

MAY 21, 2017
John 5:16-23

.As a group, reflect upon and discuss your thoughts on the following quote from C.S. Lewis.

“A man who was merely a man and said the sort of things Jesus said would not be a great moral teacher. He would either be a lunatic ... or else he would be the Devil of Hell. You must make your choice. Either this man was, and is, the Son of God: or else a madman or something worse. You can shut Him up for a fool, you can spit at Him and kill Him as a demon; or you can fall at His feet and call Him Lord and God. But let us not come with any patronizing nonsense about His being a great human teacher. He has not left that open to us. He did not intend to. “

- What do you agree with about this rant, what do you struggle with?
- .How does **John 5:21** show us that Jesus is equal with God in sovereign power?
- .How does **John 5:22** show us that Jesus is equal with God in judgement?
- .How does **John 5:23** show us that Jesus is equal with God in Worship?

Prayer:

Father, thank You once again for giving us historical evidence in the form of this passage of scripture that Jesus is equal to You in all things. Thank You that You came down to earth in the form of Your Son to live among us and show us the way of Salvation. Thank You that someday we will see You face to face, just as You are and we will worship You for ever and ever.

Amen

Highlights

May 21, 2017

John 5:16-23

•The Christian faith rests entirely on the correct answer to Jesus' question (Matt. 16:15), "Who do you say that I am?" If Jesus is the promised Messiah of Israel, the eternal Son of God in human flesh, who died on the cross in the place of sinners, who was raised bodily from the dead, and who is coming again in power and glory to judge the living and the dead, then everything else is secondary.

•Jesus is equal with God in His nature, but distinct from the Father as the Son (5:17-18).

•Jesus is equal with God in His works (5:17, 19).

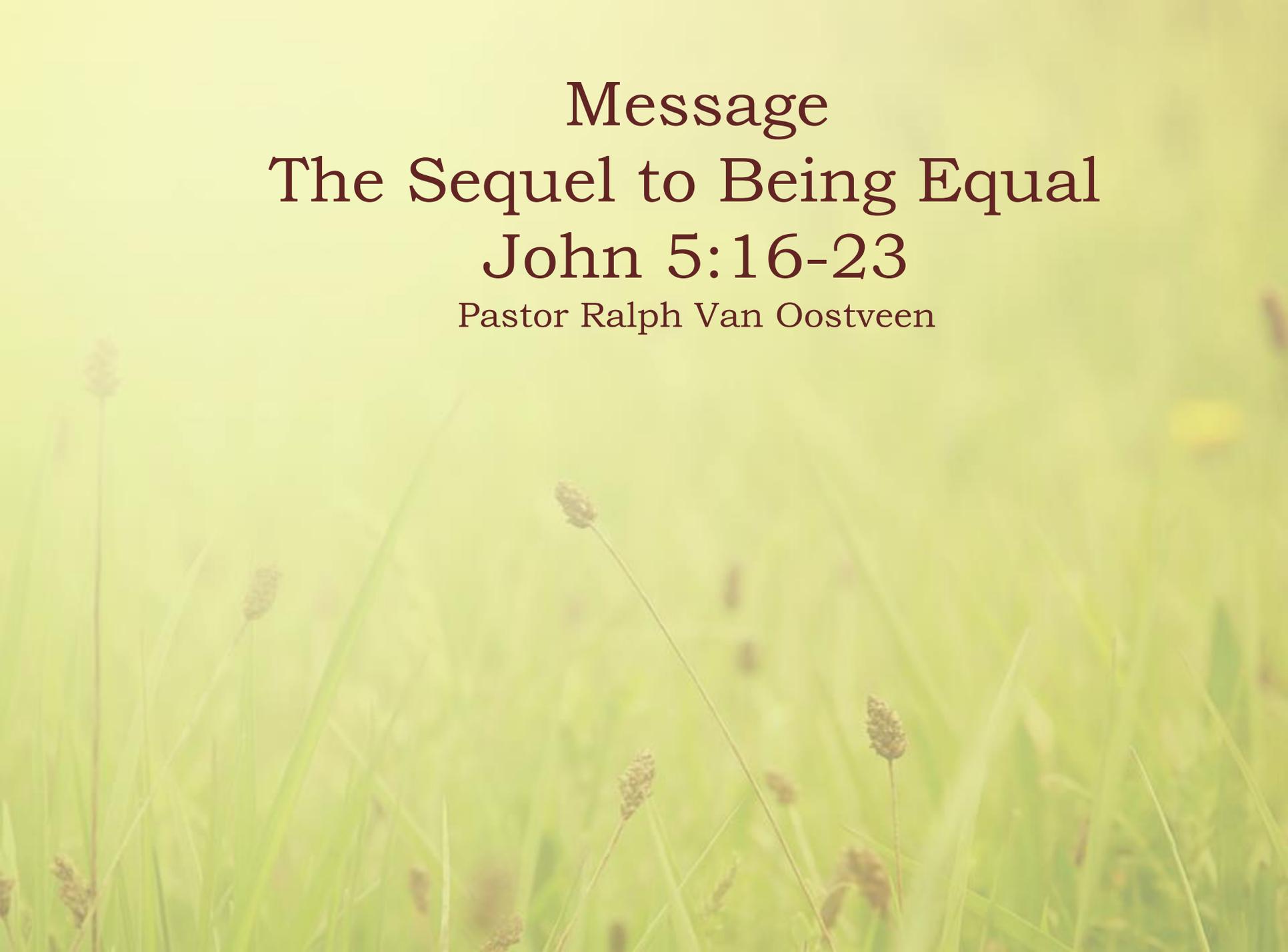
•Jesus is equal with God in His love and knowledge (5:20).

•Jesus is equal with God in His sovereign power (5:21).

•Jesus is equal with God in judgment (5:22).

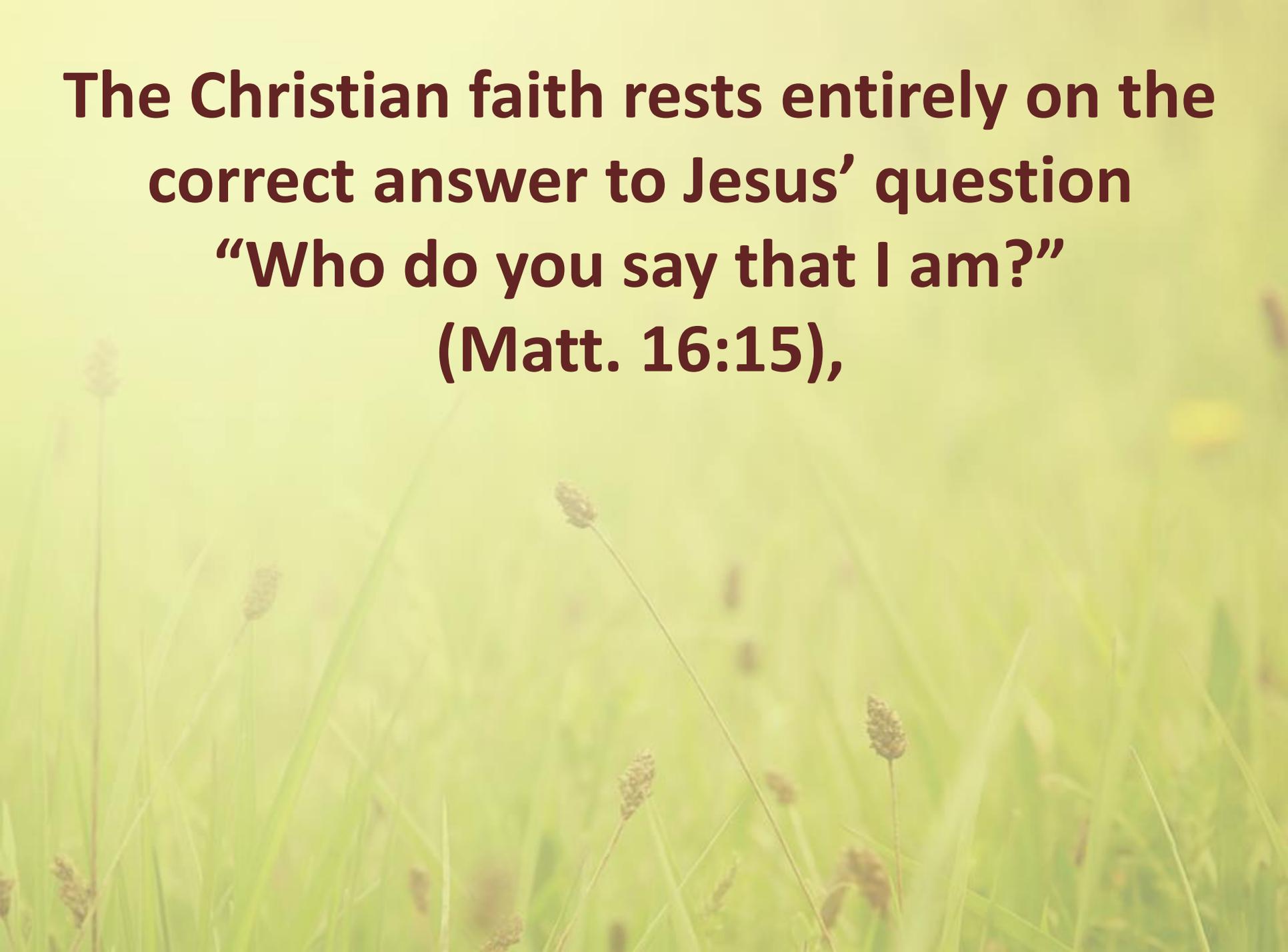
•Jesus is equal with God in worship (5:23).

"A man who was merely a man and said the sort of things Jesus said would not be a great moral teacher. He would either be a lunatic ... or else he would be the Devil of Hell. You must make your choice. Either this man was, and is, the Son of God: or else a madman or something worse. You can shut Him up for a fool, you can spit at Him and kill Him as a demon; or you can fall at His feet and call Him Lord and God. But let us not come with any patronizing nonsense about His being a great human teacher. He has not left that open to us. He did not intend to."



Message
The Sequel to Being Equal
John 5:16-23

Pastor Ralph Van Oostveen



**The Christian faith rests entirely on the
correct answer to Jesus' question
"Who do you say that I am?"
(Matt. 16:15),**

If Jesus is who He claimed to be and who the Bible proclaims Him to be, then the entire Christian faith stands.

If He is not who He claimed to be, then our faith in Christ would be in vain.

“A man who was merely a man and said the sort of things Jesus said would not be a great moral teacher. He would either be a lunatic ... or else he would be the Devil of Hell. You must make your choice. Either this man was, and is, the Son of God: or else a madman or something worse. You can shut Him up for a fool, you can spit at Him and kill Him as a demon; or you can fall at His feet and call Him Lord and God. But let us not come with any patronizing nonsense about His being a great human teacher. He has not left that open to us. He did not intend to.”

C.S Lewis (Mere Christianity)

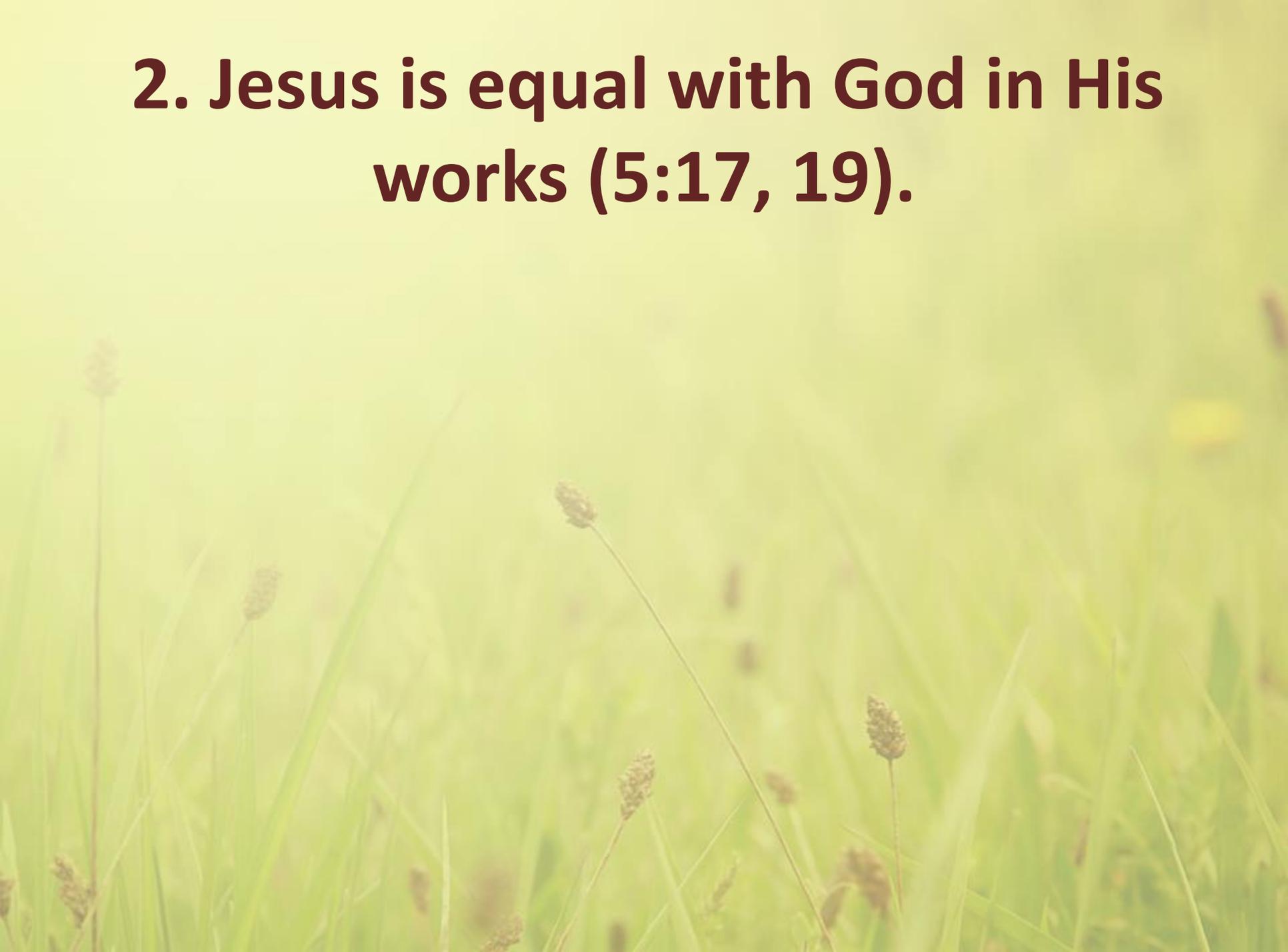
**1. Jesus is equal with God in His nature,
but distinct from the Father as the Son
(5:17-18).**



**He was claiming that He partook of the
same nature as His Father.**

This involved equality.

2. Jesus is equal with God in His works (5:17, 19).



Jesus is saying, “To accuse Me of Sabbath-breaking is to accuse God of Sabbath-breaking, because He is My Father and I work exactly as He works. The Father works continuously, including on the Sabbath; so do I.”

In Jesus, we see God. When Jesus worked, it was God working. Whatever Jesus did was an act of God; whatever He said was the word of God. There was no moment of His life and no action of His which did not express the life and action of the Father.

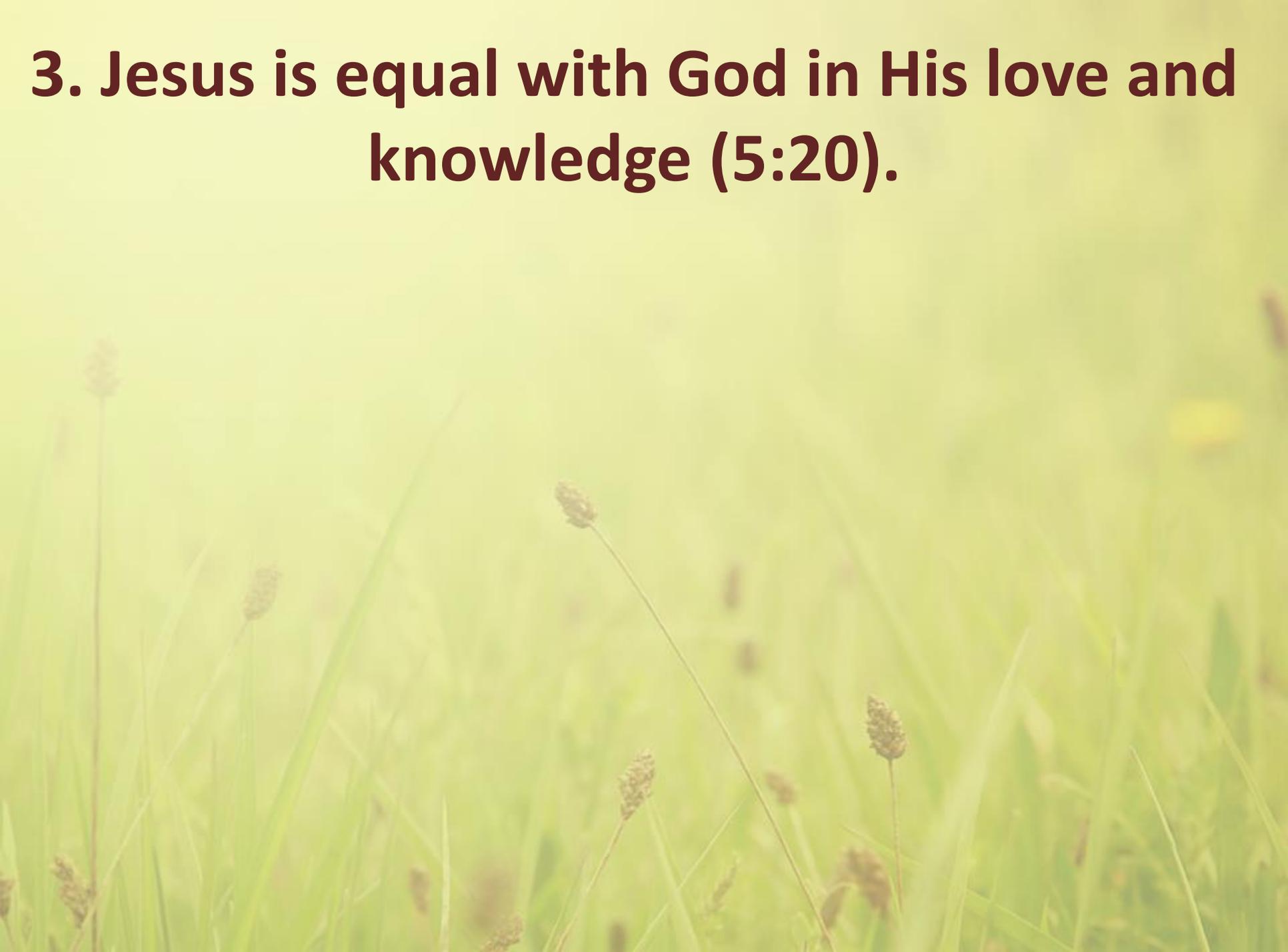
**Jesus is always subordinate to the
Father in terms of carrying out the
divine will**



For the sake of carrying out the divine plan, the Son is subject to the Father and the Spirit is subject to the Father and the Son.



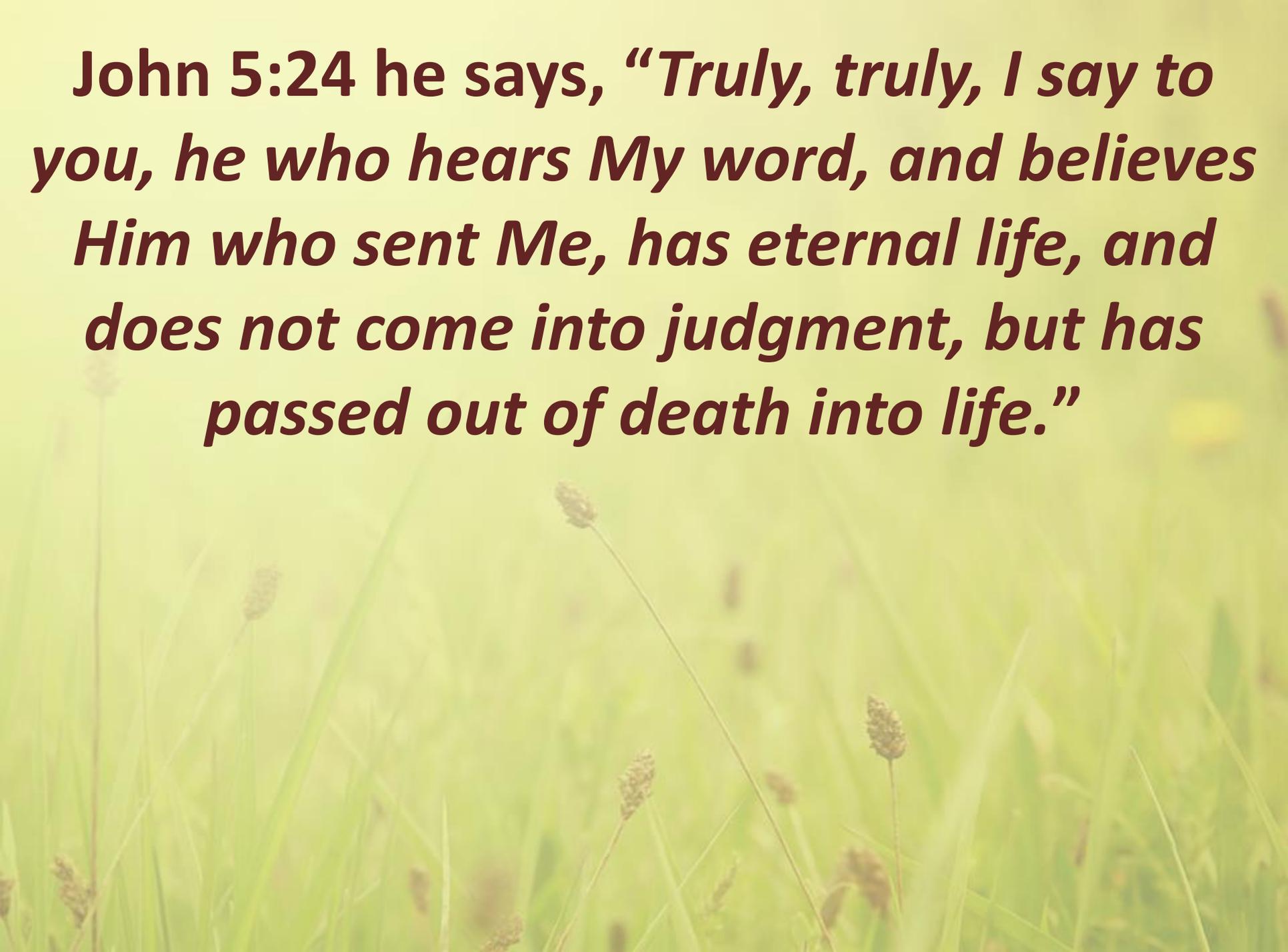
3. Jesus is equal with God in His love and knowledge (5:20).



4. Jesus is equal with God in His sovereign power (5:21).

John 5:21: *“For just as the Father raises the dead and gives them life, even so the Son also gives life to whom He wishes.”*

John 5:24 he says, "Truly, truly, I say to you, he who hears My word, and believes Him who sent Me, has eternal life, and does not come into judgment, but has passed out of death into life."



**5. Jesus is equal with God in judgment
(5:22).**

John 5:22: “For not even the Father judges anyone, but He has given all judgment to the Son”

But those who reject Him are already under condemnation because they have not believed in the only provision for their sins that God graciously provided (3:18).

If they die in that condition, they will face His eternal judgment.

Also, to be a just and fair judge, Jesus must possess all knowledge of all people who have ever lived

6. Jesus is equal with God in worship.

John 5:23: “... so that all will honour the Son even as they honour the Father. He who does not honour the Son does not honour the Father who sent Him.”

**What created being could say that we
should honour Him just as we honour
the Father?**

Clearly, Jesus is claiming to be God.

If they claim to believe in God, but they think that Jesus was just a good man, they do not believe in the living and true God.

They only believe in a god of their own making. If they do not honour Jesus, they do not honour the Father.