

John 12:42-50

John 12:42-43 – *“(42) Nevertheless among the chief rulers also many believed on him; but because of the Pharisees they did not confess him, lest they should be put out of the synagogue: (43) For they loved the praise of men more than the praise of God.”*

- A. Rulers among the Jews found themselves believing, but they were not so willing to come out in the open and follow Jesus (**John 3:1-2**).
1. Though some of the leaders and others believed, fear did stand between people and the Lord (**John 19:38**).
 - a. Fear of man is a spiritual trap (**Proverbs 29:25**).
 - b. We should not fear what man can do to us (**Matthew 10:28** and **Hebrews 13:5-6**).
 2. Regardless of one believing in Christ or not, if they're not going to confess Him he or she cannot be saved (**Matthew 10:32-33**, **Romans 10:10**, **I John 2:23**, **I John 4:15**, and **II John 7**).
 - a. Having said that, faith and confession are not the only things one must do to be saved either (**James 2:19** and **Matthew 8:28-29**).
 - b. We have to do many things to be saved (**Matthew 28:18-20**, **Mark 16:15-16**, **Luke 13:3; 5**, **Luke 14:25-33**, **John 8:23-24**, **John 8:32**, **Acts 2:14-47**, **Acts 3:19**, **Acts 8:12-39**, **Acts 9:1-20**, **Acts 10:44-48**, **Acts 16:13-15**, **Acts 16:25-34**, **Acts 18:8**, **Acts 19:1-9**, **Romans 8:24**, **Romans 10:14-17**, **I Corinthians 15:1-2**, **Galatians 3:27**, **Colossians 1:23**, **Colossians 2:12**, **Hebrews 11:1; 6**, **James 1:21-25**, **James 2:10-26**, **I Peter 2:1-2**, **II Peter 3:10-14**, etc.).
 3. Those who would confess Christ were cast out of the synagogue (**John 9:22**).
 4. True conversion of leaders among the Jews did later occur (i.e. **Acts 18:8**).
- B. The fear of being cast out of the synagogue existed because they loved the praise of men more than the praise of God (**Matthew 6:1-2** and **Matthew 23:1-12**).
1. We cannot be men pleasers (**Galatians 1:6-12** and **I Thessalonians 2:4**).
 2. When things are impressive in the eyes of carnal men, we can know they're not impressive to God (**Luke 16:15**).

John 12:44-46 – *“(44) Jesus cried and said, He that believeth on me, believeth not on me, but on him that sent me. (45) And he that seeth me seeth him that sent me. (46) I am come a light into the world, that whosoever believeth on me should not abide in darkness.”*

- A. Faith in Christ is faith in the Father (**Mark 9:37** and **John 13:20**).
1. You cannot accept one person of deity while rejecting another, for they are together as one (**Matthew 28:19**, **John 10:30**, and **I John 5:7**).
 - a. Seeing Christ is seeing the Father (**John 14:6-9**; cf. **II Corinthians 5:7**).
 - b. God is invisible (**John 4:24**), but Christ is the image of God (**Colossians 1:12-15**, **Philippians 2:5-8**, and **I Timothy 3:16**).

2. Jesus did not want to rob His Father of glory (**John 8:50, John 14:13, and John 17:4-5**).
 3. Jesus wanted people to believe in the Father (**Mark 11:20-22**).
- B. As we discussed earlier in this chapter (**John 12:35-36**), Jesus is the light of the world (**John 8:12**).
1. Darkness is representative of sin (**Acts 26:18**).
 2. In Christ, we're not supposed to sin (**II Corinthians 7:1, II Timothy 2:19, I Peter 4:1-2, and I John 3:8-10**).

John 12:47-48 – *“(47) And if any man hear my words, and believe not, I judge him not: for I came not to judge the world, but to save the world. (48) He that rejecteth me, and receiveth not my words, hath one that judgeth him: the word that I have spoken, the same shall judge him in the last day.”*

- A. Jesus was on a mission of salvation (**Luke 19:1-10**), not condemnation (**John 5:24**).
1. Don't be confused, this does not mean Jesus will not be our judge (**Romans 14:10, II Corinthians 5:10, and II Timothy 4:1**).
 2. Still yet, those who do/did not follow our Lord condemn themselves (**John 3:18-21**).
- B. The Judgment Day was not while Jesus was on earth, but is to come at an unknown time in the future (**II Peter 3:9-14**).
1. The Judgment Day is when the reward of eternity or the punishment of eternal Hell will be handed out (**Matthew 25:31-46**).
 2. On that day, condemnation will come to those who do not obey the Gospel of our Lord (**Mark 16:15-16 and II Thessalonians 1:7-9**).

John 12:49-50 – *“(49) For I have not spoken of myself; but the Father which sent me, he gave me a commandment, what I should say, and what I should speak. (50) And I know that his commandment is life everlasting: whatsoever I speak therefore, even as the Father said unto me, so I speak.”*

- A. Jesus spoke the will of His [our] Father (**John 8:26 and John 14:10-12**).
1. He was plain in showing He wasn't doing His own will (**John 5:30, John 6:38, and John 14:31**).
 2. All that Jesus did/does/will do was given to Him of the Father (**John 5:43; cf. Matthew 28:18 and Ephesians 1:19-23**).
- B. The word of the Father, which came through Christ, are the words of everlasting life (**John 6:63; 68**).
1. When the preaching of the Gospel occurs, the opportunity for salvation is presented (**Romans 1:16**).
 2. As we know, these words must not only be heard, they must also be obeyed and followed even after initial obedience (**I Corinthians 15:1-4 and Colossians 1:21-23**).