



**Sunday, May 3, 2009: The Third Discourse:
Prerogatives of Sonship**

Scripture: John 5:16-47

Sermon Notes:

1. This passage provides a Christian defense of monotheism.
2. Jesus calls God "My Father."
3. John 5:19. The Son works in the same manner as the Father.
4. In this passage we see the equality and unity of the Godhead. We also see the voluntary submission that exists within the Trinity.
5. There is a difference between the 'absolutized equality' our modern society is trying to achieve and the equality of the Godhead. Absolutized equality leads to independence. But Jesus speaks of a relationship of equality in which there is filial obedience.
6. Isaiah 40:18. We cannot give perfect answers to questions about the Trinity. There is nothing on earth we can compare God to in order to explain Him.
7. The Father loves the Son, just because He is His Son. Human fatherhood is an echo of the Fatherhood of God.
8. The love in the Trinity is a pattern for the Church. We are identified to the world by our love, and we cannot truly love each other unless we love God.
9. John 5:25-27. In the Son is life, and the Son has authority to give life and to judge the living and the dead.
10. Humanism says death is simply annihilation: you cease to exist. The Bible says differently. Separation from God is a form of death.

Application Questions:

1. John 5:17-18. In this passage, why did the Jews want to kill Jesus?
2. "Jesus answered them, 'My Father has been working until now, and I have been working.'" How does this statement demonstrate Jesus' equality with God?
3. In what ways is the love within the Trinity a pattern for how we ought to love one another?
4. John 5:24-25. What kind of death is this passage speaking of? How does the biblical view of death differ from the humanist view?