



The Life of Jesus

A CHRONOLOGICAL STUDY

Lesson 32: Lessons from the Bethesda Pool – Part 1

John 5:1-47

I. v.1 – What festival?

- A. “feast of the Jews” - Likely Feast of Tabernacles - Octoberish
- B. Why doesn't John tell us? Not the focus - Leviticus 23
 - Sabbath on those days for the feasts: vv.3;7;21;24;28;35

II. vv.2-9A

- A. v.2 - The Sheep Gate
- B. v.3 - How many invalids? A multitude - How does this fit with the prosperity Gospel?
 - This is God's sovereignty
- C. v.4 – Where did it go?
- D. v.5 - Why 38 years? Very specific – Only one other place in all Scripture that number is used Deuteronomy 2:14
- E. v.6 - Want to get healed? Was he in bondage to his own comfort and way of life?
 - What about the sovereignty of mankind? Do we get to be healed even if we don't want to? Do I have a choice?

III. vv.9B-17

- A. v.13 - The man had no idea who Jesus was?
 - Roman official believed before the healing
 - Leper “Lord, if you will, you can make me clean”
 - Man through the roof and his friends “when He saw their faith”

B. v.14 - What is the “worse that may happen to you”?

1. Galatians 5

2. “The law has a purpose but saving you ain’t one of them” – Chuck Missler
- Our salvation is from Jesus who makes us free from the law

IV. v.18

- This was not some theological conversation
- They wanted to kill Him
- It’s not just the Sabbath – that was enough
- But because of being equal to God
- How many people did John see being healed? A truckload
- How many gets us to the subject of Jesus being God on Earth?

V. vv.19-24 – The Four “Gars”

A. Bookend “verily” - Notice v.19A to v. 24 for the Amens

B. Greek word “gar” is translated “for”

1. “Gar” 1: v.19B - for whatsoever, because, for - Jesus does what the Father does

2. “Gar” 2 - v.20 - “for” the Father loves the Son - *phileo* and NOT *agape*

a. 25 times in NT compared to 142 for *agape*

- whoever loves his father/mother; Judas’ kiss; Lazarus “who you love”
- John 3:16 is *agape*

3. “Gar” 3 - v. 21 - “For” as God can raise from the dead and give life so can the Son

4. “Gar” 4 - v. 22 - for, moreover, “in fact” - Jesus has the authority to judge so in turn He should be given honor like God

C. C.S. Lewis – Mere Christianity – Liar? Lunatic? Or Lord?

VI. My Take Aways

- God is sovereign to do His will
- He has given me that sovereignty
- He has the authority as the Son to do as the Father does
- To give life
- To pass judgement
- All these things because He *phileos* me

Questions? Comments? Thoughts?
nick@nickwalters.org

 NICK WALTERS

www.nickwalters.org/sundayschool