

That You Might Believe

◆ A STUDY OF THE GOSPEL OF JOHN ◆



"These things are written that you might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you might have life in His name." John 20:31

A 'Tuesday Night at the Crescent' Series

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Subject: 'He's got the whole world in His hands' (John 5:17-30)

- 1. Christ is equal with God (v19-20):** He is not claiming to be an independent God so that now there are two God's. He says he is entirely dependent upon the Father. He was spelling out a relationship in the Trinity between Father and Son where the Father is the initiator.
- 2. Christ is the source and giver of life (21,26):** The apostles, note, did not go around raising whom they would from the dead, but Christ did. Only the Saviour, in the Scriptures, claims the ability to raise the dead.
- 3. Christ is the final judge (v22-23):** He will be the central figure on the judgment day, the basis of the judgment will be people's attitude to Him and the nature of the judgement will be exclusion from His presence (See also Matt. 7:21-29; Acts 10:42; 2 Cor. 5:10; 2 Tim. 4:1).
- 4. Christ will determine man's destiny (v24):** Anyone with a hearing ear and a believing heart who accepts the gift of eternal life by faith buries forever the fear of eternal separation from God (compare Matt. 25:31-46).
- 5. Christ will raise the dead (v25-29). Note:**
 - a) There will definitely be life after death.
 - b) Every person will be affected by the final judgment.
 - c) Mankind will fall into two and only two, categories.
- 6. Christ is always doing the Father's will (v30). Christ only moves in the cadence of the Father's footsteps.**

"But for them it was only the beginning of the real story. All their life in this world ... had only been the cover and title page. Now at last they were beginning chapter one of the Great Story which no one on earth has read, which goes on forever; in which every chapter is better than the one before" (Aslan to the children who had died as a result of a railway accident in the book 'The Last Battle' by C. S. Lewis)