changed from the inside out.

People and situations I want to pray for this week: