

# The Son Can Do Nothing of Himself Apart From The Father

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"But Jesus answered them, 'My Father works until now, and I am working.' Therefore the Jews (their rulers) sought even more to kill Him, because He not only had broken the sabbath, but He also said that God was His Father, making Himself equal with God. Then answered Jesus and said unto them, 'Truly, truly, I say unto you, The Son can do nothing of Himself; but what He sees the Father doing; for whatever things He (the Father) does, these also the Son does likewise. For the Father loves the Son, and shows Him everything that He does; and He will show Him greater works than these, so that you may marvel. For as the Father raises up the dead, and makes them alive; even so the Son makes alive whomever He wills. For the Father judges no man, but has committed all judgment unto the Son; so that all men should honor the Son, even as they honor the Father. He who does not honor the Son does not honor not the Father who has sent Him.' " (John 5:17-23)

**Son:** from the Greek word *huios* which Means: a son, a male descendent who shares the same nature and rights of his father. In context - Jesus has a very close 'working' relationship with His Father, in which Jesus is wholly dependent upon the Father for all He says and does in regards to His anointing, calling, and ministry.

**Can do:** from the Greek word *poiein* which Means: to do (something); to take action, to make (something), to cause something to occur or happen. The context is that Jesus can do nothing, or cannot do anything, apart from first receiving communication, instruction, direction, commandment, prophetic revelation, etc. from the Father.

**Nothing:** from the Greek word *ouden* which Means: not one, no one, none, nothing. It rules out all things by definition, with no exceptions; it excludes all possible situations. The context is: that Jesus can do 'nothing' - not even one thing pertaining to His Devine ministry, His message, His teachings, judgements, discernments, communications, miracles, healings, etc. - apart from seeing what the Father is doing, or what the Father speaks, teaches, and commands Jesus to do.

**of Himself:** from the Greek words *aph heautou* which Means: of himself; In context, Jesus is acknowledging that He Himself can do nothing without first seeing what the Father is doing, and hearing what the Father teaches Him to say to people.

Because Jesus can do nothing apart from God the Father, it was and is necessary for the relationship between the Father and Son and Holy Spirit to be continually, eternally, and proactively intimate. During the 33.5 years of the Son of God's human sojourn and ministry on earth this intimate relationship was maintained through personal communications. Consider the following situations and statements of Jesus:

## A mind set on His Father's business from a very young age:

"And it came to pass, that after three days they found Him (Jesus at age 12) in the Temple, sitting in the midst of the doctors, **both hearing them, and asking them questions. And all who heard Him were astonished at His understanding and answers.** And when they (His parents Joseph and Mary) saw Him, they were amazed; and His mother said unto Him, 'Son, why have You thus dealt with us? behold, Your father (Joseph) and I have sought You with sorrow.' And He said unto them, 'Why is it that you sought Me? Did **you not know that I must be in My Father's business?** But they did not understood this saying which He spoke unto them. And He went down with them, and came to Nazareth, and was subject unto them; but His mother (Mary) kept all these sayings in her heart. **And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and man.**" (Luke 2:46-52)

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## Private Prayer and communication with His Father:

"But so much the more there went a fame abroad about Him; and great multitudes came together to hear, and to be healed by Him of their infirmities. **And-so He withdrew Himself (often) into the wildernesses, and prayed.** (Luke 5:15-16)

(**wildernesses** - were literally: solitary-deserted-places, where Jesus could get away and **be alone** to pray and communicate with His Father; so that Jesus could ask for and receive instruction from the Father on what He should say and do: teachings, actions, etc....  
Mountains were often preferred wilderness places to be alone with His father:

"And when He had sent the multitudes away, **He went up onto a mountain apart to pray**; and when the evening had come, **He was there alone** (with His Father). (Matthew 14:23)

"And when He had sent them away, **He departed unto a mountain to pray.**" (Mark 6:46)

"And it came to pass in those days, that **He went out onto a mountain to pray, and continued all night in prayer to God.**" (Luke 6:12)

## Jesus hears and listens, and speaks forth what the Father teaches Him:

**"I can of My own Self do nothing. As I hear, I judge; and My judgment is just; because I seek not My own will, but the will of the Father who has sent Me."** (John 5:30)

"Then they said unto Him, 'Who are You?' And Jesus said unto them, 'Even the same that I said unto you from the beginning. I have many things to say and to judge of you; but He who sent Me is true; and **I speak to the world those things which I have heard from Him**. But they did not understand that He spoke to them of the Father. Then said Jesus unto them, When you have lifted up the Son of Man, then you shall know that I am (*Him*), **and that I can do nothing of Myself; but as My Father has taught Me, I speak these things**. And He who sent Me is with Me. The Father has not left Me alone; for I do always those things that please Him. As He spoke these words, many believed on Him." (John 8:28-30)

"He who rejects Me, and receives not My words, has 'one' that judges him: **'the word'** that I have spoken, the same shall judge him in the last day. **For I have not spoken of Myself; but the Father who sent Me, He gave Me a commandment, of what I should say, and what I should speak**. And I know that His commandment is life everlasting: whatever I speak therefore, **even as the Father said unto Me, so I speak.**" (John 12:48-50)

## A mind set on doing His Father's will:

Jesus said, "All whom the Father gives to Me shall come to Me; and he who comes to Me I will in no wise cast out. For I came down from heaven, not to do My own will, but the will of Him (the Father) who sent Me. And **this is the Father's will** who has sent Me, that of all that He has given to Me I should lose none, but should raise it (them) up again at the last day. And **this is the will of Him who sent Me: that every one which beholds the Son, and believes on Him, may have Everlasting Life**; and I will raise him (them) up at the last day." (John 6:37-40)

"And He (Jesus) came out, and went, as was His custom, to the mount of Olives; and His disciples also followed Him. And when He was at the place, He said unto them, 'Pray that you do not enter into temptation.' And He withdrew from them about a stone's throw away, and kneeled down, and prayed, saying, 'Father, if You are willing, remove this cup (speaking of the crucifixion) from Me; nevertheless not My will, but Yours be done.' And there appeared an angel (sent from the Father) unto Him from heaven, strengthening Him. And being in an agony He prayed more earnestly; and His sweat was as it were great drops of blood falling down to the ground. And when He rose up from prayer, and had come to His disciples, He found them sleeping for sorrow." (Luke 22:39-45)

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Jesus said (in John 8:30), 'And He (the Father) who sent Me is with Me. The Father has not left Me alone!' In this statement is the key to our 'title' statement (John 5:19): 'The Son can do nothing of Himself.' Jesus is not alone! The Father is with Jesus and in Jesus! All the things that Jesus cannot do in His humanity, He instead, with the Father with and in Him, Jesus can now do. Please consider these additional confirming words of Christ Jesus:

"Jesus said unto him (Philip), 'Have I been with you so long a time, and yet you have not known Me, Philip? He who **has seen Me has seen the Father**; and how do you then say, 'Show us the Father?' Do you not believe that **I am in the Father, and the Father is in Me?** The words that I speak unto you I speak not of Myself; but the Father who dwells in Me, He does the works. Believe Me that I am in the Father, and the Father is in Me; or else believe Me for the very 'works' sake." (John 14:9-?)

Jesus said, "I can of My own Self do nothing." Then later Jesus said, "Believe Me that I am in the Father, and the Father is in Me; or else believe Me for the very 'works' sake." Please consider the following miraculous 'works' that Jesus performed: miraculous "works" that absolutely prove that Jesus is in the Father, and the Father is in Jesus:

"And he arose, and rebuked the wind, and said unto the sea, 'Peace, be still.' And the wind ceased, and there was a great calm. ... and they said one to another, 'What manner of man is this, that even the wind and the sea obey Him?'" (Read in context Mark 4:35-41)

"... And straightway his ears were opened, and the string of his tongue was loosed, and he spoke plain. ... And were beyond measure astonished, saying, He hath done all things well: he makes both the deaf to hear, and the dumb to speak." (Read in context Mark 7:31-37)

"And Jesus said unto him, 'Receive your sight; your faith has saved you. And immediately he received his sight, and followed him, glorifying God: and all the people, when they saw it, gave praise unto God.'" (Read in context Luke 18:35-43)

"... And I knew that You hear Me always; but because of the people who stand by I said it, so that they may believe that You have sent Me.' And when He thus had spoken, He cried with a loud voice, 'Lazarus, come forth.' And he who was dead came forth, bound hand and foot with grave clothes." (Read in context John 11:1-44)

Finally, consider this exhortation from Lord Jesus:

Truly, truly, I say unto you, He who believes on Me, **the works that I do shall he do also;** and **greater works than these shall he do;** because I go unto My Father. And whatever you shall ask in My Name, that will I do, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If you shall ask any thing in My Name, I will do it. If you love Me, keep **My commandments**, and I will pray to the Father, and He shall give you another Comforter (the Holy Spirit), so that He may abide with you forever." (John 14:9-16)

## Jesus Can Do Nothing of Himself Apart From The Father

**What Jesus sees the Father doing – so Jesus does likewise!**

**What Jesus hears from the Father – so also does Jesus speak and do!**

**Whatever is the Father's will – so also it becomes the will of Christ Jesus!**

**It is the Father who dwells in Jesus who does the works!**

**Truly, truly Lord Jesus – in and through You the Father Is Glorified!  
In and through You Lord Jesus the Father's will is accomplished ...  
... Life Everlasting for all who believe in You! Thank You Jesus !!!**