

Sermon Notes for Reflection and Discussion: John 10: 31-42

Introduction:

Jamie begins his sermon with an illustration of what it means to “drift away” from Jesus, though that never changes our standing before Him.

What *is* our standing before Him? What does it mean that it can’t change? Why is that important?

1 – The Words of Jesus

Jesus’ “shattering statement,” where he says “I and the Father are one,” initiates the entire exchange that Jamie walks us through.

Deuteronomy 6:4 asserts: “Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God is One Lord.” This is the unity that Jesus is inserting Himself into in his “shattering statement.”

What was offensive about this to the Jews? Why did they find it “blasphemous?” How is Jesus re-interpreting Old Testament teaching.

2 – Jesus’ Answer (Words)

How does Jesus answer the Jews’ objection, according to Jamie? Offer a summary. Then think about: why does Jesus answer the Jews at first, then escape in verse 39? Why does Psalm 81 refer to judges as “gods?” In what way is God like a judge, and in what ways are human judges like/unlike God?

3 – Jesus’ Works

Consider Jesus’ works. Walking on water, healing a leper, making a blind man see – these are all supernatural works of Jesus. According to verse 38, what is the purpose of these works? What are we to glean from them?

Do mighty works always equal good standing before God (Matthew 7:21-23)? What separates the works in these passages from Jesus’ works?

4 – Jesus Becoming Flesh

As Jamie quotes from John 1, we see: “The Word became flesh and dwelt among us.” Why did Jesus become flesh? How does that contribute to our growing in relationship with Him?

How does Jesus as a whole person contribute to our love of Him?

5 – The Resurrection

Paul says in 1 Corinthians 15:14 that “if Christ has not been raised, then our preaching is in vain and your faith is in vain.”

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How does Jesus' Resurrection tie into our discussion? Is it a work? A word? Both?

How does the Resurrection vindicate Jesus' message?

Bible Passage:

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.