

# Is Jesus Really God?

John 5:19-29

After Jesus healed the paralytic at the pool of Bethesda, the Jewish leaders were upset because he was doing miracles on the Sabbath and claiming to be God. The religious leaders wanted to kill Jesus for those two reasons (John 5:1-18).

Jesus replied to their questions with the most thorough statement about his deity in the Gospels (5:19-29). It is the strongest, most complete statement about his unity with the Father, his divine commission, his authority, and the proof of his Messiahship. In this passage, Jesus makes nine statements that answer the question, “Is Jesus really God?”

## **1. Jesus is like the Father in his works (19)**

Jesus did not operate independent of or in opposition to the Father. He was subordinate to him and followed his lead.

Jesus described his relationship to that of a son growing up in a household, who learns a trade by watching his father. Like father, like son.

## **2. Jesus is united to the Father through love (20a)**

The Father loves the Son and shows him everything.

## **3. Jesus’ miracles prove his deity (20b)**

While healing a paralytic was an amazing miracle, Jesus would perform even greater works such as raising the dead and pronouncing final judgment.

The purpose of the miracles was to cause people to pay attention and consider his claims.

## **4. Jesus is the giver of life (21)**

The Jews recognized that God could raise the dead. Jesus’ relationship with the Father meant that he could as well.

## **5. Jesus is the final judge of all humanity (22)**

While both the Father and the Son give life, the Father has delegated the role of Judge to the Son.

## **6. Jesus receives the same honor as the Father (23)**

God the Father has done these things so that all may honor the Son.

If you don't honor Jesus, you don't honor God either.

## **7. How we respond to Jesus' promises determines our final destiny (24-25)**

Jesus' words bring eternal life or eternal death to everyone. It depends on how we respond.

The basis of our eternal security rests on the promise of the Son.

Jesus gives life to those who are spiritually dead.

## **8. Jesus is the author of life (26)**

Not only does Jesus give life (21) and have the words of life (24), but he himself is life. This is another quality he shares with the Father.

## **9. Jesus is the Messiah, the promised Son of Man; people will respond to him on the day of Judgment (27-29)**

Jesus has been given authority because he is the promised Messiah.

At the appointed time in the future, Jesus will summon everyone to be judged. Those who have believed receive eternal life. Those who have not believed receive eternal death.

In John 5:19-29, Jesus made five significant claims:

- I am equal with God the Father.
- I am the giver of life.
- I am the final judge of every human being.
- I hold the destinies of every human being in my hand.
- I will raise the dead.

These claims demand a response.

Will you choose to believe Jesus' claims or will you reject his declaration?