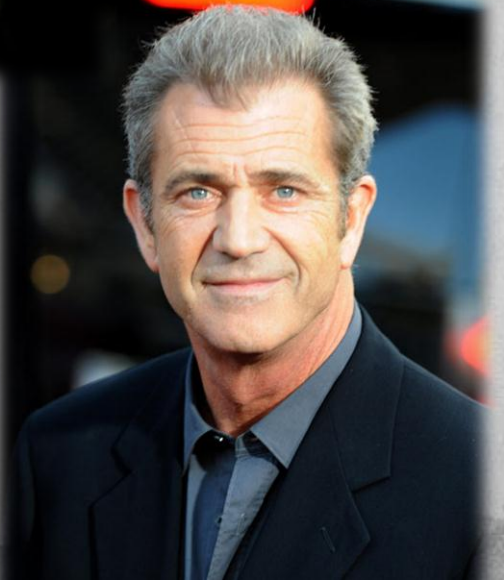




**From
Accuser
to Belief**

John 5:25-47

Fyodor Dostoevsky, Bruce Springsteen, Anne Rice, Kanye West, Marilyn Manson, Jethro Tull, Mel Gibson



From Accuser To Belief

John 5:25-47

- ◆ Things to remember
- ◆ 1) Christ has been informally accused
- ◆ 2) John wants to encourage our belief
- ◆ Believe is here 7 times in 23 verses
- ◆ After we believe in Christ we will be unbelievable / rejected

John 5:25 (English Standard Version)

²⁵"Truly, truly, I say to you, an hour is coming, and is now here, when the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God, and those who hear will live.

From Accuser To Belief

John 5:25-47

- ◆ Why is Christ having this conversation?
- ◆ Because it's about life and death - now and forever
- ◆ We are born dead; Christ must speak life into us
- ◆ If you're a believer, the same power is at work in and for you now

John 5:26-29 (English Standard Version)

²⁶ For as the Father has life in Himself, so He has granted the Son also to have life in Himself.

²⁷ And He has given Him authority to execute judgment, because He is the Son of Man. ²⁸ Do not marvel at this, for an hour is coming when all who are in the tombs will hear His voice ²⁹ and come out, those who have done good to the resurrection of life, and those who have done evil to the resurrection of judgment.

From Accuser To Belief

John 5:25-47

- ◆ Verse 29 is NOT an argument for doing good to get to heaven
- ◆ Those who live differently and end differently than those without life
- ◆ The reality of heaven and hell - 2 different post-death existences
- ◆ We like God and Jesus, but not the hell or after death “stuff” – it’s all or nothing!

John 5:30-36 (English Standard Version)

³⁰ "I can do nothing on my own. As I hear, I judge, and my judgment is just, because I seek not my own will but the will of him who sent me. ³¹ If I alone bear witness about myself, my testimony is not deemed true. ³² There is another who bears witness about me, and I know that the testimony that he bears about me is true. ³³ You sent to John, and he has borne witness to the truth. ³⁴ Not that the testimony that I receive is from man, but I say these things so that you may be saved. ³⁵ He was a burning and shining lamp, and you were willing to rejoice for a while in his light. ³⁶ But the testimony that I have is greater than that of John. For the works that the Father has given me to accomplish, the very works that I am doing, bear witness about me that the Father has sent me.

From Accuser To Belief

John 5:25-47

- ◆ You say you know God- but you don't know Christ
- ◆ You can't leave out Christ- and you can't leave out the Christ that claims to be God!

John 5:37-38 (English Standard Version)

³⁷And the Father who sent Me has Himself borne witness about Me. His voice you have never heard, His form you have never seen,
³⁸and you do not have His word abiding in you, for you do not believe the One whom He has sent.

From Accuser To Belief

John 5:25-47

- ◆ Their zeal for religion and self-made goodness blinded them
- ◆ Doesn't mean we should abandon religion
- ◆ We must recover and live a religion that we can pass on to our children
- ◆ A high view of God who stooped down into history to die for our sins and lives now, and invites us to LIVE

From Accuser To Belief

John 5:25-47

- ◆ Christ says "You don't understand because you reject the evidence"
- ◆ Proclaim faithfully to the unbeliever
- ◆ Believe the evidence

John 5:39-41 (English Standard Version)

³⁹ You search the Scriptures because you think that in them you have eternal life; and it is they that bear witness about Me, ⁴⁰yet you refuse to come to Me that you may have life. ⁴¹ I do not receive glory from people.

From Accuser To Belief

John 5:25-47

- ◆ How did they miss the whole point of Scripture?
- ◆ 1) They valued the teachings of men
- ◆ 2) They valued the praise of men
- ◆ The OT (their Scripture) is full of allusions/references to Christ....
- ◆ They were in Jerusalem to celebrate God's grace - and they missed it!
- ◆ We're here today to celebrate Easter and the risen Christ - are you missing it?

John 5:40 (English Standard Version)

⁴⁰yet you refuse to come to me that you may
have life.

From Accuser To Belief

John 5:25-47

- ◆ Why don't they want to come to Him?
- ◆ Belief means dying to self-love and self-improvement
- ◆ We want a Messiah that makes much of Himself - and us!

John 5:44-47 (English Standard Version)

⁴⁴How can you believe, when you receive glory from one another and do not seek the glory that comes from the only God? ⁴⁵Do not think that I will accuse you to the Father.

There is one who accuses you: Moses, on whom you have set your hope. ⁴⁶For if you believed Moses, you would believe me; for he wrote of me. ⁴⁷But if you do not believe his writings, how will you believe my words?"

From Accuser To Belief

John 5:25-47

- ◆ You say you follow Moses - he's accusing you of religious, self-righteous arrogance
- ◆ What does it all mean?
- ◆ 1) You are not and cannot make yourself good enough
- ◆ We only have 2 options:
 - ◆ a. good in us
 - ◆ b. good given to us

From Accuser To Belief

John 5:25-47

- ◆ 2) You can't accept praise for post-salvation goodness
- ◆ 3) We must be broken of self-love
- ◆ 4) God wants your love
- ◆ 5) We must honor, obey, worship and deeply desire God through Christ
- ◆ (Belief and perseverance)

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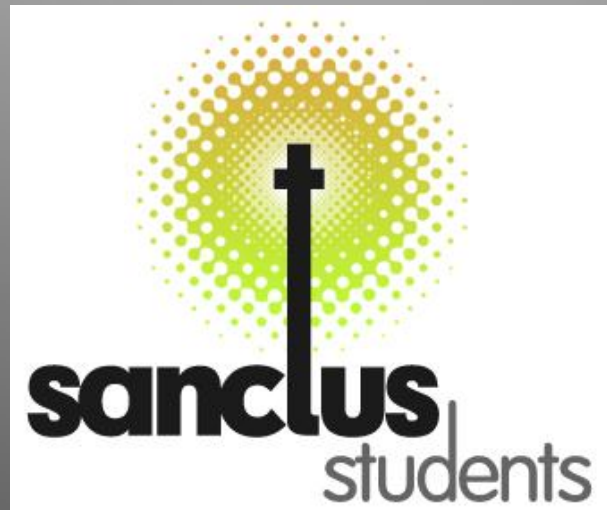
**I AM
ON FIRE
WITH PASSION
FOR YOUR
HOUSE**

PSALM 69:9

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