

John's "Spiritual" Gospel

Lesson Four

Introduction

Who knows "me" better than me?

Testimonies and Acts

[John 5:1-15]....."Woe-Is-Me Walter"

Vs.1 Another trip to Jerusalem.

Vs.3 Many disabled people waiting for help
But did they all need help?

Vss.6-7 "Do you want to get well?" – This is a key in John's gospel. Those who are
saved (or made well) must want it.
Self-pity is a CRIPPLER

Vss.8-11 Why did Jesus tell "Walter" to do this?

Vs.14 Only God can forgive sins, so what was "Walter's" sin?
Jesus *knew* who he was

[John 5:16-47].....Jesus and Judgment

Vss.17-18 Jesus justifies his Sabbath Work
What is the Sabbath? (see Mark 2:27-28)

Vss.21-29 Jesus equates himself with the Father through the gift of giving Life
Hidden meaning benefits us – 3:30 is John the Baptist's statement

NOTE: *Judgment* in verse 22 is not the declaration of righteousness or unrighteousness of a life lived. Jesus begins a discourse on condemnation (presumably eternal death).

There is life in Jesus (belief in him, his words, his miracles - total acceptance)

vs.25 This is referring to those living in darkness. They are the now dead, but
who will be able to live after hearing from Christ
"Those who hear..." – John does not leave eschatology to chance or
someone's interpretation. He is saying that the dead rising (is not
only in judgment) can be found in the person of Jesus Christ.

vs.31 Why wouldn't *Jesus own* testimony be valid?

vss.33-35 John the Baptist's contribution is recognized

vs.36 "Actions speak louder than words" - Weightier Testimony

vss.39-40 So smart they're NOT!

vss.41-44 Jesus knows the hearts of humans as well as our tendencies! John 2:25

vss.45-47 Jesus plays their best card against them

Next Week: In chapter six, note the references to bread, eating, and survival and be prepared to discuss them.