

*Jesus' Son of God Defense – REJECTED! John 5:40-47*  
*Review...*

*I. Jesus is REJECTED as Savior, Life-Giver –*

<sup>40</sup> **But you are not willing to come to Me that you may have life. John 5:39-40 (NKJV)**

*1. Remember Jesus has presented Himself as a Giver of Life –*

<sup>21</sup> **For as the Father raises the dead and gives life to them, even so the Son gives life to whom He will. John 5:21 (NKJV)**

*2. Not willing to come to Jesus, for life, is a description not only of the Jews of Jesus' day described in this passage, but a description of every human being if not born again.*

*A. The Jews here were simply the most privileged, the most advantaged, those who you would think were MOST LIKELY to come –*

<sup>39</sup> **You search the Scriptures, for in them you think you have eternal life; and these are they which testify of Me. <sup>40</sup> But you are not willing to come to Me that you may have life. John 5:39–40 (NKJV)**

*B. They were students of Scripture, they saw Jesus' miracles, they heard Him speak, yet despite all these great privileges they still were not willing to come, WHY?*

*3. Their wills were NOT FREE from sin -*

<sup>10</sup> **As it is written: "There is none righteous, no, not one; <sup>11</sup> There is none who understands; There is none who seeks after God. Romans 3:10–11 (NKJV)**

*We all have wills, we all have an ability to make decisions, but our wills are not free from our sin nature!*

*Put a bowl of fresh meat and a bowl of fresh vegetables in front of a wolf, and which will he choose? Which will he run to? He will run to the MEAT, because he is a carnivore, it is part of his wolf nature to choose meat.*

*It is part of our SIN NATURE to choose sin, even to choose death –*

<sup>12</sup> **There is a way that seems right to a man, But its end is the way of death. Proverbs 14:12 (NKJV)**

*4. In this passage their sin-filled minds distorted their interpretation of Scripture and their application of it to Jesus miraculously healing a man on the Sabbath.*

*II. Jesus is REJECTED as One worthy of honor, glory, praise –*

<sup>41</sup> **"I do not receive honor from men. John 5:41 (NKJV)**

*Two things are communicated here:*

*1. Man with his sin nature does not tend to give God glory, we cheer for and praise the things we admire, a touchdown, a well sung song, each other, for various reasons.*

*We do not by nature, sin nature, glorify God –*

What is the chief end of man?

Man's chief end is to glorify God, (1 Corinthians 10:31) and to enjoy him forever. (Psalm 73:25–26)

<sup>31</sup> **Therefore, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God.**  
**1 Corinthians 10:31 (NKJV)**

*A. As born-again we PRAISE the LAMB –*

<sup>11</sup> **Then I looked, and I heard the voice of many angels around the throne, the living creatures, and the elders; and the number of them was ten thousand times ten thousand, and thousands of thousands,** <sup>12</sup> **saying with a loud voice: “Worthy is the Lamb who was slain to receive power and riches and wisdom, And strength and honor and glory and blessing!”** Revelation 5:11–12 (NKJV)

*B. But the unregenerate, do not appreciate the things of God –*

<sup>14</sup> **But the natural man does not receive the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; nor can he know *them*, because they are spiritually discerned.** 1 Corinthians 2:14 (NKJV)

2. *Jesus was not seeking the kind of honor men might give, power, fame. He came to do God's will, He sought to save souls.*

Note - <sup>34</sup> **Jesus said to them, “My food is to do the will of Him who sent Me, and to finish His work.** John 4:34 (NKJV)

<sup>15</sup> **Therefore when Jesus perceived that they were about to come and take Him by force to make Him king, He departed again to the mountain by Himself alone.** John 6:15 (NKJV)

*Jesus avoided these people because they wanted to make Him “fish-burger king” Jesus was seeking a different kind of rule, a spiritual, moral rule, but they were not seeing it.*

*III. Jesus is REJECTED because God the Father is REJECTED –*

<sup>42</sup> **But I know you, that you do not have the love of God in you.** <sup>43</sup> **I have come in My Father's name, and you do not receive Me; if another comes in his own name, him you will receive.**  
John 5:42–43 (NKJV)

1. *When Jesus said, they did not have the love of God in them, He is referring to love for God –*

<sup>5</sup> **You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your strength.** Deuteronomy 6:5 (NKJV)

<sup>37</sup> **Jesus said to him, “ ‘You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.’** <sup>38</sup> **This is the first and great commandment.** <sup>39</sup> **And the second is like it: ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’** <sup>40</sup> **On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.”** Matthew 22:37–40 (NKJV)

*How did Jesus know that they lacked the love of God?*

*A. He could see inside their hearts –*

<sup>19</sup> **For out of the heart proceed evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, blasphemies.** Matthew 15:19 (NKJV)

B. *Their lack of compassion for the man healed by God, shows they were not seeing the image of God in man –*

<sup>27</sup> So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them. Genesis 1:27 (NKJV)

C. *Seeing man as created in God's image may have helped them in interpreting Sabbath Law –*

<sup>11</sup> Then He said to them, **“What man is there among you who has one sheep, and if it falls into a pit on the Sabbath, will not lay hold of it and lift it out? <sup>12</sup> Of how much more value then is a man than a sheep? Therefore it is lawful to do good on the Sabbath.”** Matthew 12:11–12 (NKJV)

2. *Jesus' coming in His Father's name meant more than that He came representing God, it meant that, but also, He came in God's power / authority and character –*

*God spoke to us in Jesus -*

**1** God, who at various times and in various ways spoke in time past to the fathers by the prophets, **2** has in these last days spoken to us by His Son, whom He has appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the worlds; **3** who being the brightness of His glory and the express image of His person, and upholding all things by the word of His power, when He had by Himself purged our sins, sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, **4** having become so much better than the angels, as He has by inheritance obtained a more excellent name than they. Hebrews 1:1–4 (NKJV)

A. *Jesus' death on the cross for us was an expression of God's love and mercy – John 3:16*

B. *His miracles, His resurrection from the dead, were expressions of God's power -*

**3** There was a man of the Pharisees named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews. **2** This man came to Jesus by night and said to Him, “Rabbi, we know that You are a teacher come from God; for no one can do these signs that You do unless God is with him.” John 3:1–2 (NKJV)

IV. *Jesus & His Father are REJECTED, because men seek to honor and please one another, more than God –*

<sup>44</sup> **How can you believe, who receive honor from one another, and do not seek the honor that comes from the only God? John 5:44 (NKJV)**

1. *What the Pharisees loved –*

<sup>6</sup> **They love the best places at feasts, the best seats in the synagogues, <sup>7</sup> greetings in the marketplaces, and to be called by men, ‘Rabbi, Rabbi.’** Matthew 23:6–7 (NKJV)

2. *They had an appearance of righteousness but not the reality -*

<sup>27</sup> **“Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you are like whitewashed tombs which indeed appear beautiful outwardly, but inside are full of dead men's bones and all uncleanness.**

<sup>28</sup> **Even so you also outwardly appear righteous to men, but inside you are full of hypocrisy and lawlessness. Matthew 23:27–28 (NKJV)**

3. *Coming to Christ for LIFE, involves admitting, both to ourselves and others, we have no righteousness apart from God's great grace –*

<sup>9</sup> Also He spoke this parable to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous, and despised others: <sup>10</sup> **“Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. <sup>11</sup> The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, ‘God, I thank You that I am not like other men—extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even as this tax collector. <sup>12</sup> I fast twice a week; I**

give tithes of all that I possess.’<sup>13</sup> And the tax collector, standing afar off, would not so much as raise *his* eyes to heaven, but beat his breast, saying, ‘God, be merciful to me a sinner!’<sup>14</sup> I tell you, this man went down to his house justified *rather* than the other; for everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted.” Luke 18:9–14 (NKJV)

V. *Jesus was REJECTED because Moses was Rejected! They thought they had Moses on their side –*

<sup>45</sup> Do not think that I shall accuse you to the Father; there is one who accuses you—Moses, in whom you trust. <sup>46</sup> For if you believed Moses, you would believe Me; for he wrote about Me. <sup>47</sup> But if you do not believe his writings, how will you believe My words?” John 5:45–47 (NKJV)

1. *Why were they confident they had Moses on their side? Certain passages –*

<sup>15</sup> Work shall be done for six days, but the seventh is the Sabbath of rest, holy to the LORD. Whoever does *any* work on the Sabbath day, he shall surely be put to death. Exodus 31:15 (NKJV)

A. *Moses wrote this, alone it seems clear, but –*

<sup>12</sup> There is a way *that* seems right to a man, But its end is the way of death. Proverbs 14:12 (NKJV)

B. *But* it does not stand by itself, Moses wrote other things ...

<sup>6</sup> And the LORD passed before him and proclaimed, “The LORD, the LORD God, merciful and gracious, longsuffering, and abounding in goodness and truth, <sup>7</sup> keeping mercy for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin, by no means clearing *the guilty*, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children and the children’s children to the third and the fourth generation.” Exodus 34:6–7 (NKJV)

C. *Moses said, a Prophet like me, meaning a Mediator –*

<sup>17</sup> “And the LORD said to me: ‘What they have spoken is good. <sup>18</sup> I will raise up for them a Prophet like you from among their brethren, and will put My words in His mouth, and He shall speak to them all that I command Him. <sup>19</sup> And it shall be *that* whoever will not hear My words, which He speaks in My name, I will require *it* of him. Deuteronomy 18:17–19 (NKJV)

<sup>20</sup> and that He may send Jesus Christ, who was preached to you before, <sup>21</sup> whom heaven must receive until the times of restoration of all things, which God has spoken by the mouth of all His holy prophets since the world began. <sup>22</sup> For Moses truly said to the fathers, ‘*The LORD* your God will raise up for you a Prophet like me from your brethren. Him you shall hear in all things, whatever He says to you. <sup>23</sup> *And it shall be that every soul who will not hear that Prophet shall be utterly destroyed from among the people.*’ Acts 3:20–23 (NKJV)

2. *If we want to understand Scripture, we need to:*

A. *Read all of it, comparing Scripture to Scripture -*

B. *Pray for God’s help, realizing that our “own understanding” is weak –*

<sup>5</sup> Trust in the LORD with all your heart, And lean not on your own understanding; <sup>6</sup> In all your ways acknowledge Him, And He shall direct your paths. Proverbs 3:5–6 (NKJV)

C. *Be Humble, Be Meek –*

<sup>9</sup> The humble He guides in justice, And the humble He teaches His way. Psalm 25:9 (NKJV)