

John 5:18-47 – 5 April 2026

“G.E.T. Jesus”

Introduction

*John 5 is the only chap of John that is Jesus’ 2nd year of ministry

*Jesus has just healed a lame man on the Sabbath and it’s drawing much attention from the Jews

*If facts many now want to kill Him

*Today, Jesus will attend to clearly identifying Himself to these skeptics

*The Bible lays out qualifications for the leaders of the Church (pastors, elders, bishops, deacons)

*Jesus Himself was also not shy to allow men to examine His qualifications to be the Messiah

*Palm Sunday for 4 days was His examination

Today, we look at the 3 qualifications for being the Messiah

#1 – His Character – Jesus is God (Vs 18-24)

Read 5:18

1. Yes, this is a question of authority & identity
 - a. Jesus said He's Lord over Sabbath (Luke 6:5), making Himself greater than Moses's Law
 - b. Now the Pharisees rightly understand that He's making Himself equal with God
2. Incredibly, some still don't think Jesus claimed to be God, but even His enemies understood it
 - a. Read John 10:33

Read 5:19-20

1. Jesus has already shown control over health
 - a. He'll show authority over wind & waves
 - b. He'll show authority over death (Lazarus)
 - c. Maybe the greatest thing they can't accept is authority over sin itself by forgiving sins
2. Father & Son's union is in the words themselves
 - a. This isn't a contract, it's loving relationship
 - b. This isn't a formal agreement but a family
 - c. They role-model the relationship Jesus wants to bring *us* into

3. Just as Jesus can do nothing (beneficial) apart from God, Jesus says the same of us in John 15

Read 5:21-23

1. This is what Jesus meant by ‘greater works’ are coming – the raising of the dead
 - a. He’ll raise Jairus’ daughter, Lazarus, & more but this speaks of something bigger
2. We’re born w/ *physical* life, but spiritually dead
 - a. Jesus came to bring us spiritual, eternal life
 - b. Read John 10:10-11 – substitutionary pymt

Read 5:24

1. This is why the Father has entrusted judgment to Jesus – b/c Jesus paid the price & made the way
 - a. If one receives the offer of Christ, it is the divide (Read John 3:18)
2. Now, what is the way to receive the Son’s work?
 - a. To believe that *this* is God’s plan & it works

#2 – His Calling – Jesus offers eternity (Vs 25-30)

Read 5:25

1. “The dead hear Jesus’ voice & live”
 - a. He didn’t come to heal the lame, or comfort the hurting, though He does these things
 - b. He came to bring *life to the dead*
2. Acts 3:15 says that Jesus is the Prince of Life
 - a. Jesus said, “I am the resurrection & the life, he that believes on Me, though he were dead, yet he’ll live
3. Believers live w/ a living hope of that day coming (Read I Thes 4:16-17)

Read 5:26-27

1. To have ‘life within yourself’ is not to be dependent on anything else to live forever
 - a. God identified Himself for Moses as “I AM”
 - b. Jesus said, ‘before Abraham was, I AM’
(John 8)
2. B/c Jesus is the One who makes the payment for sins, the Father gave to Jesus the role of judge

3. The title ‘Son of Man’ is used throughout the Bible to note the *humility or low position of man*
 - a. Further, it’s prophesied that the Son of Man would be the one to end all earthly kingdoms & *rule* (Dan 7)
 - b. Jesus took this title to Himself, 1st humble, then to rule

Read 5:28-30

1. The divide coming; there are only 2 options
 - a. Eternal Life w/ God, or Eternal Justice in darkness
 - b. Only 3 types of people, them that is, them that ain’t, and them that think this is, but ain’t
 - c. Read Matt 10:34 & 39
2. What’s the divide decided by? How do we do good?
 - a. Read Matt 19:16, 17b, 20-22, 26 – RYR
 - b. Read John 6:28-29
3. Every one of us will stand before Jesus & tell Him why we believed or not

#3 – His Confirmation – Jesus is Trustworthy (Vs 31-47)

Read 5:31-32

1. This is one of the strongest verses that reminds u not to believe anything b/c of blind faith
 - a. We believe for the excellent reasons given
2. The reasons come in the form of witnesses
 - a. We're not to receive testimony as truth unless it's verified (Read Deut 19:15)

Read 5:33-35

1. *1st* reason or witness to Jesus' identity is John
2. Vs 34 Jesus is saying, 'I don't need the witness of men, I'm doing this so people will be saved'
3. They received (for a while) the witness of John, that what he said of himself & Jesus was true

Read 5:36

1. *2nd* reason or witness to Jesus' identity is His works or activity

2. There were specific things foretold that the Messiah would do when He comes (Read Isa 35:5-6a)
3. Jesus took this to Himself (Read Matt 11:3-5)
4. It's not just that He did supernatural things, but *specific* supernatural things that were prophesied

Read 5:37-38

1. *3rd* reason or witness to Jesus' identity is the Father in heaven
2. Father was at Jesus' baptism to voice His approval
 - a. And will again at the Transfiguration
3. These 2 vss are to be a contrast
 - a. They don't receive the voice & words of God, but Jesus has
 - b. The difference is that the Son *perfectly* believes the Father

Read 5:39

1. *4th* reason or witness to Jesus' identity is the whole Old Testament
 - a. Abraham & Isaac speak of Jesus' sonship

- b. Melchizedek speaks of Jesus' priesthood
 - c. Sacrificial system speaks of Jesus' atonement
2. Scriptures aren't the pinnacle of knowing God
- a. ***Seeing Jesus*** in the Scripture is the pinnacle!

Read 5:40-42

- 1. To receive life from God & give Him glory for it – ***that*** is why we're here
- 2. To receive God's love thru Jesus & praise Him

Read 5:43-44

- 1. "They receive glory from each other"
 - a. This means that they find their worth or value in each other
 - b. We should receive God's love and identify w/ Him
- 2. "Another will come"
 - a. Jesus knows that many of them are following their father the devil (John 8:44)
 - b. So, this speaks primarily of Anti-Christ to come (Read II Thes 2:10)

Read 5:45-47

1. They set their hope in Moses (meaning the OT Law) but it wasn't the Law's purpose (Rom 3:19)
 - a. The Law was our tutor to bring us to Jesus (Gal 3:24)
 - b. Jesus didn't call them to something new but to believe that it's always been about Him
 - c. We need to use the OT to see Jesus (Read Luke 24:27)
2. If someone is judged to hell, it's b/c they trusted in doing the good deeds of the Law, instead of trusting in the Savior

Conclusion

So for Jesus to truly be worthy to go to the cross & pay for our sins, He must meet the qualifications

1. **His Character: He isn't just man, He's God**
2. **His Calling: He bridged the divide to offer Life**
3. **His Confirmation: He's proved Himself as trustworthy & reliable - Do *YOU* have Jesus??**