

The Call to Believe

John 12:37-50

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I. The Crisis of Unbelief (John 12:37-43)

- a. Unable to see the glory of Christ. (v.40) “Blinded Eyes”
- b. Unable to savor the glory of Christ. (v.40) “Hardened Hearts”
- c. Unwilling to surrender to the glory of Christ because of selfish gain. (vv.42-43)

II. The Case to Believe (John 12:44-47)

- a. We have a relationship with God through Christ (vv.44-45) Listen to John 14:1, 6-7.
- b. We are redirected by the light of Christ (v. 46) Jesus also said this in John 12:35 that we looked at last week as well and also in John 8:12 “***...I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.***” I love flashlights, but regardless of your flashlight, you are limited to a distance that one can see in pitch black darkness. Jesus is the light, He gives us clarity in which way to go, helps us above ledges, falls, and dangers.
- c. We are rescued by the salvation of Christ (v.47) This verse comes across as strange, but after reading several scholars’ insight on this: Jesus comes today (or that day) for salvation and will come again for judgement in His 2nd coming. Those who reject the truth of Jesus condemn themselves (John 8:37, 43, 47; 14:24; Matthew 7:24-27). We are only getting a glimpse of the grand picture from this conversation.

III. The Consequences of Unbelief (John 12:48) Unbelievers will be judged. Mark 16:16 is clear “Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be condemned.”

IV. The Command From God to Believe (John 12:49-50) 1 John 5:12-13 “***Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life. I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, that you may know that you have eternal life.***”