

## >> Spring 2023 Bible Study - Pleasing God

### Unit I: Example of Jesus' Works

#### Lesson Three - Jesus Represents the Father [Does the Work of]

→ Scriptures - John 5:16-29; Philippians 2:5-11

#### Lesson 2 Recap -

Resisting temptation and sin is 'work' because it involves 'things we do.' Works cannot and never have "saved" anyone according to all scriptures, Old and New Testament. The Lord was tempted by Satan directly while in the wilderness. He addressed each temptation with the Word—the very thing we should be learning in Church. Temptation #1 was absurd because Satan wanted Jesus to turn a stone into "Himself," for He is the Bread of Life [John 6:35]. Temptation #2 was staged in or on a temple because "Judgment begins at the house of God." [1Peter 4:17] Many ministers, churches and denominations are "testing" God today with their theology and teachings. Jesus warns against these practices. Temptation #3 was more absurd than the previous, as Satan offered Jesus something He already owned and created. Jesus is King of kings and Lord of lords. The enemy often offers us false choices and things only temporarily in his possession. We should approach sin and temptations in the same manner as the Lord and call out the devil and absurdity in every circumstance.

#### Lesson 3 Questions:

> 1. Read **John 5:16-18**. In this text, can you see Jesus 'work' as Him "representing" the Father?

- What does it mean to represent an entity or organization?
- Have you personally ever been a representative?
- How does or did it make you feel?
- What were some challenges in the task?

> 2. Like Jesus, are Christians called to represent God and the Kingdom of God?

- Do you feel you are a representative?
- Do you feel you are doing an adequate job?

> 3. What can be said about “believers” who do NOT represent God or the Kingdom of God well? Does what you write extend to individuals, churches, and/or entire denominations or religions?

- a.
- b.
- c.

> 4. An age-old debate has been had concerning whether a person can lose her/his salvation. What do you think about this debate and conversation in the context of ‘representation’ being a ‘work’ and given what any scriptures on the subject teach? Cite your references.

- a.
- b.
- c.

> 5. The lesson exposition makes a point of Jesus being given the authority to be JUDGE. What do you know about Old Testament leadership titles that makes this an “*of course He is*” sentiment? List the OT titles:

- a.
- b.
- c.
- d.
- e. Scribe (mentioned but not popular)

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Extra Notes and References