

## The Ultimate Question: Who is Jesus?

John has presented us with 4 stories that are meant to form a unit to present a meta-story about Jesus. Each one includes a miracle and a mini message: sign /sermon. Now we come to the main message, the theological proclamation of Jesus as to His Identity and Authority. (The Prologue gave us a clear clue!! 1:1-18)

### Literary/ Theological Context 3-5:17

- \* Nicodemus- A man, Jewish, Rich, Religious orthodox, powerful, socially connected
- \* Woman at well- A women, Samaritan Poor, immoral, powerless, social outcast  
(Disciples don't understand the work or will of God)
- \* Rich Noble man's son who is dieing
- \* Poor man who is lame  
(Religious leaders do not understand the will and work of the Father)

The last two stories are tied to the first two of Nicodemus and the Women at the well.

- \* The Rich man- focus on the need of life from the clutches of death. (Social Insider)  
The women at the well needed the water of life 4:10  
Nicodemus needed to be born again- of water and wind 3:5 (Social Insider)  
(Neither the water from Jacobs well nor the pool for the poor can give life and heal.  
Only Jesus can give life to the sick (poor man) or the dieing (Rich mans son)
- \* The Poor man needed to be healed by the water- (Social outcast)  
Jesus is the giver of living water and eternal life  
The women at the well is poor and a social outcast

Both stories introduce us to the key issue that is coming up in the confrontation of Jesus and the religious leaders. 5:16-17

- \* Jesus broke the Mosaic law 5: 9,16, 39-47  
Nicodemus and religious leaders are confused about the law 3:14
- \* Jesus claims to be Messiah 5: 18, 44  
(Signs of the Savior- Isa. 35:5-7 and Matt. 11:5-7 (Lame, blind, deaf, dead)  
The Samaritan women confused about who is Messiah  
The poor Lame man did not know and was confused concerning who healed him.
- \* Jesus is doing the Fathers "Will and Work" 4:32-36, 5:17, 36

Neither Nicodemus, the women at the well, the disciples, the rich man, the poor man nor the religious leaders understand the meaning of Moses or the Messiah nor the will of the Father. But Jesus does. And His speech (5:19-47) will proclaim this central truth. Unless you believe that He is the Savior of the world you will die. 3:15-16, 4:42 see 8:24

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### **Literary/Theological Content 5:19-47**

#### \* Structural Markers-

General- “Amen Amen I Say to you” (Truly Truly)

Specific- “Witness” μαρτυρῶ Testimony “Martyr” Jo 5:31, 32, 33, 34, 36,37, 39  
 (“Witness” used 41 times in Gospel of John)

#### \* Theological Point

**Identity**- Messiah Son of God. & **Authority**- Mosaic Law

### **Transition from Story to Speech :16-18**

Authority of Jesus over Moses -----Identity of Jesus as Messiah- Son of God

#### **I. Amen Amen :19-23**

##### A. Identity

The Son does the work and will of the Father and was sent by the Father  
All honor the Father all honor the Son. Philippians 2:9-10!! Rev 5:8-14

##### B. Authority

The Son has Judgment (Remember: He Created ALL things! 1:3)

The Ruling- The Resurrection

Bema 2 Cor. 5:9-10, Rom 14, Phil 1:10, 2;16 day of Christ, Rev 2:26-27

GWT Rev 20:11-12 Lamb’s book of Life- (The Son is the Lamb)

#### \*\*\*\*HINGE “Amen Amen” :24

“Hear MY ( Son) word – Believes HIM (Father) who sent ME (Son)”

“Never come into judgment” (The Son has that authority)

NB. Eternal Life- Hear the word and Believe (John 1:12, 2:23, 3:15,16, 5:24, 20:30)

NB. Eternal Security- Gospel of John (John 3:16, 5:24, 10:28-30\* 11:25, \* I Jo 5:13)

#### **II. Amen Amen :25-47**

##### A. Identity

Father has Life in Himself and the Son has Life in Himself- Jesus is God

Son of God :25 ---Son of Man ;27, Dan 7, Rev 1:13,\* 14:14, Matt 24:30, 26:64

##### B. Authority

Authority to execute ultimate judgment via Resurrection (Rom. 1:4)

##### C. Validation through Witness (Jo 10:25) ( Luke 24:44)

The witness: John the Baptist, Jesus works, the Father, the Scripture via Moses

#### Points to Ponder

1. Jesus is the one that saves. Acts 4:12, John 14:6 He is the answer to the Ultimate question of life and life eternal.
2. Evangelism must use apologetics- evidence, testimony, proof, validation, reasons to believe in HIS Identity and Authority. Acts 1:3