

Actions of the Son

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BIG SANDY, Texas—Years ago, I gave a sermon titled "That God May Be All in All." I chose the title of the sermon from the concluding phrase in 1 Corinthians 15:28.

1 Corinthians 15:24, 28—"Then comes the end, when He [Son] delivers the kingdom to God the Father, when He [Son] puts an end to all rule and all authority and power . . . Now when all things are made subject to Him [Son], then the Son Himself will also be subject to Him [Father] who put all things under Him [Son], that God may be all in all."

I also quoted John 5:22-23.

John 5:22-23—"For the Father judges no one, but has committed all judgment to the Son, that all should honor the Son just as they honor the Father. He who does not honor the Son does not honor the Father who sent Him."

I proceeded to give 10 ways we can show honor to the Son. This week we will look at the third concept—the actions of the Son.

Actions speak louder

Have you heard the phrase "actions speak louder than words"? It is common for people to display actions that do not measure up to their words.

- Matthew 7:5.
- Matthew 23:3.
- Romans 2:21-24.

While we recognize that the words spoken by the Son were exemplary, it is amazing to recognize that His actions were also spectacular.

1 Peter 2:21—"For to this you were called, because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that you should follow His steps."

Lived a life of grace

Recently, I learned that the word *grace* appears only twice in the King James Version of the Gospels (in Luke 2:40 and John 1:14-17).

Yet it is important to note that the Son modeled what grace is by the way He lived His life. Notice some examples in the book of John.

- In John 1, Nathaniel uttered an insult about the Son's hometown: "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" (verse 46). The Son commented back: "Behold, an Israelite indeed, in whom is no guile!" (verse 47). That was showing grace.
- In John 2, the Son provided wine at a wedding to save the family from embarrassment. Grace.
- In John 3, the Son explained truth to Nicodemus (a Pharisee who was a ruler of the Jews). Grace.
- In John 4, the Son talked to a Samaritan woman at a well. Instead of berating her for her questionable lifestyle, the Son shared some words of life. Grace.
- In John 5, the Son healed a man who did not even know who the Son was. Grace.
- In John 8, the Son saved the life of a woman caught in adultery, and told her not to repeat the sin. Grace.
- In John 9, the Son healed a man who has been blind from birth. Grace.
- In John 11, the Son comforted Mary and Martha at the death of their brother. Grace.
- In John 12, the Son instructed people to leave Mary alone after she "wasted" money by anointing His feet with expensive oil. Grace.
- In John 13, the Son washed the feet of His disciples—including the feet of Judas. Grace.
- In John 14-16, the Son gave some words of encouragement to His disciples. Grace.
- In John 18-19, the Son patiently endured the harassment and abuse from the Jewish religious leaders and Roman civil leaders. Grace.