



John: The Great "I AM" Gospel
John 5:16-24
From Sermon 8.13.23

Read *John 5:16-24*

Overview from Sunday's sermon: Following the controversial healing of the ungrateful man, Jesus is facing the first round of formal hostility from the religious leaders. He now takes the stand (in our mock courtroom) to make His defense. In His words are the foreshadow of major change regarding one Commandment in the Law of God—the Sabbath. In all the points He makes, He proves to be the I AM.

1. What two actions did Jesus do that created so much anger and opposition?

- Healing (working) the Sabbath
- Making Himself Equal with God (the Father)

2. Re-read verse 17. In His defense, what point does He make about God and the Sabbath? God is always working. He cannot violate His own Law/nature. The Sabbath is for man, not God. See also *Mark 2:27*

3. In what ways is God always working, even on the Sabbath or the Lord's Day? Various answers. Ruling, moving, sustaining all things, fighting, healing, orchestrating, intervening in human affairs.

4. Likewise, what human representatives of God's are working on every Sabbath or Lord's Day—and by God's design? Clergy! Ministers. Church volunteers/workers. See also *2 Timothy 4:1-5*

5. How come we don't observe the Sabbath, even though it's a commandment? We are not Jews nor are we under the Law. The first Church met on the first day of the week (Sunday) to celebrate the resurrection. While all of the Commandments are repeated (even expounded upon) in the New Testament, the Sabbath is not. Like the dietary, ceremonial, and holiday laws, Jesus fulfills the Sabbath. He is our rest. See also *Colossians 2:16 [almost the very same argument with their required circumcision.]*

6. By what authority did/does Jesus change or fulfill the Sabbath? He's the author/The I AM who instituted the Law. He ends one dispensation and institutes the next.

7. What were the religious leaders actually mad about? Jesus telling them they were sinners, had doctrine all wrong, were leading men astray, and were enemies of God.

Trials, Hurts, and Losses—Part 2

List and Discuss reasons 3 and 4 that we go through pain, poverty, and calamity.

3. Tools of God: Humility, sympathize, discipline (chastise and learning), & healing

4. For the Glory of God: We may never fully know the reason.

In the church, who's the best person to minister to a hurting, suffering member? A member who's gone through the same or similar trial and learned to rely on God. See also *2 Corinthians 1:3-4*