

“Many Came to Believe in Him”

Intro: As the Lord is willing, today and the next Lord’s Day, ... the _____ is going to be geared toward ... those who think they are spiritually _____ when they are not. Such is a perilous place to be, to think oneself healthy when they are not for such a one takes no corrective measure. We must be sure that we truly _____ Jesus.

A. This matter is of utmost importance for _____ is the One and Only Good Shepherd, for He alone _____ down His _____ for the sheep! (Cf. Jo. 10:11)

B. This morning we will read of a group who believed they were in good standing with God but were not, and of another group who _____ came to _____ in Jesus. From this, we will learn what it means to believe _____.

I. _____ “_____ therefore again to them (the Jewish authorities), ‘I go away, and you shall seek Me, and shall die in your sin; where I am going, you cannot come.’”

A. Having rejected the only way to the Father they were to die in their sin of _____, and they would be prevented from going where Christ was to go for the door to heaven would be _____ to them.

B. In thinking there was only one place Jesus could go that they could not, ... and being quite sure that they themselves would go to heaven, _____ sarcastically and blasphemously _____ that He was going to kill Himself, which to them meant that He would be cast into the deepest and darkest part of hell for all eternity.

C. Jesus identified that at that present time _____ were from below, His statement being in the present tense. They might _____ Him saying that at some future time He would kill Himself and go to the place below but in fact, they were, at that present time, _____!

1. Jesus identified why it was that they did not believe Him, for He said, “_____ of this world!” And how could they understand Him for He said, “_____ of this world.”

D. It was because of their _____ condition that the Lord mercifully warned them they would die in their sins. ... Jesus opened the door of salvation for them, shining the light upon their dark path, showing them the way by saying, “_____ you believe that I am He!”

1. We read in Exodus 3:14, when Moses asked God who he should say sent him “to the sons of Israel,” “God said to Moses, ‘_____ WHO I AM’; and He said, ‘Thus you shall say to the sons of Israel, ‘I AM has sent me to you.’” Here, in the text, Jesus used the same expression in referring to Himself saying, “unless you believe that I am!” It is to say as the translators have it, “I am He (_____ Almighty)!” Because Jesus is God, the Great I Am, “there is salvation in no one else; for there is no other name under heaven that has been given among men, by which we must be saved” (Acts 4:12).

E. The Jews asked Jesus, “_____ are _____?”

1. “Jesus said to them, ‘What have I been saying to you from the beginning?’” ...

“I am the _____ of life ...” “I am the Living _____

...” “I am the _____ of the world ...”

II. _____ predicted that there would come a time when they would know that He is _____!

A. The time would come when they would _____ up the Son of Man; that is, when they would crucify Him, lifting Him up upon the _____. As A. W. Pink put it, “... the crucifixion would be accompanied and followed by such manifestations of His Divine glory that He would be fully vindicated, and _____ would be _____ that He was indeed the Messiah, and that He had done and said only what He had been commissioned by the Father to do and say.”

III. As He (_____) _____ these things, many came to believe in Him.

A. F.F. Bruce wrote, “Such was the power with which He spoke that many of His _____ were _____ by His words without waiting for the final evidence of His ‘lifting up’.”

B. “Faith comes from hearing, and hearing by the word of Christ” (Rom. 10:17)! And as a result, many of the _____ (the true hearers) _____ in Him.

1. And now church, what does it mean to believe in Him_____ Here is all the difference in the world; here is the difference between heaven and hell! They did not believe in His name because they saw the signs (cf. Jo. 2:23-25), but many came to _____ in Him, because they heard what He spoke. Because they believed His words they believed in Him. They believed _____ that _____ concerning Himself, submitting themselves to Him.

C. These Jews _____ they were right before God being God’s chosen people, many being Levites, learned men of skill and position, but in all of that when Jesus spoke they did _____ in Him! And thus, unless they would come to believe in Jesus, that He is *the* I AM, they would die in their sins! We thank God that though there were those who did not believe, many came to believe in Him.

Closing thoughts: Congregation, we have before us in the text _____ types of people, those who *did not* believe in Jesus and those who *did believe in* Jesus. And these two _____ represent all of mankind. So, it is proper to ask ourselves, “Among _____ of the two groups _____?”

A. One might ask, “_____ then do I know that I am _____?” And the answer comes to us this day, “You are saved by grace through faith!” Do you believe in Jesus? Do you _____ the Words of Christ? Do you believe what He spoke, all that He said about Himself? That He is the Christ?” Here is the illness and remedy: Jesus said, “... that you shall die in your sins ... _____ you believe that _____ ...” Believe in Him!