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Jesus is Life (1:4, 11:25, 14:6, 1 Jn. 5:11-12,20, **God has given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son. He who has the Son has the life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have the life**). And, He gives spiritual life to whom He wishes. Eternal life is not only quantity but quality. Life indeed!

:22-23 For not even the Father judges anyone, but He has given all judgment to the Son, :23 so that all will honor the Son even as they honor the Father. He who does not honor the Son does not honor the Father who sent Him.

:22 The right to judge mankind. God is the judge of all the earth (**Gen. 18:25, 1 Sam. 2:10, 1 Chr. 16:33, Ps. 94:2, 96:13, 98:9**). In the OT, “Belshazzar, you have been weighed on the scales and found deficient” (**Dan. 5:27**). The world uses fame/fortune/power/pleasure to see if someone ‘measures up’. But God’s judgment has nothing to do with those things. It has to do with what one does with Jesus. Believers will stand before Jesus at the Bema Seat of Christ (**2 Cor. 5:10**). Those without life in Jesus will come before Him at the Great White Throne Judgment (**Rev. 20:11**). This judgment has been given by the Father to His Son. Jesus is the Judge; the Father works through the Son.

:23 In both the giving of life and the judging of mankind, Jesus is showing us what God the Father is continually doing. The Father likes His only Son and He intends that His Son is honored just as He is honored. (**Phil. 2:9-11**). The only way anyone can truly honor the Father is through receiving the Son. In criticizing the Son of God, one is opposing the Father. “Listen, leaders, if you don’t honor the Son, you don’t honor the Father who sent Him!” “It is only fitting that those equal in nature (:17-18), works (:19-20), power (:21), and judgment (:22) would be accorded equal honor. It is not up to a person to decide that he/she will honor the One or the Other; it is either both or neither.”

Read :24-30. :24 Truly, truly, I say to you, he who hears My word, and believes Him who sent Me, has eternal life, and does not come into judgment, but has passed out of death into life. “The proper reaction to the Father and My Person and My words and the signs is faith.” He who hears and believes has eternal life, does not come into judgment, has passed out of death into life!

Those who receive that life are identified as those who hear the Word and believe in the Father and the Son. He does not only believe Jesus; he believes the One who sent Him. 25 times in this Gospel, Jesus asserts that He has been sent by the Father. Acceptance of the word of Jesus and faith in the Father who has sent the Son are the conditions of eternal life. A present possession. He/She hears the truth, believes the truth, and acts on it. Those who believe in Him receive eternal life, while those who reject Him will be judged. Two key realities: Jesus has the authority to give life, and He has the authority to judge.

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to have life in Himself; :27 and He gave Him authority to execute judgment, because He is *the Son of Man*. Jesus introduced Himself as the Son of Man in **1:51 (see 3:14, Dan. 7:13-14)**. Jesus says He has the unique prerogative of the Father to dispense life and justice to this world. That ought to amaze us!

:25 The 3rd **‘Truly, truly’ (:19,24)**. “My words are extremely important, to awaken people to their need, to pay attention, to their need to make a decision.”

The hour for each of us: you have the disciples hearing Jesus’ voice in **chapter 1**, the Jewish religious leaders in **chapter 2**, Nicodemus in **chapter 3**, the Samaritan woman and her fellow Samaritans and the royal official in **chapter 4**, the without-strength man and the Jewish religious leaders given another opportunity in **chapter 5**, and now the hour for us to hear Jesus’ voice.

The ‘spiritually’ dead will hear Jesus’ voice, and those who hear and believe will experience Him who is Life (**Eph. 2:1-10, Col. 2:13**). This is “an actual experience of life from the dead and deliverance from judgment in the present time.” A ‘physical’ resurrection still awaits both the ‘spiritually’ alive and dead (**:28-29**). For Christians, see **1 Cor. 15:35-54, Phil. 3:20-21**.

:26-27 This life in Himself and the authority to judge (as well as the power to impart life) has been given to Him because He is the Son of Man. The Jews took this title and gave it to the Chosen One of God. As the Son of Man, Jesus is qualified to judge humanity because He belongs to it and can understand the needs and viewpoints of humanity. He uses the Word to reveal where we’re not resting in Him (**Heb. 4:15-18**).

No sinful human being can generate for himself eternal life, nor impart it to anyone else. God alone possesses it, and He grants it through His Son. The Father granted Jesus the authority to give life, both physical and spiritual. “The awful importance of this life is that it determines eternity.”

:28-29 Do not marvel at this; for an hour is coming, in which all who are in the tombs will hear His voice, :29 and will come forth; those who did the good *deeds* to a resurrection of life, those who committed the evil *deeds* to a resurrection of judgment. “Their mouths would have dropped open at these daring claims.” It astounded them that all would one day hear Jesus’ voice and He would raise the dead from their graves.

:29 The good is believing in the Son. They will as a result do good deeds (**Eph. 2:10**; those deeds manifest the condition of the heart). The evil is to reject the Son. Evil means those who have heard, but chosen to not be persuaded. “They have refused His life, turned their backs on God-given truth, and shut their ears to the offer of grace from God.” Both the righteous and the wicked will receive bodies in the future, and “presumably each body will express the character of the person who is resurrected.”

The importance of physical resurrection can’t be overstated. Without it, there is no Christian faith (**1 Cor. 15:16-19, Phil. 3:11, Rev. 20:6, 1 Cor. 15:58**).

:30 I can do nothing on My own initiative. As I hear, I judge; and My judgment is just, because I do not seek My own will, but the will of Him who sent Me.” The idea of judgment did not take the Jews by surprise, but there is amazement at the claim of Jesus that He Himself had received the right to judge, and that

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