



## **Superstition No Longer** **10<sup>th</sup> in the “Life in his Name” Series**

John 5:1-18, p. 890

November 25, 2018

Pastor Mickey Klink

### **Introduction**

In this passage God challenges our human superstitions and invites us to find rest in his powerful person.

### **The Text: John 5:1-18**

1) Christians must guard against superstition and replace it with the truth about God’s power (vv. 1-8).

V. 4 includes this in some manuscripts: *“and they waited for the moving of the waters. From time to time an angel of the Lord would come down and stir up the waters. The first one into the pool after each such disturbance would be cured of whatever disease he had.”*

2) Christians should avoid superstitious views of suffering, but use suffering to flee from sin (v. 14).

3) Christians should avoid superstitious views of the Sabbath, for Jesus is the true “Sabbath” (vv. 9-13, 15-18).

### **Response**

Let’s avoid all superstitions and put our trust in the powerful person of Jesus Christ.

## Sunday Text Questions for John 5:1-18

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- 1) Starter Question: What are some common superstitions, and are you superstitious about anything?
- 2) Read the text aloud and discuss together any significant observations or issues needing clarification.
- 3) V. 4 is not in any of the reliable copies of the Bible. Does the absence of v. 4 confuse you regarding Bible manuscripts, scare you regarding the Bible's reliability, or just raise more questions? Explain.
- 4) Why does Jesus ask the crippled (invalid) man if he wants to be healed (v. 6)?
- 5) What is Jesus saying about sin to the man he healed in v. 14?
- 6) If Jesus cannot sin or break the law, how can the Jews accusing Jesus of breaking the laws about the Sabbath (vv. 10, 16)?
- 7) When Jesus defends his action in v. 17, what is he saying about the necessary work of his Father and himself?
- 8) Since Scripture cannot contradict itself, what is God teaching us when Genesis 2:1-3 says God "rested ... from all his work" and yet Jesus says in v. 17 that God is always been working?
- 9) How does the biblical truth that Jesus fulfills the Sabbath commands (cf. 2 Cor 1:20; Matt 5:17) explain to us why we now worship on Sunday (instead of Saturday) and direct us to make Sunday about Christ's work (not ours!)?
- 10) What *truths to believe* or *actions to obey* does this passage of Scripture teach us?

**Further study this week:** Colossians 2:6-15 on not believing in superstitions (Mon); Romans 5:12-21 on sin and death through one man (Tues); Hebrews 12:3-11 on God's fatherly use of suffering (Wed); Hebrews 4 on Jesus as our true Sabbath rest (Thurs); Ephesians 4:17-32 on removing superstition and putting on truth (Fri).