

*Encounters with Jesus, Part One ...*



WHO/WHAT ARE YOU SEARCHING FOR?



WHO IS HE IN YONDER STALL?



ETERNAL LIFE ...



WHOSE STAR ARE YOU FOLLOWING?

*To Be Continued ...*

(John 5:1-47 ESV)

- (John 5:1-16 ESV) After this there was a feast of the Jews, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. 2 Now there is in Jerusalem by the Sheep Gate a pool, in Aramaic called Bethesda, which has five roofed colonnades. 3 In these lay a multitude of invalids—blind, lame, and paralyzed. 5 One man was there who had been an invalid for thirty-eight years. 6 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?” 7 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.” 8 Jesus said to him, “Get up, take up your bed, and walk.” 9 And at once the man was healed, and he took up his bed and walked. Now that day was the Sabbath. 10 So the Jews said to the man who had been healed, “It is the Sabbath, and it is not lawful for you to take up your bed.” 11 But he answered them, “The man who healed me, that man said to me, ‘Take up your bed, and walk.’” 12 They asked him, “Who is the man who said to you, ‘Take up your bed and walk?’” 13 Now the man who had been healed did not know who it was, for Jesus had withdrawn, as there was a crowd in the place. 14 Afterward Jesus found him in the temple and said to him, “See, you are well! Sin no more, that nothing worse may happen to you.” 15 The man went away and told the Jews that it was Jesus who had healed him. 16 And this was why the Jews were persecuting Jesus, because he was doing these things on the Sabbath.
- (John 5:17 ESV) But Jesus answered them, “My Father is working until now, and I am working.”
- (John 5:18 ESV) This was why the Jews were seeking all the more to kill him, because not only was he breaking the Sabbath, but he was even calling God his own Father, making himself equal with God.
- (John 5:19-30 ESV) So Jesus said to them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, the Son 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. 20 For the Father loves the Son and shows him all that he himself is doing. And greater works than these will he show him, so that you may marvel. 21 For as the Father raises the dead and gives them life, so also the Son gives life to whom he will. 22 For the Father judges no one, but has given all judgment to the Son, 23 that all may honor the Son, just as they honor the Father. Whoever does not honor the Son does not honor the Father who sent him. 24 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. 25 “Truly, truly, I say to you, an hour is coming, and is now here,

## WHAT WENT WRONG?

**HOW CAN YOU DILIGENTLY  
STUDY THE SCRIPTURES  
AND NOT RECOGNIZE  
MESSIAH STANDING RIGHT  
IN FRONT OF YOU?**

5:10, 16 The Jews  
accused Jesus of  
breaking God's  
rules ...

5:17 What the Jews were  
actually angry about was that  
Jesus did not follow their rules of  
the Sabbath.

“It is the Sabbath, and it is not  
lawful for you to take up your  
bed.”

Jesus responded to their  
accusations by informing them  
that he was operating under his  
Father's rules.

5:18 Now the Jews  
wanted to kill him  
even more.

when the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God, and those who hear will live. 26 For as the Father has life in himself, so he has granted the Son also to have life in himself. 27 And he has given him authority to execute judgment, because he is the Son of Man. 28 Do not marvel at this, for an hour is coming when all who are in the tombs will hear his voice 29 and come out, those who have done good to the resurrection of life, and those who have done evil to the resurrection of judgment. 30 "I can do nothing on my own. As I hear, I judge, and my judgment is just, because I seek not my own will but the will of him who sent me.

- (John 5:31–36 ESV) If I alone bear witness about myself, my testimony is not true. 32 There is another who bears witness about me, and I know that the testimony that he bears about me is true. 33 You sent to John, and he has borne witness to the truth. 34 Not that the testimony that I receive is from man, but I say these things so that you may be saved. 35 He was a burning and shining lamp, and you were willing to rejoice for a while in his light. 36 But the testimony that I have is greater than that of John. For the works that the Father has given me to accomplish, the very works that I am doing, bear witness about me that the Father has sent me.
- (John 5:37–38 ESV) And the Father who sent me has himself borne witness about me. His voice you have never heard, his form you have never seen, 38 and you do not have his word abiding in you, for you do not believe the one whom he has sent.

**You search the Scriptures  
because you think that in them you have eternal life;  
and it is they that bear witness about me,  
yet you refuse to come to me that you may have life.  
(John 5:39-40 ESV)**

**How do you do that?  
How does a person DILIGENTLY study  
God's word and miss the main point?  
What went wrong?**

5:19-30 Jesus responded by telling them that what he does is by example and in complete unity and harmony with the Father.

5:31-36 Not only were his works approved by the Father but they were the very works that the Father had sent him to do.

5:37-38 Jesus tells them that God agrees with him but they do not know this because his word was not abiding in them which was evident because they did not believe the very one whom the Father had sent.

They searched the Scriptures for eternal life but refused to acknowledge the direction in which the Scriptures pointed them—which was that they needed to come to Christ that they may have life.

- (John 5:41–44 ESV) I do not receive glory from people. 42 But I know that you do not have the love of God within you. 43 I have come in my Father’s name, and you do not receive me. If another comes in his own name, you will receive him. 44 How can you believe, when you receive glory from one another and do not seek the glory that comes from the only God?
- (John 5:45–47 ESV) Do not think that I will accuse you to the Father. There is one who accuses you: Moses, on whom you have set your hope. 46 For if you believed Moses, you would believe me; for he wrote of me. 47 But if you do not believe his writings, how will you believe my words?”

Their religion crippled them as they were willing to settle for a lesser glory than the glory that comes from the only God making it impossible for them to believe and come to Christ.

**The crippling causes and effects of clinging to our religion and refusing to come to Christ ...**

5:41 ... They—unlike Christ—received glory/honor from people.

5:42 ... They did not have the love of God within them.

5:43 ... They were willing to receive a savior who did not come in the Father’s name but his own.

5:44 ... Receiving glory from each other disabled their ability to seek God’s glory and thus to believe God. They traded away the glory of God for the lesser glory of this world.

They would be judged by their own “stated” belief system—that is, the holy writings which they professed to believe and by which they built their spiritual house. But in hearing and not obeying they built their spiritual houses on sand and not the foundation of the Lord Jesus Christ.