

John # 111 “It’s The Most Wonderful Time Of The Year” *John 6:49-60*

All the faith or believing in the world gets us nothing but condemnation from God.

Yet the tiniest little bit of faith in Jesus Christ gets us eternal salvation but that faith must be in Christ alone with no works attached.

The effectiveness of faith lies in the object of faith, not in the amount of faith; it’s the quality of the object and not the quantity of the faith in the subject.

Since Jesus Christ did all the work for salvation on the cross in accordance with God’s grace policy, the only reasonable response to His work on our behalf is faith alone in Him alone.

And faith isn’t something we do; it’s actually what we express when we appropriate what God’s done for us.

Momentum tests are just like physical exercise, jogging or weight lifting; we must add a little more stimulus by testing ourselves by putting pressure on our muscles to challenge them to improve and then successful testing develops our strength consistently, oftentimes without us even realizing it!

2nd Timothy 2:15: “Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a worker who does not need to be ashamed and who correctly handles the word of truth.”

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God does not reveal His plan to us today through visions, audible voices, dreams or any other form of direct revelation as He often did to the Old Testament prophets and the New Testament apostles; the human authors of Scripture.

The Word of God is our only reliable source of information about God’s grace plan and all of God’s revealed truth is found in the Bible.

Faith is reality based on confidence in the authority or truthfulness of another.

If God exists and is all-powerful and sovereign, it stands to reason that He had something to do with us being here.

We have nothing in this world to give to God except our attention; He provides everything else!

Christianity is NOT a religion which is man’s attempt to gain a relationship with God or the attention of God by his own works and therefore refusing the Work of Jesus Christ.

Religion clouds the plan of God by blinding the human race; it was designed by Satan to make

us hostile to the plan of God.

But Christianity believes that only the Work of God through His Son provides salvation to man and an eternal relationship with God.

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In John 6, our author's theme continues: The Lord Jesus Christ performs signs or miracles and then He preaches the Good News Gospel.

And some do respond with a positive hunger for truth but most choose to react in negativity and starve for what only the Bread of Life can fulfill.

We've noted the persistent dispute, debate and outright arguing between the negative Jews and our Lord and how long will it go on? For 6 more chapters until John 13 which begins our Lord's private ministry with His positive disciples.

So, what is the overwhelming verdict from the masses? Miracles performed by Jesus; grace proclaimed by Jesus and noses turned up by the mob!

The Lord Jesus turned water into wine, healed a nobleman's son without seeing him, fed 15-20,000 people and perhaps many others unmentioned and any one miracle loudly proclaimed His authority as the Son of God.

And the result for the hearers is rejection from inexcusable unbelief.

The Lord Jesus says: This is who I am, the God-man; this is My standard, faith alone in Me alone which is My Father's standard also; you are lost without Me; your works are meaningless before God and the popular response is: They walked away in shame and disappointment.

We have 3 main groups here: 1. The curious false disciples, 2. The Jewish leaders with their followers and 3. The true disciples.

In John 6, we've seen the superficial wanting crowd, the grumbling whining crowd, the disputing wrangling crowd and stay tuned for the victorious winning crowd coming up.

The Lord Jesus has moved from works to words and this mob can tolerate our His Person and His personality as a compassionate leader as a Jewish Rabbi and they enjoy His works in performing miracles that benefit them but they can not handle His Words.

This is why Christmas remains one of the happiest times of year for so many because they get to put baby Jesus back in the manger where He can't talk!

Don't you just feel for that sweet, lovable, helpless baby Jesus who had no real soft bassinet to lie in?