

Series: Life to the Full; Sermon: **Hear His Voice**

Delivered by: **Dr. Josh Moody**, senior pastor; Date: **January 14, 2018**

Bible text explored: John 5:18–29

¹⁸This 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.

¹⁹So 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. ²⁰For 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. ²¹For as the Father raises the dead and gives them life, so also the Son gives life to whom he will. ²²For the Father judges no one, but has given all judgment to the Son, ²³that 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.

²⁴Truly, 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. ²⁶For as the Father has life in himself, so he has granted the Son also to have life in himself. ²⁷And he has given him authority to execute judgment, because he is the Son of Man. ²⁸Do not marvel at this, for an hour is coming when all who are in the tombs will hear his voice ²⁹and come out, those who have done good to the resurrection of life, and those who have done evil to the resurrection of judgment. [ESV]

Review and application:

1. What two societal mandates of their day, policed by the religious leaders, (v. 18) was Jesus violating?

Pastor Moody identified post-modern relativistic pluralism (PRP) as the societal mandate that today discounts the assertions made by Jesus in this chapter.

2. Does PRP accept any truth as absolute?
Does PRP allow for rejection of the truth claims of other faiths?
3. How does Jesus’ statement (v. 19) that it was impossible for him to act independent of the Father underscore their unity?

Pastor Josh cited D.A. Carson’s explanation to a Muslim scholar that, while in mathematics $1+1+1=3$, in the divine realm $infinity+infinity+infinity=infinity$.

4. In what way (v. 20) was God love before the world’s creation?
How does the Father’s love logically lead to a plural Godhead?
How was Jesus’ healing of the invalid at the Pool of Bethesda not a violation of the scientific order of the universe, but expressing the order of the *maker* of the universe at a particular, special moment in time?
5. How (vv. 21-23) would Jesus confirm his assertion of power to give life? (See 11:43-44 and Luke 8:51-56.)
What does the Father’s decision to put the Son in the place of honor tell us about whom we must obey and who exercises final authority?

6. What (vv. 24-29) marks an individual’s crossing over from a condemned to an eternally liberated state?
In the hour that is coming, how will the tables be turned on both the Pharisees of Jesus’ day and the pluralists of ours?
Why must we stand up to the pluralism of our day? (See Luke 9:26.)

Although our salvation isn't based on good deeds, why are they the "necessary fruit"?