

Series: Life to the Full; Sermon: **The Glory that Comes from the Only God**

Delivered by: **Dr. Josh Moody**, senior pastor; Date: **January 28, 2018**

Bible text explored: John 5:30–47

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. ³¹If I alone bear witness about myself, my testimony is not true. ³²There is another who bears witness about me, and I know that the testimony that he bears about me is true. ³³You sent to John, and he has borne witness to the truth. ³⁴Not that the testimony that I receive is from man, but I say these things so that you may be saved. ³⁵He was a burning and shining lamp, and you were willing to rejoice for a while in his light. ³⁶But 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. 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. ³⁹You 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. ⁴¹I do not receive glory from people. ⁴²But I know that you do not have the love of God within you. ⁴³I have come in my Father's name, and you do not receive me. If another comes in his own name, you will receive him. 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?” [ESV]

Review and application:

1. Why (*John 5:18*) were the Jewish religious leaders accusing Jesus of blasphemy?

Pastor Moody mentioned British philosopher Bertrand Russell's conclusion that he had insufficient evidence to warrant belief in the existence of God.

2. If the Jewish religious leaders were to try Jesus (v. 31) he acknowledged, that his own words would not meet their standard of evidence. What would be required to confirm his claim of equality with God (the Father)? (See *Deut. 17:6*.)

3. Why were the religious leaders at first drawn (vv. 32-35) by John the Baptist's ministry? What was behind their shift to hostility? (See *John 1:15*.)

4. How (v. 36) did the miraculous works done by Jesus constitute divine confirmation of the claims he had spoken?

What have atheists, who maintain that miracles “scientifically cannot happen,” overlooked about the Creator's discretionary power?

How did ordinary people respond to the signs that Jesus performed? (See *John 6:14-15*.)

5. What voice of the Father (vv. 3-38) had the religious leaders missed? (For one indication, see *Mark 1:11*.)

6. The Pharisees engaged in rigorous and detailed study of Scripture. How (vv. 39-40) could they have missed the forest for the trees? (See *Luke 24:25-27*)

7. The leaders thrived on religion as a profession but entirely missed what God was doing in their midst. How (vv. 41-42) was forgetting to love God a root cause?

How did their jockeying for position as rivals (vv. 43-44) cause them to ignore God's presence?

8. How (vv. 45-47) had the Pharisees disbelieved Moses' writings about the Messiah? (See *Deut. 18:14-15* and *18-19*.)