

Jesus Wants Us to Believe

John 10:22-42 ²² At that time the Feast of Dedication took place at Jerusalem. It was winter, ²³ and Jesus was walking in the temple, in the colonnade of Solomon. ²⁴ So the Jews gathered around him and said to him, "How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Christ, tell us plainly." ²⁵ Jesus answered them, "I told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father's name bear witness about me, ²⁶ but you do not believe because you are not part of my flock. ²⁷ My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me. ²⁸ I give them eternal life, and they will never perish, and no one will snatch them out of my hand. ²⁹ My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all, and no one is able to snatch them out of the Father's hand. ³⁰ I and the Father are one." ³¹ The Jews picked up stones again to stone him. ³² Jesus answered them, "I have shown you many good works from the Father; for which of them are you going to stone me?" ³³ The Jews answered him, "It is not for a good work that we are going to stone you but for blasphemy, because you, being a man, make yourself God." ³⁴ Jesus answered them, "Is it not written in your Law, 'I said, you are gods'? ³⁵ If he called them gods to whom the word of God came—and Scripture cannot be broken— ³⁶ do you say of him whom the Father consecrated and sent into the world, 'You are blaspheming,' because I said, 'I am the Son of God'? ³⁷ If I am not doing the works of my Father, then do not believe me; ³⁸ but if I do them, even though you do not believe me, believe the works, that you may know and understand that the Father is in me and I am in the Father." ³⁹ Again they sought to arrest him, but he escaped from their hands. ⁴⁰ He went away again across the Jordan to the place where John had been baptizing at first, and there he remained. ⁴¹ And many came to him. And they said, "John did no sign, but everything that John said about this man was true." ⁴² And many believed in him there.

❖ Recap

- The Door and the Shepherd

❖ Introduction and Preview

- These Verses are more than just a bunch of info...
- I hope we do more than just have the verses explained to us today
- I Hope you place yourself in this scene
 - As much as you can from a modern day standpoint
 - Place yourself in the scene
- **These Verses are meant for you to see that Jesus is who He says He is...**
 - And this is so important for you in your life...
 - Jesus is standing here making a case for himself... For you to believe in Him...
 - And He leaves no room for guessing.
- **In the End**
 - You must decide ... If He is who He is saying He is
 - How should I respond...
 - This is especially true to the person who has never been born again
 - Like Jesus explained in John 3 with Nicodemus...
 - You must be made new of the Spirit...
 - It is also true for the born again believer here this morning
 - You believe all these things Jesus says about himself...
 - But you are cold... and you are not walking closely with your shepherd
 - The call is for you to stop being a sheep that tries to wander from the fold of the shepherd...
- **Preview (7)**
 - The Question
 - Jesus Great 6 Point Response

- The People's Response: Kill Him
- His Tactical Answer
- His Pleading
- They Won't Believe
- Many Others Believe

➤ **See these verses as more than just Information**

- Let Jesus' response meet you today and speak to you
- Let it be an exaltation of who He is...
- And then let that be applied or used by you to:
 - Grow up in your walk with Jesus...

❖ **Setting**

- ²² At that time the Feast of Dedication took place at Jerusalem. It was winter, ²³ and Jesus was walking in the temple, in the colonnade of Solomon.
- Feast of Dedication... Held two months after the Feast of booths that we have looked at already
 - Jesus was there in the temple...

❖ **The Question**

- ²⁴ So the Jews gathered around him and said to him, "How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Christ, tell us plainly."
- In The temple walking around...
 - And then this Jewish crowd just huddles around Him...
- How long will we be in suspense by You
 - They were tired of His parables and stories... and Clear Explanations of who He was
- **Are you the Christ... Tell us plainly...**
 - Ha... plainly...
 - We will look and see if He did nor not....
- **What and Who was the Christ to be... (Need to understand this, cause it is a big deal)**
 - Who was the world waiting for...
 - I say world because His prophetic coming was not isolated to Israel only
 - ◆ Men from the east would come
 - **The Christ:**
 - Means the same thing as Messiah... Just a more Greek word
 - It Literally means anointed one....
 - **The Jewish understanding of the Messiah they were looking for...**
 - 1) ingathering of the exiles; 2 restoration of the religious courts of justice; 3 an end of wickedness, sin and heresy; 4 reward to the righteous; 5 rebuilding of Jerusalem; 6 restoration of the line of King David; 7 and restoration of Temple service.
 - A Quote from a Jewish Perspective
 - ◆ The mashiach will be a great political leader descended from King David (Jeremiah 23:5). The mashiach is often referred to as "mashiach ben David" (mashiach, son of David). He will be well-versed in Jewish law, and observant of its commandments (Isaiah 11:2-5). He will be a charismatic leader, inspiring others to follow his example. He will be a great military leader, who will win battles for Israel. He will be a great judge, who makes righteous decisions (Jeremiah

33:15). But above all, he will be a human being, not a god, demi-god or other supernatural being.

▪ **Their understanding was completely Earthy! This is why they missed him...**

• **I even read this:**

- ◆ The word "mashiach" does not mean "savior." The notion of an innocent, divine or semi-divine being who will sacrifice himself to save us from the consequences of our own sins is a purely Christian concept that has no basis in Jewish thought.

▪ **Did they not read this:**

- Isaiah 53:5⁵ But he was wounded for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with his stripes we are healed.
- Isaiah 53:11¹¹ Out of the anguish of his soul he shall see and be satisfied; by his knowledge shall the righteous one, my servant, make many to be accounted righteous, and he shall bear their iniquities.
- Isaiah 7:14¹⁴ Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel
 - ◆ Immanuel means.... God with us...

❖ **Jesus Great 6 Point Response**

- ²⁵ Jesus answered them, "I told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father's name bear witness about me,²⁶ but you do not believe because you are not part of my flock.²⁷ My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me.²⁸ I give them eternal life, and they will never perish, and no one will snatch them out of my hand.²⁹ My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all, and no one is able to snatch them out of the Father's hand.³⁰ I and the Father are one."

➤ **1) Jesus Had Been Telling Them With His Words**

- ²⁵"I told you, and you do not believe.

▪ **Examples in John**

- John 4:14¹⁴ but whoever drinks of the water that I will give him will never be thirsty again. The water that I will give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life."
- John 6:35³⁵ Jesus said to them, "I am the bread of life; whoever comes to me shall not hunger, and whoever believes in me shall never thirst.
- John 7:37-38³⁷ On the last day of the feast, the great day, Jesus stood up and cried out, "If anyone thirsts, let him come to me and drink.³⁸ Whoever believes in me, as the Scripture has said, 'Out of his heart will flow rivers of living water.' "
- John 8:12¹² Again Jesus spoke to them, saying, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."
- John 8:58⁵⁸ Jesus said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, before Abraham was, I am."
- John 10:7⁷ So Jesus again said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, I am the door of the sheep.
- John 10:11¹¹ I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.

➤ **2) His Works Told Them**

- The works that I do in my Father's name bear witness about me,

▪ **Examples**

- Water into Wine
- Healing of the official's son
- Lame man of John 5

- Fed 5,000
 - Healed the Blind man...
 - **There were many more unrecorded... in John**
 - Some recorded in the other gospels
 - Some left totally unrecorded
 - **Then, there were more to come**
 - He even brought **Lazarus** up out of the grave 4 days after his death
- **3) They Can't Hear Because they are not His Sheep**
- ²⁶but you do not believe because you are not part of my flock. ²⁷My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me.
 - **We must read it as He says it...**
 - The tendency here would be to try to explain it away...
 - This is a lesson here to not let your preconceived ideas of who God is and how He works...
 - ◆ Get in the way of learning who He is...
 - ◆ God does not always fit into our pockets...
 - ◆ I say this not as a know it all but with great compassion when it comes trying to understand
 - God's Election or Predetermination of His children....
 - Look at the verse again...
 - **Do Not Believe because you are not a part of the flock**
 - ◆ Wow... this is such an amazing statement... With a million ramifications...
 - God has known His Children since before the world began
 - ◆ Ephesians 1:4-5 ⁴even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him. In love ⁵he predestined us for adoption as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will,
 - ◆ Romans 8:29 ²⁹For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn among many brothers.
 - **It is very clear here... Some are His sheep and others are not...**
 - ◆ There is verse after verse in the Bible showing that God has chosen us first...
 - These are not just isolated verses... You can not escape this truth in the Bible...
 - ◆ You have the option to scratch your head over this...
 - Or rejoice that God loved you specifically...
 - ²⁶but you do not believe because you are not part of my flock. ²⁷My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me.
 - **Their Response proves who they are (Don't stop and get bogged down at the last point)**
 - **Notice: Jesus is still here preaching to them...**
 - ◆ He is preaching and working so they might believe...
 - ◆ But they are not...
 - ◆ An Insight into the heart of God when it comes to those who remain in their sins...
 - Matthew 23:37 ³⁷"O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often would I have gathered your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you would not!
 - **See His Heart!**
 - ◆ He does not want anyone to perish
 - 2 Peter 3:9 ⁹The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance.

➤ Ezekiel 33:11 ¹¹ Say to them, As I live, declares the Lord God, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that the wicked turn from his way and live; turn back, turn back from your evil ways, for why will you die, O house of Israel?

- **Jesus is calling Everyone...**

- ◆ He is offering salvation to all men

- ◆ But only a few believe

- ◆ Only a few are chosen

- Matthew 22:14 ¹⁴ For many are called, but few are chosen."

- **His choosing of believers still remains true...**

- **Let's look back at the Characteristics of the Sheep**

- ◆ They Hear

- ◆ They Know

- ◆ They Follow

➤ **4) Jesus is the source and security of life**

- ²⁸ I give them eternal life, and they will never perish, and no one will snatch them out of my hand.

- Eternal Life

- Never Perish

- No one can steal you

➤ **5) God the Father has always and will always have Believers**

- ²⁹ My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all, and no one is able to snatch them out of the Father's hand.

- Given them to me

- No One Can Snatch them Out

- He is Greater than all

➤ **6) Jesus Claims Equality with the Father**

- ³⁰ I and the Father are one."

- This Causes the biggest commotion

- He has said this before

- John 5:18 ¹⁸ This was why the Jews were seeking all the more to kill him, because not only was he breaking the Sabbath, but he was even calling God his own Father, making himself equal with God.

- John 5:23 ²³ that all may honor the Son, just as they honor the Father. Whoever does not honor the Son does not honor the Father who sent him.

- To understand what He meant by saying that he and the Father are one, just look at their response...

- They did not always understand what He was getting at, but they did here...

❖ **The People's Response: Kill Him**

- ³¹ The Jews picked up stones again to stone him. ³² Jesus answered them, "I have shown you many good works from the Father; for which of them are you going to stone me?" ³³ The Jews answered him, "It is not for a good work that we are going to stone you but for blasphemy, because you, being a man, make yourself God."

➤ **Jesus says He and the Father are One: Interpreted Correctly by Jews: I am God**

- So... they want to kill Him....
- Jesus wants to know why...
 - He knows why doesn't he...
 - He wants them to say it...
 - So they do...
 - ◆ Because you, being a man, make yourself God.
- **Awesome: He does not tell them they are wrong...**
 - He does not try to correct their understanding of what he was saying...
 - Jesus was overly concerned with what was right...
 - He would not want to blaspheme His Father...
 - He does not correct them...

❖ His Tactical Answer

- ³⁴ Jesus answered them, "Is it not written in your Law, 'I said, you are gods'?" ³⁵ If he called them gods to whom the word of God came—and Scripture cannot be broken— ³⁶ do you say of him whom the Father consecrated and sent into the world, 'You are blaspheming,' because I said, 'I am the Son of God'?"
- **Jesus Just kind of maneuvers His way through this one...**
 - Showing them His mastery of the word of God...
 - He uses part of Psalm 82....
 - Psalm 82:6-7 ⁶ I said, "You are gods, sons of the Most High, all of you;
 - ◆ ⁷ nevertheless, like men you shall die, and fall like any prince."
 - ◆ You see in Psalms they were not God...
 - But little g gods... Just meaning they had some power and control...
- **Jesus reiterates that He is the Son of God**
 - And from the context we see He means He is a lot more than they are
 - And he refers to himself in the same way as He did back earlier in John when they wanted to kill him then....
 - John 5:18 ¹⁸ This was why the Jews were seeking all the more to kill him, because not only was he breaking the Sabbath, but he was even calling God his own Father, making himself equal with God.
 - ◆ Jesus Spoke of God as His Father in a different way than others...

❖ His Pleading

- ³⁷ If I am not doing the works of my Father, then do not believe me; ³⁸ but if I do them, even though you do not believe me, believe the works, that you may know and understand that the Father is in me and I am in the Father."
- Test me He says....!
- **He is pleading with them**
 - **expound**
- **Look at what I am doing**
 - Believe that if you will not believe what I say...
- **2 ways to believe...**
 - Believe the testimony of my mouth
 - Believe by seeing my actions...

❖ They Won't Believe

- ³⁹ Again they sought to arrest him, but he escaped from their hands.

- They did not respond positively...
- Since it was not His time...
 - He snuck out...

❖ Many Others Believe

- ⁴⁰ He went away again across the Jordan to the place where John had been baptizing at first, and there he remained. ⁴¹ And many came to him. And they said, "John did no sign, but everything that John said about this man was true." ⁴² And many believed in him there.
- **Went to where the Word of God was preached through John the Baptist**
 - The ground of the peoples hearts was fertile...
- **Everything that John said about this man was true...**
 - John's job was to point people to Jesus...
- **Remember this important thing John said about Jesus ...**
 - John 1:29 ²⁹ The next day he saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, "Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!"
- **They believed that...**
 - And believing that and longing for that and seeing your need for that
 - Is at the heart of what it really means to believe in Jesus resulting in your Salvation

❖ Invitation

- Won't you believe today
- Christian, won't you stop being an ornery disobedient sheep...
 - Jesus says that his sheep follow Him.... Do you?