

John 5:18-24

Verse 18

The Jews wanted to kill not only because He was breaking the Sabbath in their eyes (Jesus was not breaking any law as He was sinless and fulfilled the righteous requirement of the Law), but because of His claim to be deity and equal to God.

Verse 19

When Jesus says He can do nothing of Himself there are two aspects of the Trinity that are in view. There are two definitions in describing the Trinity are: ontological and economical. The ontological aspect of the Trinity deals with the being of God. God is one being. The economic aspect of the Trinity deals with the three divine persons within the one being of God and the distinct roles each has. The term “economic” in “economic Trinity” comes from the Greek word *oikonomia*, which means “household management.” The “economy” of a household includes the assigning of roles or jobs within the family. Jesus can do nothing of Himself as He is one with the Father ([John 10:30](#)) which speaks to the ontological aspect, and He was sent by Father to complete the work He was to do which speaks to the economical view of the Trinity.

Verses 20-21

The Father has eternally loved the Son as the Son is in the bosom of the Father ([John 1:18](#)). The Father shows the Son all things He is doing. There is a greater work than healing and that is raising the dead. God alone has the ability raise the dead and give life both physically and spiritually.

Verses 22-23

In regards to the economic aspect of the Trinity, the role of judgment has been delegated to the Son ([Acts 17:28](#)). The delegation of judgment is done so that all will honor the Son as they do the Father as they are equal yet with distinct roles. To honor the Father is to honor the Son. Without the Son, you do not have the Father as the Father sent the Son to accomplish His work. The Pharisees are judging the One who will one day judge them as He is the judge of the world. The Pharisees objection to Jesus was that He was blaspheming by claiming to be God. However, without the Son one does not have the Father and so they were the ones blaspheming God.

Verse 24

The purpose of the gospel according to John is that by all things that were written you may believe Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing you may have life in His name ([John 20:30-31](#)). Those who believe in Him have eternal life and does not come into judgment ([John 3:18](#)). They have passed out of death to life as the God gives life to whom He wishes. He has raised our souls that were dead in sin from death to life and will on the Last Day be raised to everlasting life to forever be with God.

Despite what the Pharisees and many others may believe, Jesus is God. He has the power to give life to whom He pleases both physically and spiritually. Physical healing is miraculous, but pales in comparison to the miracle that a Holy, Sovereign, Eternal God would have mercy on one sinner and rescue them. The Pharisees did not know they were standing before the judge of the world in the flesh and would one day stand before Him again in the final judgement. We too, will all stand before the judge of the world one day as He will judge in righteousness. Those who He has chosen to give life by sovereignly raising from them from spiritual death to spiritual life and who believe will have an eternal life as they will stand before the judge of all the world and be declared righteous because they are clothed in the righteous garment of the Judge. He who has ears, let them hear!

- [John 20:30-31](#) Therefore many other ^asigns Jesus also performed in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; ³¹ but these have been written so that you may believe that Jesus is ^bthe Christ, the Son of God; and that believing you may have life in His name.