

# "Those Who Hear Will Live"

JOHN 5 • LESSON 7

In **John 5**, we follow Jesus to Jerusalem.

Now there is in Jerusalem by the Sheep Gate a pool, in Aramaic called Bethesda, which has five roofed colonnades. In these lay a multitude of invalids—blind, lame, and paralyzed. One man was there who had been an invalid for \_\_\_\_\_ years. When Jesus saw him lying there and knew that he had already been there a long time, he said to him, "Do you want to be healed?" The sick man answered him, "Sir, I have no one to put me into the pool when the water is stirred up, and while I am going another steps down before me." Jesus said to him, "\_\_\_\_\_, take up your bed, and walk." And at once the man was healed, and he took up his bed and walked.



Now that day was the \_\_\_\_\_. (5:2-9)

When some of the Jews protested that it was "not lawful" for the man to take up his bed on the Sabbath, he explained that "the man who healed me" had said, "Take up your bed, and walk" (5:10-11). Afterward Jesus found him in the temple and the man told the Jews that it was Jesus who had healed him.

And this was why the Jews were persecuting Jesus, because he was doing these things on the Sabbath. But Jesus answered them, "My \_\_\_\_\_ is working until now, and I am working."

This was why the Jews were seeking all the more to \_\_\_\_\_ him, because not only was he breaking the Sabbath, but he was even calling God his own Father, making himself \_\_\_\_\_ with God. (5:16-18)

What Jesus says next is really, really important. Let's listen carefully.

"Truly, truly, I say to you, the \_\_\_\_\_ can do nothing of his own accord, but only what he sees the Father doing. For whatever the Father does, that the Son does likewise. For the Father loves the Son and shows him all that he himself is doing. And greater \_\_\_\_\_ than these will he show him, so that you may marvel. For as the Father raises the dead and gives them life, so also the Son gives \_\_\_\_\_ to whom he will. For the Father judges no one, but has given all judgment to the Son, that all may \_\_\_\_\_ the Son, just as they honor the Father. Whoever does not honor the Son does not honor the Father who sent him. Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life. He does not come into judgment, but has passed from death to life." (5:19-24)

What is this "life"? Jesus goes on to describe "the dead" hearing the voice of the Son of God and living! What did he mean? What "hour" was "coming" and what does it have to do with us? Let's talk about it...

## For Class & Family Discussion:

- **John 5:9** tells us that this miracle happened on “the Sabbath.” What was the Sabbath and why did the Jews get upset?
  
- What did this miracle in **John 5** prove about Jesus?
  
- What do you think Jesus meant when he said, “My Father is working until now, and I am working” (**5:17**)?
  
- **John 5:18** describes a dark turn. Why wouldn’t these Jews just believe Jesus? What was standing in their way?
  
- In **John 5:21-29**, Jesus starts talking about a new, “greater” work than anything we’ve seen so far: raising the dead. Let’s think carefully about what he is saying...
  - In **John 5:25**, “Truly, truly, I say to you, an hour is coming, and is now here, when the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God, and those who hear will live.” What was he talking about?
  
  - In **John 5:28-29**, Jesus seems to be talking about something different. So what was it?
  
- We’ve already talked a lot about “signs” in our survey of John’s Gospel, provided so that we may believe. But many didn’t believe Jesus in **John 5**. So what did he say about that in **5:36**? What was the purpose of the “signs” and “works” he was performing?
  
- Finally, Jesus also points us to another “witness” in **5:39-40** and **5:46-47**. What was this witness and how can it continue to help us believe in Jesus so that we might “live”?