

Sermon Discussion Questions for January 24, 2016

John 5:19-30; "Jesus Is Faithful"

I. Theology 101

- A. Attributes of Christ (can you name a few of each?)
 - i. "non-communicable attributes"
 - ii. "communicable attributes"
- B. Who is Jesus Christ
 - i. 1. fully God (equal with God) > DEITY of Christ
 - ii. 2. fully man (perfect man) > HUMANITY of Christ
- C. Heresies (false teachings about Christ)
 - i. Arianism
 - ii. Docetism

Note: First Council of Nicea in 325 A.D.; Council of Chalcedon in 451 A.D.
- D. Context of John 5: (vs. 1-18, note especially vs. 18)

II. Outline of John 5:19-30

- A. The EQUALITY of Christ (vs. 19b; 20b; 26) > deity
- B. The AUTHORITY of Christ (vs. 21; 22; 24-25; 27) > deity
- C. The DEPENDENCY of Christ (vs. 19a; 30) > humanity

III. The nature of "faith"

- A. faith has a "subject"
- B. faith has an "object"
- C. "faithfulness" is having the right "object" (a "little faith" in the right object is infinitely better than a "lot of faith" in the wrong object)
- D. Faith is often redirected and strengthened in the midst of adversity. In what ways has adversity increased your dependency upon Christ? (*II Cor. 1:7-9*) In what ways might we see adversity as a "gift" from God?

IV. The Gospel's call of repentance

- A. What is the "object" of our faith? (skill, experience, control, resources, etc.) [Jack Miller: "Don't be attached to your own agenda – be attached to Jesus" Saving Grace daily devotional; New Growth Press; 2014; page 20]
- B. In what ways might you be more "attached to your own agenda" than to Christ?
- C. How might we as a church be more "attached to our agenda" than to Christ?

V. V. The Gospel's call to faith

- A. Jesus is our MODEL of faith (vs. 19 – *the Son of Man can do nothing of his own accord; John 30b – I seek not my own will but the will of him who sent me; see also John 15:1-5*)
- B. Jesus is the OBJECT of our faith
- C. Jesus is the GIVER of our faith (*Eph. 2:8-9*)

Behold the supremacy and sufficiency of Christ !