GCC John Bible Study

Fall 2012

**Authority and Witness of the Son**

John 5

“The needle on a compass and the arrow of a weather vane have something in common. Both indicate the direction of natural powers. In a much broader sense, the books and writers of the Bible point to the person and power of Jesus. Jesus Christ is the Alpha and Omega of the Bible. He is the constant theme of its sacred pages. From first to last, they testify of Him…The Prophets, kings, priests, and preachers all look to Jesus though dimly as through a veil. They stand as the cherubs did over the Ark of the Covenant, desiring to look within and read the mystery of God’s great redemption of man. In the New Testament, our Lord is the one pervading subject. The whole substance of the New Testament is Jesus crucified. Even its closing sentence is bejeweled with the Redeemer’s name. We should always read Scripture in this light. We should consider the Word to be as a window through which we see Jesus. His likeness is dim, but it is still a blessed preparation for when we will see Him face to face. The Bible contains Jesus Christ’s love letters to us. The Scriptures are the swaddling bands of the holy child Jesus. Unroll them and you find your Savior. The essence of the Word of God is Christ.” -Spurgeon

**Discussion Question:** D.L. Moody said, “The scriptures were not given for our information but our transformation.” What does this mean? Do you agree?

**Read John 5:1-30.**

1. Summarize what happens in verses 1-15. What do you learn about Jesus?

1. What are the accusations the Jews are bringing against Jesus, and how does he respond? What do you learn about the Father and Son relationship?

1. Discuss eternal life and the final judgment (vv. 24-30). Where does eternal life come from, and what does it mean to have eternal life?

**Read John 5:31-47.**

1. a) Who or what are Jesus’ witnesses? How does each testify to Jesus?  
     
     
     
     
     
     
   b) Who does Jesus not accept as a witness but the Jews do? Why does Jesus not accept this witness?

1. Jewish leaders had made the study of scripture their god rather than God himself. How can we ensure we don’t make religious activities our idol, but that we keep our relationship w/ Jesus as the center of our lives?