

October 14, 2018

John 5:15-47

## Jesus is the Son of God

Have you ever personally known someone who claimed to be God? Down through the centuries, many people have made such claims. Most cult founders and leaders claim to be God.

Sun Myung Moon, the founder of the Unification Church, taught that Jesus brought only spiritual salvation. He said another savior was needed to fulfill Jesus' mission and he was that savior. David Koresh (leader of the Branch Davidians) claimed to be the messiah. Despite the fact he died in 1993, many of his followers still believe his claims and expect him to be resurrected soon.<sup>1</sup>

If someone claims to be God, only one of three possibilities can be true. Either that person is (1) a **liar** who deceives innocent followers, or (2) an **insane person** who sincerely thinks he is God, or (3) actually **God**. Only one of those three can be true: if he is a liar then he is not insane or God; if he is insane then he is not a liar or God; but if he really is God then he is not insane or a liar.

In this week's lesson you will learn that Jesus claimed to be God. Since Jesus actually is God, He backed up His claim with facts.

**John 5:15-16**      The man who was healed (last week's lesson) identified Jesus as the one who healed him. What did the Jews decide to do to Jesus?

**John 5:17**        What did Jesus say to the Jews?

**John 5:18**        Why did the Jews want to kill Jesus?

The Jews clearly understood that Jesus Christ claimed to be equal with God the Father (**John 10:30**).

Jesus is equal to God in six ways:

### 1. **Equal In His Work**

**John 5:19**        What work did Jesus do?

### 2. **Equal In His Knowledge**

**John 5:20**        What does the Father show the Son?

### 3. **Equal In His Ability to Give Life**

**John 5:21**        To whom does Jesus give life (“*quickeneth*”)?

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<sup>1</sup> Watchman Fellowship's *Index of Cults and Religions*, <https://www.watchman.org/index-of-cults-and-religions/>

#### 4. Equal In His Judgment

**John 5:22** What has the Father committed to the Son?

#### 5. Equal In Honor

**John 5:23** “He that honoureth not the \_\_\_\_\_ honoureth not the \_\_\_\_\_ which hath sent Him.”

#### 6. Equal In Possessing Life Within Himself

**John 5:24-26** What does Jesus have “*in Himself*?”

**John 5:27-30** What will happen when Jesus calls the dead to come forth from their graves?

The Old Testament required two or three witnesses to prove something in a court of law. Jesus said if He were the only one testifying to the fact that He is God then His testimony would not be true. He then told the Jews about four “witnesses” who testified that Jesus Christ actually is God:

**John 5:33-35** The Jews asked John if he was the Messiah (**John 1:19-25**). John said he was not the Messiah, but told them that Jesus was (**John 1:29-34**).  
**Witness Number 1 is John the Baptist.**

**John 5:36** What did Jesus’ works show?

**Witness Number 2 is Jesus’ Works.**

**John 5:37-38** God the Father verbally bore witness of Jesus’ identity (see **Matt. 3:17; 17:5; Mark 1:11; 9:7; Luke 3:22; 9:35; John 12:28**).  
**Witness Number 3 is God the Father.**

**John 5:39** “Search the \_\_\_\_\_; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of \_\_\_\_\_.”

**John 5:46** “For had ye believed \_\_\_\_\_, ye would have believed \_\_\_\_\_: for he wrote of me.”

**Witness Number 4 is the Scriptures**

**Concluding Thoughts:** Jesus Christ claimed to be the Son of God, and thus equal with God. This made the Jews angry, so Jesus told them six ways in which He is equal with God and four witnesses that proved He was who He claimed to be.

At the beginning of this lesson we established that if anyone claims to be God, he is either a liar, insane, or he is actually God. Jesus is not a liar and He is not insane. He could prove that **He is God!**

Many other people have claimed to be God, but they can't produce evidence like Jesus did. Sun Myung Moon and David Koresh (and many others) claimed to be God. Since they are not actually God, then they are **liars** or **lunatics**. The same is true for any cult leader who claims he or she is God or the Messiah.

If you've never accepted the fact that Jesus Christ is God and the only Savior available to man, what are you waiting for? The evidence is in and the truth is established. Confess your sin and ask Jesus Christ to save you right now.

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**Project:** Tell someone the truth about Jesus Christ this week.