

The Gospel of  
**JOHN**  
Chapters I-10

**Lesson 6:**  
Clash with the Jewish Authorities  
Chapter 5:1-47

The Gospel of  
**JOHN**

**Lesson 6**

**Quick Review**

- Purpose in writing
- Chapter 1- John the Baptist
- Chapter 2- Water to wine/  
Cleansing the Temple
- Chapter 3- Nicodemus
- Chapter 4- Samaritan Woman/  
Nobleman's son



**Clash with the Jewish Authorities (5:1-47)**

- "Do you want to be made well?" (5:1-18)
- "He who does not honor the Son...." (5:19-29)
- "I do not seek My own will but the will of the Father " (5:30-40)
- "If you believed Moses, you would believe Me" (5:41-47)

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**“Do you want to be made well?”**

**John 5:7-13** The sick man answered Him, "Sir, I have no man to put me into the pool when the water is stirred up; but while I am coming, another steps down before me." **(8) Jesus said to him, "Rise, take up your bed and walk."** (9) And immediately the man was made well, took up his bed, and walked. And that day was the Sabbath. (10) The Jews therefore said to him who was cured, "It is the Sabbath; it is not lawful for you to carry your bed." (11) He answered them, **"He who made me well said to me, 'Take up your bed and walk.'**" (12) Then they asked him, "Who is the Man who said to you, 'Take up your bed and walk'?" (13) **But the one who was healed did not know who it was, for Jesus had withdrawn, a multitude being in that place.**

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**“Do you want to be made well?”**

**John 5:14-18** Afterward **Jesus found him in the temple**, and said to him, **"See, you have been made well. Sin no more, lest a worse thing come upon you."** (15) The man departed and told the Jews that it was Jesus who had made him well. (16) For this reason the Jews persecuted Jesus, and sought to kill Him, because He had done these things on the Sabbath. (17) But Jesus answered them, "My Father has been working until now, and I have been working." (18) **Therefore the Jews sought all the more to kill Him, because He not only broke the Sabbath, but also said that God was His Father, making Himself equal with God.**

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## Unknown Jewish Feast (John 5:1)

### Passover feasts mentioned in John

**John 2:13** Now the **Passover** of the Jews was at hand, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem.

**John 6:4** Now the **Passover**, a feast of the Jews, was near.

**John 11:55** And the **Passover** of the Jews was near, and many went from the country up to Jerusalem before the Passover, to purify themselves.

### Other feasts mentioned in John

**John 10:22** Now it was the **Feast of Dedication** in Jerusalem, and it was winter.

**John 7:2** Now the Jews' **Feast of Tabernacles** was at hand.

**Deuteronomy 16:16** "Three times a year all your males shall appear before the LORD your God in the place which He chooses: at the Feast of Unleavened Bread, at the Feast of Weeks, and at the Feast of Tabernacles; and they shall not appear before the LORD empty-handed.

**We do not know which Jewish Feast to which John is referring**

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## Pool of Bethesda

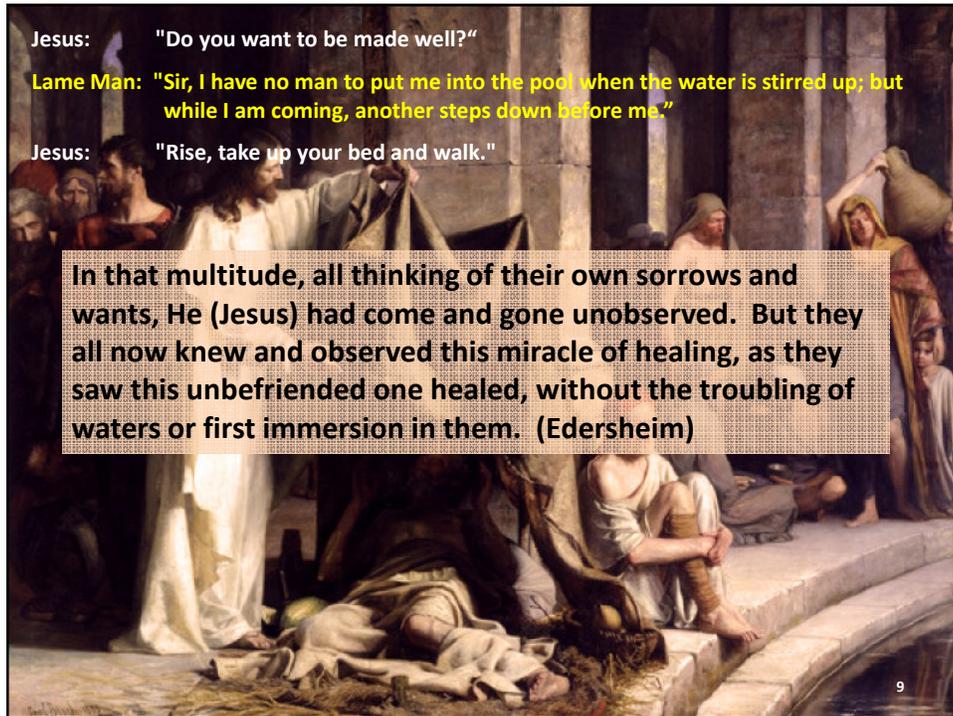




Nowhere in scripture do we have anything like an angel's coming and doing works of healing on a haphazard basis, with the first of a group of sick people to get into a pool being chosen and all the rest ignored, no matter how needy..... But there is little doubt that many people in Jerusalem believed this, and that was why the sick were there at the pool. (Morris)

**John 5:3b-4** ...for the moving of the water. For an angel went down at a certain time into the pool and stirred up the water; then whoever stepped in first, after the stirring of the water, was made well of whatever disease he had.

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## "Do you want to be made well?"

1. What did the lame man say when Jesus asked him, "Do you want to be made well" (6)? Jesus asked someone who was obviously searching for hope. Is there an application for us today?
  - "Sir, I have no man to put me into the pool when the water is stirred up; but while I am coming, another steps down before me."
  - Jesus searched out the most helpless to teach the multitudes
  - Jesus' question to the lame man is pointed and required some action on the part of the man
    - *Some people who actually need help would actually prefer to remain dependent and shirk responsibility*
    - *No faith was required on the part of the lame man- he actually couldn't recall who Jesus was when asked by the Jewish leaders*
  - **Application:** The gospel is for those who recognize they need Christ; for those who actually want to be "made well". Many times we chose who we think ought to receive the Gospel.

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## “Do you want to be made well?”

2. The same Greek word (translated “made well” in the NKJV) is used in verses 6, 9 and 14 describing the condition of the lame man. What did Jesus mean when He asked if the lame man wanted to be “made well”?

**Greek Definition**  
**Thayer-** to make one whole, i.e. restore him to health  
**Strong-** *healthy, that is, well (in body); figuratively true (in doctrine): - sound, whole*

- I believe that Jesus is ensuring a spiritual application to the lame man  
 “being made well” is applied to the physical healing
  - *Jesus “found him” in the temple*
  - *Jesus has the power to heal the physically sick; He also is the remedy for the spiritually sick. The man sees that Jesus knows the hearts of men (sin no more) and see the past, as well as the future (consequences of continuing in sin)*
- The man was in the temple – possibly the first time in 38 years and possibly giving God gratitude for his recent healing

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## Did Jesus violate the Sabbath?

### The Sabbath Day

**John 7:22-23** Moses therefore gave you circumcision (not that it is from Moses, but from the fathers), and you circumcise a man on the Sabbath. (23) If a man receives circumcision on the Sabbath, so that the law of Moses should not be broken, are you angry with Me because I made a man completely well on the Sabbath?

*.....it is evident that the keeping of the Sabbath, even in the strictest sense of the word, ever **admitted of the works of necessity and mercy to be done on it; and that those who did not perform such works on that day, when they had opportunity, were properly violators of every law founded on the principles of mercy and justice.** If the Jews had said, Why didst thou not defer the healing of the sick man till the ensuing day? He might have well answered, Why do ye not defer the circumcising of your children to the ensuing day, when the eighth day happens to be a Sabbath? - which is a matter of infinitely less consequence than the restoration of this long-afflicted man. (Clarke)*

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## “Do you want to be made well?”

**Rather than rejoicing in the healing of the afflicted man, they criticized Jesus**

**What happened:** Undeniable miracle  
**What they saw:** External infringement.... nothing else

**Acts 4:16-19** saying, "What shall we do to these men? **For, indeed, that a notable miracle has been done through them is evident to all who dwell in Jerusalem, and we cannot deny it.** (17) But so that it spreads no further among the people, let us severely threaten them, that from now on they speak to no man in this name." (18) So they called them and commanded them not to speak at all nor teach in the name of Jesus. (19) But Peter and John answered and said to them, "Whether it is right in the sight of God to listen to you more than to God, you judge.

**2 Corinthians 4:3-4** But even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing, (4) whose minds the god of this age has blinded, who do not believe, lest the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine on them.

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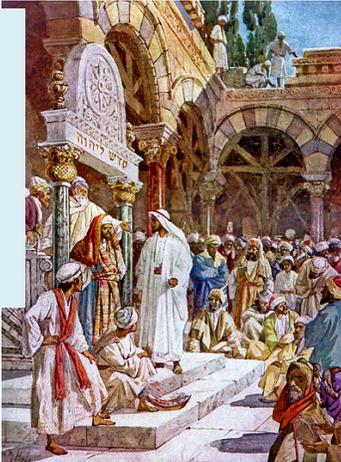
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## Jesus' Claim Clearly Understood

**John 5:17** But Jesus answered them, "My Father has been working until now, and I have been working."

- Jesus only does what His Father does
- "I work in conjunction with the Father"
- "The actions you see Me do, are authorized and instructed by My Father
- "If you are going to make a charge against me, you're going to have to make a charge against the Father"
- He is not calling God His Father like someone praying to our Father; the Jews knew exactly that Jesus was claiming to be God's Son

**John 5:18** Therefore the Jews sought all the more to kill Him, because He not only broke the Sabbath, but also said that God was His Father, making Himself equal with God.



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**“.... does not honor the Father”**

**John 5:19-23** Then Jesus answered and said to them, "Most assuredly, I say to you, the Son can do nothing of Himself, but what He sees the Father do; for whatever He does, the Son also does in like manner. (20) For the Father loves the Son, and shows Him all things that He Himself does; and He will show Him greater works than these, that you may marvel. (21) For as the Father raises the dead and gives life to them, even so the Son gives life to whom He will. (22) **For the Father judges no one, but has committed all judgment to the Son, (23) that all should honor the Son just as they honor the Father. He who does not honor the Son does not honor the Father who sent Him.**

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**“.... does not honor the Father”**

**John 5:24-29** "Most assuredly, I say to you, he who hears My word and believes in Him who sent Me has everlasting life, and shall not come into judgment, but has passed from death into life. (25) Most assuredly, I say to you, the hour is coming, and now is, when the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God; and those who hear will live. (26) For as the Father has life in Himself, so He has granted the Son to have life in Himself, (27) and has **given Him authority to execute judgment also, because He is the Son of Man.** (28) Do not marvel at this; for the hour is coming in which all who are in the graves will hear His voice (29) and come forth-- **those who have done good, to the resurrection of life, and those who have done evil, to the resurrection of condemnation.**

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The Gospel of  
**JOHN** “.... does not honor the Father”

**3. What is the relationship of Jesus with God? What authority has God given to Jesus (24-29)?**

- The Jews are seeing that Jesus is far more than a prophet; He possesses a unique relationship with God
- The Jews understood what some today do not.... Jesus was claiming to be deity
- Jesus was equal to God in the sense that He possessed the same nature but He was under His authority
  - *God, the Father, was providing Jesus work to do*
  - *Jesus “can do nothing of Himself, but what He sees the Father do; for whatever He does, the Son also does in like manner” (19)*
  - *The Father raises the dead and gives life and the “Son gives life to whom He wills” (20)*
- Jesus continues and explains that not only did God give Him the authority to perform miraculous works on this earth, He also gave Him the authority to judge
- Jesus here make reference to His resurrection, but completely lost in their understanding

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The Gospel of  
**JOHN** “.... does not honor the Father”

**John 5:28-29** Do not marvel at this; for the hour is coming in which all who are in the graves will hear His voice (29) and come forth-- **those who have done good, to the resurrection of life, and those who have done evil, to the resurrection of condemnation.**

**Verse 25:** the dead will hear voice of Son and live

**Verse 26:** Son has life in Himself

**John 1:4-5** In Him was life, and the life was the light of men. (5) And the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it.

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**“I do not seek My own will ....”**

**John 5:30-35** I can of Myself do nothing. As I hear, I judge; and My judgment is righteous, because I do not seek My own will but the will of the Father who sent Me. (31) "If I bear witness of Myself, My witness is not true. (32) **There is another who bears witness of Me, and I know that the witness which He witnesses of Me is true.** (33) You have sent to **John**, and he has borne witness to the truth. (34) Yet I do not receive testimony from man, but I say these things that you may be saved. (35) He was the burning and shining lamp, and you were willing for a time to rejoice in his light.

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**“I do not seek My own will ....”**

**John 5:36-40** But I have a greater witness than John's; for the works which **the Father** has given Me to finish--the very works that I do--bear witness of Me, that the Father has sent Me. (37) And the Father Himself, who sent Me, has testified of Me. You have neither heard His voice at any time, nor seen His form. (38) But you do not have His word abiding in you, because whom He sent, Him you do not believe. (39) You search the **Scriptures, for in them you think you have eternal life; and these are they which testify of Me.** (40) **But you are not willing to come to Me that you may have life.**

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The Gospel of  
**JOHN** **“I do not seek My own will ....”**

**4. Describe how Jesus explained all three witnesses of His message (32-39).**

**Jesus could, of course, stand upon His own testimony but recognizes that the Law of Moses required more than a single witness (Num 35:30; Deut 19:15)**

**John the Baptist:**

- *He has born witness of the truth*
- *He was the burning and shining light*
- *“Behold the Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world” (1:29)*
- *“I am not the Christ, but, I have been sent before Him.” (3:28)*

**Old Testament Scriptures:**

- *The Jews searched the scriptures looking for eternal life and whole premise of the Old Testament points to Jesus Christ*
- *They “do not have the word abiding in them” (5:38)*

**God, the Father:**

- *He “has testified of Me” (5:37) and sent Jesus*
- *You can see the Father testifies of me **through My works***
- *“Logos became flesh and dwelt among men” (1:14)*
- *No one has ascended to Heaven but the Son has come from Heaven (3:13)*

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The Gospel of  
**JOHN** **“If you believe Moses, you would believe Me”**

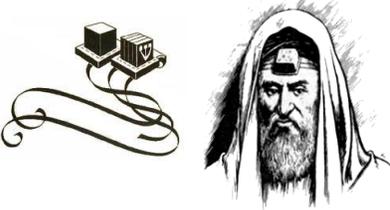
**John 5:41-47** "I do not receive honor from men. (42) **But I know you, that you do not have the love of God in you.** (43) **I have come in My Father's name, and you do not receive Me; if another comes in his own name, him you will receive.** (44) How can you believe, who receive honor from one another, and do not seek the honor that comes from the only God? (45) Do not think that I shall accuse you to the Father; there is one who accuses you-- Moses, in whom you trust. (46) **For if you believed Moses, you would believe Me; for he wrote about Me.** (47) **But if you do not believe his writings, how will you believe My words?"**

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The Gospel of  
**JOHN** "If you believe Moses, you would believe Me"

5. Who did Jesus say was the Jewish leaders' accuser (45)? How does he accuse them (46-47)?

**Moses, the very one whom they claimed to be serving wrote about Jesus (Deut 18:15-18; Gen 3:15; 49:10; Num 24:17). The OT Scriptures did offer eternal life!**



**John 9:26-30** Then they said to him again, "What did He do to you? How did He open your eyes?" (27) He answered them, "I told you already, and you did not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become His disciples?" (28) Then they reviled him and said, "**You are His disciple, but we are Moses' disciples.** (29) **We know that God spoke to Moses; as for this fellow, we do not know where He is from.**" (30) The man answered and said to them, "Why, this is a marvelous thing, that you do not know where He is from; yet He has opened my eyes!

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The Gospel of  
**JOHN** "If you believe Moses, you would believe Me"

Moses pointed out the Messiah in a multitude of symbols and figures, which are found in the history of the patriarchs, the ceremonial laws, and especially in the whole sacrificial system. All these were well-defined, though shadowy representations of the birth, life, sufferings, death, and resurrection of the Savior of the world. (Clarke)

**Deuteronomy 18:18** 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.

The tragedy was that the Jews had regarded the Mosaic ordinances, particularly those related to animal sacrifices, as ends in themselves.... The Law of Moses could not save sinners and give them eternal life; it could only expose their sinfulness. (Tasker)

You have accused me with a breach of the Sabbath, which accusation I have demonstrated to be false: I could, in return, accuse you, and substantiate the accusation, with the breach of the whole law; but this I need not do, for Moses, in whom ye trust, accuses you. You read his law, acknowledge you should obey it, and yet break it both in the letter and in the spirit. This law, therefore, accuses and condemns you. (Clarke)

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## Jesus is the Son of God

- Jesus only does what the Father does- or what God has showed Him to do
  - *“Similar to Jesus as a boy with Joseph, His father- how he showed Jesus what to do as a carpenter” (Mott)*
- God has given Jesus the authority to deal with man as He sees fit- which is in absolute concert with God’s will
- Jesus is not **MAKING** Himself equal to God; **He IS God** (1:1-3)

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## “That you may believe”

**John 20:30-31** And truly Jesus did many other signs in the presence of His disciples, which are not written in this book; but these are written **that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ**, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in His name.

We have studied today about a group of learned Jews that did not believe, although they actually saw the signs and wonders of our Savior during His brief life on this earth. These were the **Jewish leaders**, the teachers of the Law. They, of all those waiting for the prophesied King and Kingdom, should have recognized Jesus.

Over the next two weeks, we will see the **common Jew, some of His disciples**, will start to loose their faith in Jesus. Some hard sayings will be spoken by Jesus. Only those with faithful hearts will endure. **“That you may believe”- John’s gospel also exposes those who do not.**

**John 6:66** From that time many of His disciples went back and walked with Him no more.

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**Next Week:** John 6:1-34



Then Jesus lifted up His eyes, and seeing a great multitude coming toward Him, He said to Philip, "*Where shall we buy bread, that these may eat?*"