John # 129

"A Refreshing Drink Of Living Water" John 7:31-39; Psalm 119:1-16; Proverbs 1:20-33
For a year, the Lord Jesus continued His mission with vibrant energy going about His
merry way

in a sense in Galilee, moving among the crowds of physically and spiritually hungry onlookers who were desperately seeking His miraculous intervention.

Jesus used every opportunity to set up shop as the Master communicator He was to proclaim

His magnificent Words of all that He stood for; grace and truth personified.

Jesus was no longer praised for what He was doing, much less for Who He was; instead, it was now vicious opposition and bitter hateful blasphemy.

A new prophet with a new prophecy was all too common and easily discredited but anyone claiming to be Messiah and not falling over himself with his lies of deception had to be addressed.

These religious leaders were the best of the best in their minds and also in the minds of their congregation at least to their faces; after all, these highly regarded men were the ultimate in respectability especially for their attention to detail in their orthodox approach to their religion.

I'm sure they discussed His messages, His claims, His attitude of unrelenting grace in their minds but the truth is, they've already made up their minds that He must go.

"He's a fraud, a liar, a blasphemer, a Sabbath breaker and worst of all, He claims to be God, equal to Him as His Son!"

The problem for the Pharisees in their thinking was that Jesus was the anti-Messiah because

He dishonored their sacred traditions.

They were so blinded by the sin of pride that they couldn't even see the bright Light of God's humble Son shining right in their faces!

Their Messiah would have to think as they did because like so many in human history, they had made their God into their own fallible human image.

Our Lord provided ample evidence of all His claims but He couldn't make them believe Him.

In His darkest hours, when He was physically exhausted, the Lord Jesus was ever-ready to escape the madness and head for the mountain top, not to retire but to refuel by spending the night alone with His Father.

And He knows full well that there's a time coming very shortly when He'll be pleading His case to His dear Father, wailing with huge tears running down His face.

All He did before men was claim to be Who He was, Israel's Messiah and when He proved it powerfully

by raising His friend Lazarus from the dead; that was the straw that broke the camel's back and for that reason, the very best of the best that Israel had to offer would not be satisfied with anything less than this false Messiah's demise.

The Church Age is a fantastically special time, it's a period when we all have positional truth which teaches us of our unique union with Jesus Christ that Paul calls being 'In Christ' as evidenced by the universal indwelling of Jesus Christ, the universal indwelling of God the Holy Spirit, the universal priesthood and ambassadorship of all believers, all of which is made known to us by the completed canon of the mind of Christ, the Holy Scriptures!

As it was with the Lord Jesus, as long as God has a purpose for us in His experiential plan for us, there is NO ONE who can remove us from this life until God decides that it's our time.

Our job as Church Age believers in witnessing

for Jesus Christ is to provide clear Gospel information and not necessarily give an invitation.

Any message from the religious is always BAD NEWS!

Regardless of and in spite of man, angels or even the devil himself, the plan of God will go right on!

As goes the Lord Jesus Christ, so goes the Church Age believer regarding a resurrection body.

For now, it's no crown without the cross first!

The Lord Jesus Who is the Living Word of God left behind the Written Word of God, His mind as His legacy for us as well as His sending of the Holy Spirit to interpret it for us.

Psalm 138:2 NKJV "I will worship toward Your Holy Temple and praise Your Name for Your loving kindness and Your truth; for You have magnified Your Word above all Your Name."

Our relationship with Jesus Christ depends upon our knowledge of biblical truth and not upon a physical meeting with Him.

Religion always blasphemes!

Passover; Unleavened Bread; First-Fruits; Pentecost; Trumpets; Atonement; Tabernacles. A most powerful voice from the most powerful Man!

The point in communicating the Gospel is to be heard which for the most part involves normal vocal tone.