

# John 5

Sunday 6/27/2021

Most of you probably have caught my mistake. It is not Jason's work crew; it is Justin's cleaning crew for the 30th night, so I apologize about that. I was thinking about something else. If you have your Bibles this morning, let's turn back to John chapter 5.

Last week, we saw the real issue that is going on in this chapter with Christ coming to the nation of Israel at the first coming of Christ. We have talked a lot lately about being able to go behind the scenes, underneath the surface, and to see what is really happening when it comes to your Bible. Very little of the Bible is at face value. There is always some doctrinal issue or some teaching that God is trying to show us.

We saw here in John chapter 5, throughout the last couple of weeks, a great miracle that Christ did there at Bethesda. Then we saw immediately the rejection of what He did. I said this Thursday night in a Bible study, the importance of, when it comes to your Bible, getting things down to the lowest common denominator, getting it to the baseline where you cannot get any more out of it. It is where it needs to be to show you what it has. That is true not only of the Bible, but it is true of life. Most issues in life are never resolved because a person does not get down to the root issue. That is what the lowest common denominator will do. You cannot divide it down anymore, and finally, you are at the root problem or the root issue, the real issue.

That is what we have in John chapter 5 here and what we did last week. We based it on John 5:17-18, where it says:

*But Jesus answered them, My Father worketh hitherto, and I work.*

*Therefore the Jews sought the more to kill him, because he not only had broken the sabbath, but said also that God was his Father, making himself equal with God.*

Last week, we saw the real root problem. We finally got to the lowest common denominator of what Israel's leadership's problem is with Christ. That is the fact that He was very God, the deity of Christ. The fact that He claimed, and rightly so, to be the Son of God, which we now know makes Him equal with God.

We saw then that I took you back to Isaiah 14 and Ezekiel 28 and clearly showed you that the devil's main fundamental issue that he had was that he wanted to be God. Because of that, now he is manifesting all of that because Christ has come, who is the Son of God. I showed you how that in Isaiah 14:14 and other places, he said, "I will be like the Most High God." He wanted to be God, and that is the real problem here. Now the devil, through the non-biblical satanic implants, the scribes and the Pharisees, he has infiltrated the nation of Israel and got them to reject Him for that very reason. They too now want to get rid of Jesus, who threatens their power grab over the nation of Israel. This is a great illustration of what is going on behind the scenes, how the devil is controlling the nation of Israel through these men for the specific purpose of him wanting to be God and taking away that from the Lord Jesus Christ.

For those of you who are paying attention, and I would think that would be most of you, this is the same system, and I explained this last week, this is the same system of Satan's working today, who again has infiltrated the church with a non-biblical system. We have talked about this. We talked about it Thursday night; we talked about it last week, a non-biblical system of higher education when it comes to the Bible, Bible colleges, Bible scholars, many times pastors and teachers who all have one thing in common: they want to get rid of the one book, the final authority, the Word of God, which is the absolute standard for everybody. As it said in John 1:1, "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God." You cannot separate one from the other.

We talked about understanding the repetitiveness of history, how history will always repeat itself, and we saw that last week over and over and over again as the devil did in Genesis 3:1. He did the same thing that he is doing today. He came to Eve and he says, "Yea, hath God said?" Then he changed what God said, and that is the standard pattern of history all down through the Bible and certainly the history. Up to correct the Word of God and to show that where God made a mistake, and that is where scholarship is today. Scholarship is looking at the Bible, telling you that there are mistakes in it that God made, that you cannot trust it, but you have to trust their scholarship, and they will look at the Bible, tell you this is a mistake, it is a mistranslation, it is this or it is that, but I will correct it for you. What they do instead of the Holy Spirit of God, John 16, leading and guiding you into all truth, now it is these birds, and they get to be God, John 8:44. They get to play God by telling you that the book that God gave you is wrong, you cannot trust it, trust me and my education and my knowledge of Greek and Hebrew, and I will fix the mistakes that God made for you. That is right out of the pit of hell. That is the devil at his best, and that is exactly what they try to do.

Believe me, developing your ability to go behind the scenes and get in wherever you are at in the Bible or history or even your own personal life, the ability to get to the lowest common denominator and get where it really is, is invaluable to you and me as a Bible student. Today, I thought since this is the main issue, and I want you to be up on all of the main issues, I want to devote this time to the number one doctrine in all the Bible, and that will be the deity of the Lord Jesus Christ. The Bible says, Jesus said, "If I be lifted up, I will draw all men unto me." I cannot think of anything that will lift Him up more than somebody declaring that Jesus Christ was very God. So we are going to do that today, and let's ask God's blessing on it, and then we will get into it.

Father, we do thank you and praise you for the Lord Jesus. Truly, Lord, we believe that you are very God. We believe that God manifested himself to us through you, and we believe that, Lord. We believe that is the central doctrine all down through the history of this world and certainly the history of the New Testament church. We love you. We ask your Father to honor us today with your presence. Give us your understanding that these good men and women may leave here today a little more understanding this great book and how great you truly are. We will be careful to give you all the honor and the glory and the praise and put us under the blood of Christ today. Give us where we have failed thee that we may be able to declare the truth of God's word today

to these your people. We will thank you and praise you in Jesus' name for a sake we ask it. Amen.

## I. Four Key Areas Testifying to Christ's Deity

Now I want to take John chapter 5 in just a few minutes, and I want to show you four key areas in this chapter that will testify to the fact that He was the very Son of God, that He is God, and that He is this great doctrine. I have mentioned this to you before, and you probably will remember this, but we talked about this on Institute on Saturday morning. Down through church history, which runs about 2,000 years or so, God, for the ease of understanding it, has broken it down into seven periods. We know that from our chart over here, the book of Revelation is really where it is laid out in the first three chapters, and we have talked about it many, many, many times.

We know that the first church is the church at Ephesus, and that runs from about Acts 20 up to approximately somewhere around 180 AD. Then we have the church at Smyrna, and that will run from approximately, and these are all approximate dates, about 180 to 325 AD. Then we enter into the third period, which is called Pergamos, and that will be approximately 325 up to around 500, which begins the Dark Ages. We have Thyatira, the next church, number four, which picks up around 500 and runs up to the middle of the Dark Ages, around 1000. Then Sardis picks up around 1000 and brings us up to the dawn of the Reformation, about 1500 AD. We know then that Philadelphia is the sixth one, which picks it up around 1600 and runs for the next 400 years up to around 1900. Then, of course, the last one we have talked about many, many times is Laodicea. This is the one that we are in now today. It starts around 1900 or so and runs up to where we are at today, and we are up to the rapture of the church.

All of these are found in Revelation 1, 2, and 3, and it forms for us, like we talked about in Institute and in Bible study, a natural breakdown. So, an ease of studying a very complex issue in the Bible, being able to decode church history by God's simple systematic breakdown. I showed you in Institute the other morning how that the book of Acts and Revelation 1, 2, and 3 will actually go together, and this will help you. What you will find when you study these churches, the true church now, you will find that the true church line is defined for you in the book of Acts, and then you can follow it through history if you know where to look, but you always have to look behind the scenes.

## II. The True Church and Heresies Throughout History

During church history, the true church is greatly overshadowed by Rome. She is greatly overshadowed by all of the things that are going on that the devil is using to try to destroy the church. A number of years ago, before I moved to Kansas City, I had a guy that I worked with, and he was a Roman Catholic, and I had witnessed to him almost on a daily basis. We worked together, and he was an older guy. I am sure he is gone. I am sure he is dead now, and he was a World War II vet, and I would witness to him, but he was Roman Catholic, and he would just get infuriated with me trying to tell him that the Catholic church could not get him to heaven. So he got so upset about it that he had a cousin who was a priest who lived in Massillon, Ohio. So he

asked me if I would, he could take me to his priest. He said, "My priest can answer your question." I said, "Absolutely, let's go." So he took me over there, and Father Shenanigans was there, and we sat down, and we talked, and I will never forget. He started out nice because that is the way they do, but when he saw he was not going to get anywhere, then he got a little bolder, and finally, he said to me, he says, "Well, you know," he says, "you are a fine young man," and he says, "I appreciate your ability to know a lot of things, but," he said, "I just have one question," and he says, "where was your church before the Reformation?"

Now, here is his point: the Catholic church had blocked everything and severely persecuted the Albigenses and the Waldensians and the true church. So he thinks that me as a Baptist really did not exist until Martin Luther's time in the Reformation. So he asked me the stupidest question you could ever ask a guy like me. He says, "Let me ask you a question, young man, where was your church before the Reformation?" I said, "Where was your face before you washed it?" He looked at me, and I said, "Behind the dirt. Before you washed your face, it was behind the dirt. You want to know where my church was? It was behind the dirt, your church." He did not appreciate that. It digressed from there, but it is the only time that I ever got him that he did not have a way to go because, well, we do not get into all that, but it was a thing where, where was the true church? Behind the dirt, behind the Devil's church and everything that was going on to try to destroy it.

During these 2,000 years, the church in every period of church history, and this is something that most people do not understand, every period of these seven churches, they had to deal with a doctrinal issue that came up. Something arose from the Devil's crowd that wanted to try to stop them, and the true church had to deal with it. Even in Paul's time, bad teaching began to creep in. We call this bad teaching, for you new folks around here, a heresy. Heresy is bad teaching or false doctrine that goes against the scripture in the Bible. Just so you know how to trace it down, it is called leaven. Leaven is a mixture. You find that the Jews were always supposed to eat unleavened bread because unleavened has no mixture to it, and when you put leaven in it, then it makes it worldly in a sense of that. So leaven then in the Bible will always be a picture of somebody putting bad doctrine into things. You will find this in Galatians 5:9, where Paul is dealing with the church at Galatia, and somebody is trying to bring in another gospel, another Jesus, and he talks about the fact how just a little bit of leaven, allow just a little bit, in time it will destroy or, as he says, leaven the whole lump.

In 1 Corinthians 5:6-8, Paul tells that church that they are, who had leaven in it, that they are to purge out of their church leaven, bad teaching, false doctrine. You will find in the parable in Matthew 13:33, the parable of the leaven, where the Bible says that you had three measures of meal, and those three measures of meal will line up to the true Christianity that a woman, Roman Catholic Church, infused leaven and destroyed all of it. It is a futuristic parable. In Matthew 16:6-12, they are told to take heed of the leaven of the Pharisees. The Pharisees were bringing in false teaching, false doctrine, and false doctrine will take two forms, and you need to know this. You will find that in God's people, saved people, you will find leaven, bad teaching, bad doctrine, and it will be like the teaching today that has become prominent that there is no rapture. The charismatic movement will be filled with it. The aspect of predestination is completely held

within people who claim that they are saved, and they probably are. The things that saved people will get into that are false teaching outside of the Bible, there are a number of them; I am just giving you a few here.

Then the second form of heresy will be the ones that are without the body of Christ. One is in the body of Christ, saved people; the other one is without the body of Christ, that is unsaved people, and that will be things that you cannot be saved if you believed. Baptism for salvation would be one of them. Works for salvation would be another one. Of course, the great heresy of amillennialism or postmillennialism would be another one, and then obviously, the deity of the Lord Jesus Christ. So there are two forms of heresy, and I want you to know that because in each period of church history, they are going to begin to see how they have to, the true church has, is faced with these issues, and every time one of them came up, they had to decide if it was in the Bible or not, and they had to decide if they were going to allow it in or allow it out. This all starts in Paul's time. You will find that in 2 Corinthians 2:17 that somebody is already beginning to corrupt the Word of God. So you are going to find that each period in church history, God's true church was faced with the creeping in of leaven, and they had to decide.

Now I am going to start with us, and I am going to work back to Christ's day, and I am going to show you. I am not going to come from Christ's day to us. I am going to start with us, and I am going to show you fundamentally every issue that they had to deal with and then how important it was.

➤ 1.) Today, the Laodicean church age, that is us. I gave it out around 1900 to where we are at today. Do you know what the issue is today that the church has to decide? Do you have the absolute perfect Word of God? That is our doctrinal issue. Do you have the Word of God? When you open up your Bible, do you have the absolute perfect true Word of God, or you just have a translation by man that is filled with errors? That is the question that the church has to answer today. That is our issue. Of course, you can see, and we do not want to use that first because I want to use it as an example as we move back through history where we are not part of. We are part of this one, so you can see how it impacts, and many, many churches throw the Bible out.

➤ 2.) Then we would move back into the Philadelphia church age, and that would run about 1600 at the Reformation and up to about 1900. During that time period, Bible believers had to wrestle with the leaven and a false teaching of predestination or Calvinism. Calvinism comes out of the Reformation, and so now the church is faced with this heresy that Christ did not die for everybody, that He only died for a certain group of people, and if you are in that group, then you are going to heaven no matter what, and if you are not, there is nothing you can do to be saved. The church had to deal with that.

➤ 3.) Then you move back to Sardis, which is around 1500 to 1000, and during this time, they had to deal with the eternal security of the believer once you got born again, once you got saved, because you lose it. That is the issue that they had to struggle with because you remember now that the Catholic Church is coming into full form here, and she is teaching otherwise. So they had to thrash that issue out.

➤ 4.) Then now we will go to Thyatira, 1000 to 500, and now the issue was amillennialism and postmillennialism. Was Christ really coming back literally? That arose out of the Catholic Church, who was teaching that He was not coming back literally.

➤ 5.) Then we would go back to Pergamos, which is around 500 back to 325, and there the issue the church had to deal with was baptism for salvation. When Constantine came to power in 300 AD or 313 AD, and he started the Catholic Church, and he called the Council of Nicaea and began from there, this is where the doctrine of baptismal regeneration became an official heresy. The church had to deal with it, the true church.

➤ 6.) Going back to the Smyrna, which is 325 back to around 200, this church then had to deal with the resurrection. Did Christ really come up from the dead? Did He really come out of that tomb? Because there was a lot of teaching going around that He did not, just like, and I use this as a perspective now, just like you have churches out there today by the bucket loads that do not believe the King James Bible is the Word of God, and you have a group of Bible believers that do. It was the same way all down through here. In the Smyrna church period, there were bucket loads of people that claimed that He did not come out of that tomb, but the true church always held to the Word of God and to the truth.

➤ 7.) Then we come back to Ephesus, which takes us from about 200, 180, someplace back to Acts 20, and obviously, the issue that they struggled with was the deity of Christ. Was He really the Son of God?

Now, because the church had to deal and flesh all these doctrines out and mark them as heresy and bad teaching and leaven, what it did for you and for me today is form what we call the Bible believers' distinctives, the eight or nine absolute bedrock teachings that the true church of Jesus Christ is built on. It is simply the deity of Christ, the resurrection, adult salvation through the blood of Christ, a literal hell, premillennialism, New Testament local church structure, and the authority of the Word of God. The last one is one that everybody believed down through church history that was a Bible believer, and it is that the Roman Catholic Church was Satan's church. Those make up the main what we would call Baptist distinctives or Bible believer. This is what

the church is built on. Why are we built on it? Because they proved the test down through church history that the church was faced with these things. It was not just, "Oh yeah, this is what we want to believe." No, the true church had to meet these head-on. The true church was challenged on every one of these, and the true church had to come to the place where they thrashed it out, stuck with the Bible, proved them to be heresy, and then formed for us the bedrock of what this church is built on, this and other things too.

Now, for you and for me, Paul tells us that heresies among us are a good thing. You would not think that would be true; they are a bad thing, but for you and for me in the true church, he says they are a good thing. He says in 1 Corinthians 11:19:

*For there must be also heresies among you, that they which are approved may be made manifest among you.*

You know what he says? He is saying the fact that these heresies came into the church, there is nothing to fear from them because the true biblical church always has the protection of the Word of God, and it will take these teachings and put them through the test, the litmus test that you are going to find that will prove them right or wrong. He says when heresies come in, they will prove what is really true, and that is invaluable. That is why the true test of any heresy will be simply three things: it will be the Bible itself, it will be history, where did it come from, and the true church. Of course, 2 Timothy 2:2, Paul says when you have these things, and this is where we are at today, this is our church, Paul says when you have these things, the things that I have committed unto you, you pass them on to faithful men. What we believe as a church was not my idea. It was not something that I came up with. It was not something that Mel Sobaka came up with. It was not something that Ruckman came up with. It is the tried and true doctrine that has been established and tested through the true biblical line churches all the way back to the book of Acts, and that is an incredible concept for you to understand. Because there will be, there will be even in today, you will find where saved people and unsaved people will try to inject heresy into your church, and I see it all the time. Of course, somebody would have a really hard time pulling that off here with you guys here, or you eat a lunch before we ever got it out of the sack, but I am telling you it happens. You get this thing where somebody says, "Well, you know, I have this great doctrinal truth that only God, I, God only gave it to me." You know, I had a guy one time saying, "Well, God gave me this. He did not give it to so and so. He did not give it to this guy back here, but He gave it to me." When a guy starts talking like that, you know you are dealing with a heretic because God does not do that. You see, if it is not established through the true church, it is not something that you just came up with. You may have that in your own mind, and you may think that, and you may want to believe that, and that is fine with me, but you know what? You do not pass the test, and the test simply is, it had to be established in the Bible, which everybody can claim, but to fix that, it has to be established in history. Did the true church believe this? No, no, no, I just got this from God myself. Well, okay, well then take it to yourself.

### III. Key Bible Verses on Christ's Deity

Now let me give you some key places in the Bible that lay out His deity before we get to John chapter 5 here because I want to give you, you need to have these key verses. I want you to know

that every one of these verses that I am going to give you, if you have any other Bible than a King James Bible, in most of these cases, they are going to be missing, they are going to be altered, or they are going to be slandered, and very few of them will state the original.

➤ 1.) The first one I would tell you would be, and that we use this a lot, is Proverbs 8 itself. I do not know, I mean, I could just do Proverbs 8, never go anywhere else. Proverbs 8 will give you the whole understanding of why God did what He did the way He did it, not only concerning creation, not only concerning the devil, not only concerning Lucifer in Ezekiel 28 and Isaiah 14, but concerning the way Christ came. Last week, I told you that if you went back in Job 40 and 41, I told you that there were seven garment changes that the devil does down through history. Remember that? And he changes garments, but he keeps the same face. Well, I told you that, and I was saving the other counterpart to that today. The reason why he does that, he does that as a counterfeit because when you study the Lord Jesus Christ, you will find that He goes through seven garment changes down through history of the Bible and the history of the world. So the devil's seven are counterfeit of the Lord's true seven. Proverbs 8 is an incredible passage, and it is completely destroyed in all the new Bibles. You could not get a chain reference going out of that if your life depended on it, but you go through Proverbs 8:1-6, He lays out the key of wisdom and understanding, and He says God is going to speak to us of excellent things, but you could not get it in any other Bible than a King James Bible because it has been destroyed.

➤ 2.) Then the next one I would give you would be in Isaiah 7:14, which deals with Christ's supernatural birth.

➤ 3.) 1 Timothy 3:16. What a great verse.

➤ 4.) One of my favorites, Hebrews 1:8. Boy, have I given Jehovah Witnesses a fit with this one.

➤ 5.) Isaiah 9:6-7. Familiar verse.

➤ 6.) You remember the story of John 20:28, I am sure, when Thomas, you know, we always call, we always have a doubting Thomas, you know, we are a guy that doubts everything, or you are just a doubting Thomas. You know, and Thomas said, "I do not believe He is resurrected." They said, "We saw Him." And Thomas said, "Except I see Him and put my hand in the spear hole in His side and the nail prints in His hand, I am not going to believe." Now, doubting Thomas, a little later on, married doubting Debbie, and they had a terrible relationship. In John 20:27-

28, he finally does that, and when he sees the Lord and puts his hand in His wounds, you know what he says? He says to Jesus, "My Lord and my God."

> 7.) I have already given you John 1:1, "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God."

> 8.) I gave you John 1:14, "And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us."

> 9.) You know the greatest couple of verses in the Bible on Christ being part of the Trinity and being God is in 1 John 5:6-7. It is the greatest verse in the Bible on the Trinity, claiming that Jesus Christ is God, that these three are one. You know what? And every new Bible, every new Bible outside of King James Bible, that verse, those verses are taken out. You know, if you know what you find in there, you will find a little footnote down on the bottom that tells you, "These verses were not found in the most reliable manuscripts." You know what the most reliable manuscripts they are talking about are? The ones that Origen corrupted, the ones that the Roman Catholic Church built their Bibles on, the manuscripts that every new Bible on this planet comes from outside of a King James Bible. They will tell you the only manuscript that that verse is found in is the one that your Bible comes from. Praise the Lord. You see, I mean, these are things you need to know before we ever get into John chapter 5 here on these things.

> 10.) In Luke 11, you have the Lord's Prayer. It is really not the Lord's Prayer; the Lord never prayed it, but He gave it to the disciples, so we will call it the disciples' prayer to be accurate. But this is the one everybody says, you know what he says when they are ready to die that they are not saved, and this is the one that they all, they all quote, you know, that when you are getting ready to die, this is what you say, and you think this is going to save you. Of course, in all the new Bibles, that prayer is almost completely taken out, and the prayer that they put in is found in the Bible handbook of black magic and white witchcraft. When you pray the prayer to the devil, that prayer in your NIV is now in your Bible, and the one that God put in is taken out, and you are supposed to believe that that is okay. You are supposed to believe that some guy with an education, PhD, is a post-hole digger. You are supposed to believe that he is smarter than God, and he can take out the prayer that God put in and put in the devil's prayer, and you are dumb enough to buy it, and God's people are. You will find in multiple cases, and I am not going to go through them all, the word "begotten" is taken out, which is key to the deity of Christ.

Now that is why the devil hates the Bible, the King James Bible you have in your hand today, because it is the only Bible in the world today that protects and proclaims His deity, that Jesus Christ was God. So therefore, it has to go, and in the new Bibles, they are all changed and altered, or they are left out altogether.

#### IV. False Religions and the Denial of Christ's Deity

Now because of that, all false religions, now we are building something here, you are going to learn a lot today if you are paying attention. Because of that, all false religions will also deny the deity of Christ. Now what I am about to show you, we are going to have to go behind the scenes, so go with me here, stay with me. When you go back to Revelation 17 and 18, you have the Holy Spirit of God for you in those two chapters, in 17 in particular, has laid out for you the devil's church, and if anybody can go through that chapter, you will see that that church is no more than the Roman Catholic Church. She is called the great whore of Babylon, and as you come down through Revelation 17, you will find seven identifying characteristics that define this church and decode her. If you do not have them in your Bible, I suggest as we go through, you mark them down.

- 1.) The first one is in Revelation 17:2, and it says about this church that the kings of the earth have committed, and the inhabitants have committed spiritual fornication of both the Old Testament and the New Testament, and all through the Old Testament and the New Testament, you saw the devil ran the world through religion, and he is running it through this church today.
- 2.) The next thing in Revelation 17:4, it says that her colors are purple and scarlet, and if you would do a little investigation, you would find the official colors of the Roman Catholic Church, yes, they are purple and scarlet. In Matthew 27 and John 19, when Rome put the robe on Christ to have Him crucified, it was a Roman robe, purple and scarlet.
- 3.) In Revelation 17:4, it says that she is decked with gold. I would suggest if you can still find it, you get a book by Avro Manhattan. Avro Manhattan was, without a doubt, the leading authority on the Roman Catholic Church anywhere in the world, probably the universe, and he wrote a number of books all dealing with the Roman Catholic Church, exposing her. He died of an old age; I am surprised he was not assassinated someplace along the way, but he wrote a book called Vatican Billions. You had to read that book. It will tell you that the Roman Catholic Church, decked with gold here, is the richest organization on the face of the planet. Estimated net worth is between 60 and 80 billion dollars.
- 4.) In Revelation 17:4, we are told that the symbol of this church and this woman will be a golden cup, and the golden cup is the symbol of the Roman

Catholic Church. On every new Bible of an NIV, run down somewhere in the beginning of that before you get into, there will be that cup right there. This is the cup that Indiana Jones was searching for when he was looking for the lost chalice that Christ drank at the Last Supper. This has been the one down through history that that golden chalice that He drank out of, it has been the source of conspiracy and all down there. The Catholic Church claims to have that cup.

➤ 5.) The next thing in Revelation 17:6, the woman is, there is a woman connected with this church. She is a female deity, and for us, that will be Mary. If you want to see that in the Old Testament, go back to 1 Kings 18, where you find Ahab, one of the types of the Antichrist back there, and his wife represents the, where Ahab represents the Antichrist in the political system, his wife represents the religious system. Her name is Jezebel.

➤ 6.) In Revelation 17:6 also, you will find that this woman, this church, has murdered God's people and is drunk with their blood. For that, I suggest you make a little trip back to the bookstore and you pick up a book back there called Fox's Book of Martyrs. Better yet, get the little book back there called Waldensians. Better yet, get the little book back there if we still have it, it is called Tortured for Their Faith, and you will see what church was drunk with the blood of God's saints.

➤ 7.) The last thing you will find in Revelation 17:9 is this woman is a city that sitteth on seven mountains. The Roman Catholic Church would like to tell you that this is all nothing prophetic here, that this is all literal, and this is a real woman who lived through that time. If it is, she was some big woman who sat on seven mountains. There is only one city in the world, my dear friend, that is built on seven mountains: it is Rome. It is just that simple. You do not have to go to the Bible for that. You do not have to believe me; just get a subscription to National Geographic, and when you get past the naked natives, you will probably find it.

Now look at Revelation 17:5:

*And upon her forehead was a name written, MYSTERY, BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH.*

Now you may be wondering where I am going with all this. I am going to show you how that the doctrine of the deity of Christ is the central theme, and the Bible says here, "Mystery, Babylon the Great, the Mother of Harlots." There are two things that we have got to see out of this title.

➤ 1.) Number one, she is a mystery, so she needs to be decoded. We have already started that process, Revelation 17 and 18.

➤ 2.) The second thing I want you to see is she is the mother of all false religions. She is the mother of harlots. Every false religion in the world will come out of her, all come out of her. I think the term is, "All roads lead to Rome."

Now, as a side note here, you will find, and I find things like this very interesting, most people never connect the dots, but I am a dot connector, and I find in Mark 5:3 that you will find here the man who was demon possessed, possessed with a devil, and you know, this is the one where Christ cast him out there, go into the swine and head down into the water and go into the pigs and go down to the water, and your first case of deviled hams right there. So it is a thing where that is a true story, but it struck me that this guy was hanging out, and he has got 12,000 devils in him. He is hanging out in the graveyards. He is hanging out in the tombs. Unclean spirits, demonic activity, have an affinity for dead bodies. So this guy, one of the characteristics you will find, he is hanging out in the cemeteries, in the tomb. He is living there, and I thought about that, and I thought to myself, "You know what? Wow, what a great revelation." You realize in the Dark Ages, when the Roman Catholic Church was building all of her churches, her great cathedrals, you realized that she was building them all on the bodies of dead people because in that church, wherever you go in Europe, the foundation is dead people, catacombs. They have got whole rooms with skulls stacked up to the ceiling. You see, here is the key: when you got saved, you got in Christ, right? So you are in Christ this morning if you are saved. The Catholic Church does not teach that. They teach that their church is their salvation. So for them to get in Christ, they have got to get in the church. So when you die, because you are in Christ, you go to heaven. In their world, when they die, if they are going to go to heaven, they have got to get in the church. So the churches are filled with thousands and thousands and thousands and thousands of dead corpses because that is how they got in Christ because for them, the church is getting in Christ, and their churches are built on dead people, just like the maniac here had an affinity for the tombs. She is a mystery; she is the mother of all false religions in the world, either directly or indirectly.

Now I want to show you something here, the devil's seven main counterfeits. Now watch this. Remember the verse now, "Who can discover the face of their garments of his garments?" Remember that verse last week? When America was started, God had picked America to do a great work. We do not have time to get into that today. We will get into it in church history in great detail, but He picked America, preserved America for a reason. America obviously reneged on that and did not follow through with it, but that is beside the point. He chose her for a specific purpose. So you are going to find that the devil attacks America, and he attacks America with seven demonic false churches that tried to destroy America, and what God does in face of each one of these, He brings a revival across America from 1700 to around 1940, 1950, and in church history or in history, they are called the seven great awakenings. The seven great awakenings was the awakening of the Holy Spirit of God. The last one was around 1940, 1950. There will not be any more, and these great awakenings were in response to the devil's churches that were coming out of Rome as counterfeits. Watch, just watch, just watch.

When their Pilgrim Fathers came over by 1700, when they were starting to form everything up over in Europe, Unitarianism had developed at a point where it was creeping into America. It is a heresy, stay with me.

- 1.) Around 1800, we saw the Mormon Church now being developed, a great satanic heresy.
- 2.) Around 1830, we saw the Seventh-day Adventists begin to develop, satanic in origin.
- 3.) In 1840, we saw the Christian Science organization begin to unfold.
- 4.) In 1850, we saw the Church of Christ, totally demonic.
- 5.) In 1860, we saw in America the Jehovah's Witnesses, totally demonic.
- 6.) In around 1889, we saw Unity come back into play, and we kind of move into the New Age movement, so to speak.

Here are seven demonic churches that infiltrated America to stop the gospel that God was going to proclaim to take it around the world through America, and so in each one of these, God sent another an awakening, seven of them to match these seven. Now, Unitarianism, Mormonism, Seventh-day Adventism, Christian Science, Church of Christ, JWs, Unity, they all look different, don't they? If we would go to their churches, we would hear them all. They look different. They all have different garments, but at face value, you know what every one of these believe? Every one of these churches deny that Jesus Christ was God. Every one of them. You see, the devil changes garments, but the face is always the same, and the face goes back to Ezekiel 28 and Isaiah 14. He cannot stand Christ being God, so he perpetrated these false, fake churches, and they all believe, they have all believed the same three things the Catholic Church teaches because they all come out of Rome. She is the mother of these.

You know what the Catholic Church teaches?

- 1.) The Catholic Church teaches that she is the only true church.
- 2.) The Catholic Church teaches that there is no salvation outside of that church.
- 3.) The Catholic Church teaches that baptism is the only mode for you to get your original sin washed away.

I am going to show you in a moment where the Roman Catholic Church denies the deity of Christ, even though they say they do not. Those are the same three characteristics you find that every one of these American cults, they all think they are the only true church. They only think that they are the only way to heaven is through them. They only believe that baptism is the mode

of salvation, and every one of them deny that Jesus Christ is the Son of God. Why? They came out of the mother of harlots.

Now you may say, "Well, the Roman Catholic Church teaches that Christ was God." Well, they like to give you a lot of lip service, but if you go behind the scenes, you will find that is not true. You go into a Catholic Church, and you look at the statues, and you look at the paintings, or you go through whatever you do, they like to portray Christ in two ways in the Catholic Church: either as a baby or He is dead. You are going to find that whenever you see they have got a female deity connected with them, Mary, the mother of God. So every picture you see with Mary, she will be elevated higher than Christ. Christ will be below her. Why? Because Jeremiah 44, she is the queen of heaven, and her deity supersedes His deity. It is all smokescreen, folks, and you do not see it until you go behind the scenes and see who is pulling the strings. Today, like John chapter 5, Satan's little helpers are hard at work destroying the only Bible that gives Him His rightful title, the King James 1611, which claimed that Jesus Christ is very God. Okay, now you need to know that because it is out there, and the more you deal with people, the more you are going to come up against it, and you have to learn. I gave you the information. Now the next step for you is to learn how to use it correctly.

## V. Four Testimonies to Christ's Deity in John 5

All right, now in John chapter 5 today, you are going to find four absolute testimonies to Christ's deity. I wanted to give you the rest of the Bible first. Now here it is. First off, He says in John 5:31:

*If I bear witness of myself, my witness is not true.*

Jesus is not going to get up and tell everybody that He is the Son of God in the sense that He is. He is going to let the witnesses speak for Him. Then He gives us four examples of His witness that make it undeniable that He is the Son of God, very God.

- 1.) The first one is in John 5:32-33:
- 2.) The second witness, John 5:36:
- 3.) The third thing is in John 5:37-38:
- 4.) Then the fourth thing, John 5:39:

## VI. Prophecies and the Bible's Authority

In your Bible, in the Old Testament, you would find, and I have them in my Bible, and I will give them to you at some point if you so desire, you will have found 48 prophecies given about Christ 600 to 1,000 years before He was born that pointed to His first coming in Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John. As I said, these prophecies were given 600 to 1,000, 1,500 years before He was even born. You think about that, the chances of all 48 prophecies coming to pass exactly as they were stated would be virtually impossible. It would be like me saying, "In 3025, a man by the name of

James Turner lived in St. Louis, moved to Boston when he was 30 years old, lived at 151 Maple Street, his telephone number was 816-632-1425. He lived to be 50, and on April 12, 3075, he got hit by a blue Chevy pickup truck, license number BY409, at the corner of Ninth and Chipman, and died at St. Mary's Hospital, was buried at North Lawn Cemetery three days later." What would be the chances of me saying that about somebody that will not be born until 3025 and having every one of those things come true?

Well, those 48 prophecies given 600 to 1,000, 1,500 years before He was born, a guy by the name of Peter Stoner from Westmont College, he did what we were calling at the time statistical mathematical probability, and he took those 48 prophecies and ran them through a computer and wanted to calculate the chances against 48 prophecies given about one man with the exact detail of where He was born, where He was going to live, how He was going to die, how He was going to be, all of those details. What would be the chances of it all coming to pass? When the computer came out, the chances against those 48 prophecies about Christ coming to pass the way they did was 10 to the 157th power. Now you may not know how big that number is. That is obviously 10 with 157 zeros after it, but let me put it into perspective for you. 10 to the 157th power, there are not that many electrons in our universe, and you can get 100,000 electrons on the head of a pin. If you had a universe that went 600 million light-years this way, 600 million light-years in every direction with planets and everything in it, you could still not get 10 to the 157th power electrons in it. That is how big it is, and yet, and yet, at the first coming of Christ, every one of those 48 prophecies came true. Why? Because search the scriptures, their witness that what He claims is true.

Now when it comes to the second coming of Christ, I gave you 48 prophecies about the first coming. When it comes to the second coming, there are over 600 prophecies about that one. You have a supernatural book in front of you, folks, and that is why the devil hates it. I am telling you right now, this is why they rejected Him. Somebody else wants to be God. You have a book they can laugh at you all that you want. They can make fun of you all that they want. You have a book in your lap today, if you have a King James Bible, that from a statistical, scientific, mathematical probability, the chances against just 48 things coming true are more than the electrons in the universe, and yet it came true, every one of them. That book that you have is proven right by science.

When I got out in the world a long time ago, I was, you know, I was, I was, you know, I got into, I got into astronomy, and I believed in evolution. You know, I got into all that stuff, and at the time, I was now out of the army, and I was going to Kent State University, and I only went a short time, and I remember in one of my classes, there was a couple of saved guys, and they began to witness to me. Now I did not tell them I was already saved. They were nice guys, and I, you know, I, I was just listening to them, you know, I was sitting there smoking my big cigar, you know, and then listening what they had to say, and so they got witnessing to me, and one night they said, "Could we show you something?" And I said, "Absolutely." And they pulled me aside and took me down to the cafeteria. We got a cup of coffee, and they showed me. One of them was doing this statistical mathematical probability on the 10 to the 157th power for his thesis, and he laid that thing out for me. You see, I was saved probably, and at least I had an

awareness of God, and I like to attribute the fact that I am where I am at today. Now I am a scoundrel, and I am a piece of crap. Let me just put that up, but one thing about me with God is, and I thank God for this, that when I saw the truth, I was smart enough not to alibi my way around it, and I just believed it was the truth. When they showed me that 10 to the 157th power, I was devastated. That was the key that told me I needed to learn that book. It was at that night, I know it worked its way through some things because God always does, but that night when those guys showed me that, that ended it for me. I knew I had to get a lot of things lined out, but as far as that Bible being truth and everything else false, that was it. I thank God that I was at least honest enough in that to accept that because it was undeniable. I have met God's people, people, God's people, unsaved people, who you lay that out where the chances against that book, and you go into heaven without it, is less than 100, the electrons in the universe, and you still think you can beat it. I know a lot of problems, and I had a problem back then, but at least at that point in my life, and I thank God for it every day, I came to the reality I could not beat it anymore, and at that point, it was when God began to work in my life because I was faced with a statistical mathematical probability of searching the scriptures because in it, I could not deny it. It was fixed, and from that point on in my life, I have never denied or did not believe that whenever I have been taught, trained, thought was right, I threw it out the window when it came to that book, and I have dedicated my life from that point on for proclaiming that there is only one absolute truth in this world, and it is the Bible that you hold in your lap. God sends me people who want to learn it too, and if people do not want to learn it, do not want to believe, I do not care, but I know it is the truth because it is greater than the electrons in the universe, proven by a scientific fact. By the way, you know what the chances of evolution being true is through the statistical mathematical probability? 10 to the 2,000th power, 10 with 2,000 zeros after it. My book, 10 to the 157th power, is incredibly hard to believe, but yet on that day, He showed up, He fulfilled every one of them. You got the right book. You believe the right thing. You see what this church teaches has been established. Everything we believed was not just what crazy old Bob came up with or read here or read there. It had been thrashed out through 2,000 years of the church dealing with it, facing it, going through the scriptures with it, and coming out with the truth, and then passing it down to you and me. You know what our job is? Pass it down to the next generations. Keep it going. Well, Immanuel, God is with us, but then the fifth cherub and the fifth economist has done everything he can, like he did at the first coming, right before the second coming, to stop that. Well, next week, we will have another great teaching out of John chapter 5. It is a great chapter, and I am going to take it to a more personal note next week, and we will look at it from there. 10 to the 157th power. If you are not here, if you are here today and you do not know the Lord Jesus Christ as your own personal Savior, and you are not sure if you died right now to go to heaven, I will be up here for a few minutes. I would make a beeline to me, and I will get someone to take you, a guy if you are a guy or a girl if you are a girl, and I will take the greatest book the world has ever seen and will give you the assurance of salvation that are more than the electrons in the known universe. Father, we do thank you and praise you for the Lord Jesus.