

Five Wonderful Blessings

Introduction. The time of the miracle in John 5 is unknown. It occurred on the second of Jesus' five visits to Jerusalem recorded in John. The reason for this visit was so He could attend a feast of the Jews. The miracle illustrated what Jesus said in John 5:24 — the power of His word and the gift of life. Spiritually speaking, Israel was a nation of impotent people, waiting hopelessly for something to happen.

Thinking about John 5:24 more closely, the wonders of God's wisdom, knowledge, and grace are boundless (Romans 11:33-36). They are embodied and revealed in Jesus (John 14:9-10). John 5:24 details five wonderful blessings received from the bountiful hand of God for all who believe and obey.

I. Wonderful Privilege: Hearing The Word Of God

- A. Our access to God's word should cause faith and gratitude (Romans 10:17).
 - 1. For most people, the word of God has meant something immeasurable to them. Imagine those who have never heard one gospel sermon!
 - 2. Our gratitude to God is expressed by believing and obeying it — taking advantage of our opportunities to hear it (Acts 10:33).
- B. Contemplate what we have in the word of God:
 - 1. It is effective (Hebrews 4:12).
 - 2. It is incorruptible (1 Peter 1:23).
 - 3. It is comprehensible (Psalm 119:104-105).
 - 4. It is attractive (John 6:44-45).
- C. Our responsibility is to hear or be destroyed (Acts 3:22-23).

II. Wonderful Provider: God The Father

- A. God's love is wonderful — He sent His Son (1 John 4:9-10).
 - 1. As a supreme authority over us (Matthew 28:18; John 5:27; Colossians 3:17; Hebrews 1:2; 1 Peter 3:22).
 - 2. As a sacrifice for our sins (Romans 5:8) and a source of life to sinners (John 5:26; cp. 1:4-5; 7:38; 14:6).
- B. Thank God and acknowledge His provisions by your faith (2 Corinthians 8:5).

III. Wonderful Possession: Eternal Life

- A. Spiritual life is a present reality for Christians (John 20:31).
 - 1. "Hath" is in the present tense, meaning it is a simple statement of fact or reality viewed as occurring in actual time.
 - 2. The condition is that we must "have the Son" (1 John 5:11-12; cp. Galatians 3:26-27; John 6:35; 15:4). We can know we are saved because Christ immediately gives us spiritual life out of spiritual death.
- B. Eternal life is also our hope for the future (Mark 10:28-30).
 - 1. We do not yet experience the glory, honor, and immortality of eternal life (Romans 2:6-7).
 - 2. There is yet a salvation to be revealed to us (1 Peter 1:3-5, 9). Both distinctions are given: This life and the "end" (Romans 6:22).

IV. Wonderful Promise: No Condemnation

- A. The believer's security is guaranteed (Romans 8:1). Which believer? The one who hears and follows Jesus (John 14:15; 15:10; cp. 12:42-43).
- B. The believer's security is conditional.
 - 1. Someone who stops hearing and following falls away (John 10:27-28; Hebrews 3:12-13).
 - 2. Someone who stops hearing and following places themselves under condemnation — their faith is wrecked and overthrown (1 Timothy 1:19-20; 2 Timothy 2:17-18). Keep the faith and obtain this promise (2 Timothy 4:7-8).

V. Wonderful Passage: From Death Unto Life

- A. He who hears and believes receives spiritual life (John 5:25).
 - 1. Man is dead in sin until regenerated by God (Ephesians 2:1-6).
 - 2. Regeneration occurs in water baptism (Romans 6:4).
 - a) We bury dead people — those dead in sin are baptized.
 - b) They are raised alive in Christ — henceforth they are dead to sin.
 - c) Paul called it the "washing of regeneration" (Titus 3:5).
- B. If we reject God's word and faith in God we remain dead in sin — lost.

Conclusion. These truths are firm and secure. We can confidently live in God's love when we do what Jesus says. Immediately following the verse studied in this lesson, Jesus talks about the resurrection in vv. 25-30. John likes using the expression "the last day" (John 6:39-40, 44, 54; 11:24; 12:48), so while we sing for your encouragement, ask yourself where you'll be at that great day.