

The Word Made Flesh

Christ the Judge

John 5:22–30

I. Introduction

A. We are continuing in *The Word Made Flesh*, working through the Gospel of John.

B. John 1–5 has shown:

1. Jesus's deity
2. Jesus as fulfillment of Scripture
3. The necessity of being born again
4. Jesus confronting legalism and revealing the heart of God

C. Today we finish John 5 by looking at the conclusion of Jesus's confrontation with the religious leaders.

D. Jesus now affirms everything John has declared in chapters 1–4.

II. Overview of Jesus' Claims in John 5

(Each of these echoes what we've already studied in chapters 1–4.)

1. Jesus Gives Life (5:21, 24–26)

A. The Father has life in Himself and grants the Son authority to give life.

B. Eternal life is found in hearing and believing His word.

C. Echoes:

- John 1:4
- John 3:15–16
- John 4:14

2. Jesus Has Authority to Judge (5:22, 27–30)



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- A. All judgment has been entrusted to the Son.
- B. His judgment determines resurrection to life or resurrection to condemnation.
- C. Echoes:
 - John 3:18–19

3. Jesus Is Equal with the Father (5:19–23, 30)

- A. He acts in perfect unity with the Father.
- B. His works reveal His deity.
- C. Echoes:
 - John 1:1
 - John 1:18
 - John 3:35

4. Jesus Will Raise the Dead (5:25–29)

- A. His voice will call every grave to open.
- B. Life or judgment flows from Him.
- C. Echoes:
 - John 2:19
 - John 3:36

5. John Bears Divine Witness (5:31–37)

- A. John the Baptist testifies.
- B. Jesus's works testify.
- C. The Father testifies.
- D. Echoes:

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- John 1:6–7
- John 1:32–34
- John 2:11

6. Jesus Fulfills the Scriptures (5:39–47)

- A. Scripture testifies about Him.
- B. Moses wrote of Him.
- C. Refusal to believe Scripture leads to refusal to believe Christ.
- D. Echoes:
 - John 1:29
 - John 2:6–11
 - John 3:14–15

III. Primary Focus: Jesus as Judge (John 5:22, 27–30)

A. Remember Who the Judge Is

1. Jesus—most kind, gracious, humble, forgiving.
2. The One who honors His betrayer.
3. The One who prays for His executioners.
4. The One who gives His life freely out of love.
5. The One who *is* love.

B. Jesus Has Many Titles, But One Is Neglected

1. Lord
2. King
3. Bridegroom
4. Creator
5. Friend

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6. **Judge** – the One who renders the final and perfect verdict on all things.

IV. Foundational Truths About His Judgment

A. His Judgments Are True

1. God alone sees perfectly.
2. He is never biased, never partial, never mistaken.
3. Humans see in part, filtered through bias, perspective, and limitation.
4. On that day, there will be no competing viewpoints—only perfect truth.

B. His Judgments Are Just

1. Because He sees perfectly, He judges perfectly.
2. No corruption, no imbalance, no loopholes.
3. Human justice is fragile; divine justice is flawless.
4. His vindication is full; His condemnation is full.
5. All will see that His verdicts align perfectly with His holy character.

V. The Day We Stand Before Jesus

A. Two Groups of People

1. **Those of faith**
 - a. They trust in Christ alone for salvation.
 - b. They acknowledge their sin and their need for mercy.
 - c. For them, judgment is a day of joy—faith becomes sight.
 - d. Yet they still give an account.
2. **Those apart from faith**
 - a. They rejected the Lord in life.
 - b. God will not force them into a kingdom they do not want.
 - c. Judgment becomes the fulfillment of their own chosen separation.

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VI. Accountability for Believers

- A. There is no condemnation for Christians—but there is accountability.
- B. Every believer must appear before the judgment seat of Christ (2 Cor. 5:10).
- C. We will give an account for every idle word.
- D. Our works will be tested by fire (1 Cor. 3:12–15).
- E. Salvation is secure, but reward or loss depends on how we lived.

VII. Conclusion

- A. Jesus is not only Savior—He is Judge.
- B. His judgments are true.
- C. His judgments are just.
- D. All people will stand before Him.
- E. For believers, judgment is a day of reward and joy.
- F. For unbelievers, judgment is the fulfillment of their chosen separation from God.