

The Gospel of John

The Passion of Christ John 12-21



John 12:44-50

9/29/19 AM

"I have come as Light into the world."

Introduction:

1) Jesus is one with the Father. (12:44-45)

"Jesus cried out and said"

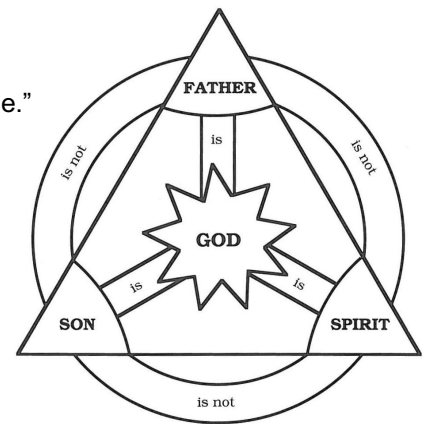
"He who believes in Me, does not believe in Me but in Him who sent Me."

"He who sees Me sees the One who sent Me."

John 8:19; 10:30, 38

The Trinity is unequivocally taught in Scripture: Matthew 28:19;
I Corinthians 12:4-6; II Corinthians 13:14; Ephesians 1:3-14;
4:4-6; I Peter 1:2; Jude 20-21

I John 2:23



2) Jesus is the literal embodiment of all truth. (12:46)

"I have come as Light into the world..."

"...so that everyone who believes in Me will not remain in darkness."

John 3:19-21; 12:35-36 (c.f. Hebrews 1:2-3)

3) Jesus did not come to condemn the world but to present Himself as truth to be believed. (12:47-48)

"If anyone hears My sayings and does not keep them, I do not judge him..."

"...for I did not come to judge the world, but to save the world."

John 3:17-18; 5:22, 45-47; 8:15-16; 9:39; 12:31

"He who rejects Me and does not receive My sayings, has one who judges him..."

“...the word I spoke is what will judge him at the last day.”

4) Everything Jesus does is necessarily the will of the Father because they are of the same essence. (12:49)

“For I did not speak on My own initiative...”

- Jesus’ “self-emptying” (*kenosis* - from Philippians 2:7) = He voluntarily and temporarily laid aside the independent exercise of some of His divine attributes

John 5:19; 7:16; 8:26, 28, 38 (c.f. John 14:10, 24, 31; 15:15)

“...but the Father Himself who sent Me has given Me a commandment as to what to say and what to speak.”

5) The Father sent the Son to earth to give mankind the ability to receive eternal life by grace alone, through faith alone. (12:50)

“I know that His commandment is eternal life...”

John 5:19; 7:16; 8:26, 28, 38

“...therefore the things I speak, I speak just as the Father has told Me.”

Conclusion:

Food for Thought:

- 1) Is it necessary to believe in the Trinity to be saved? Why or why not?
- 2) Does Jesus’ claim to be the light mean that there is no light in other religions? Does it mean that someone claiming to have other any other source of light is fundamentally wrong? Why does this matter?
- 3) Jesus said that anyone who hears His word and does not keep it will be judged. Since this is true to some degree of every human being, how can we escape this judgment?
- 4) Why does Jesus so frequently emphasize that He does not speak on His own initiative - that He spoke only what the Father told Him?