

(30) “I can do nothing on my own. As I hear, I judge, and my judgment is just, because I seek not my own will but the will of Him who sent me. If I alone bear witness about myself, my testimony is not true. There is another who bears witness about me, and I know that the testimony that He bears about me is true.

(33) You sent to John, and he has borne witness to the truth. Not that the testimony that I receive is from man, but I say these things so that you may be saved. He was a burning and shining lamp, and you were willing to rejoice for a while in his light.

(36) But the testimony I have is greater than that of John. For the works that the Father has given me to accomplish --- the very works that I am doing --- bear witness about me that the Father has sent me. And the Father who sent me has Himself borne witness about me. *His voice you have never heard, His form you have never seen*, and you do not have His word abiding in you, for you do not believe the One whom He sent.

(39) “You search the Scriptures because you think that in them you have eternal life; and it is they that bear witness about me...yet you refuse to come to me that you may have life! I do not receive glory from people. But I know that you do not have the love of God within you....

(43) “I have come in my Father’s name, and you do not receive me. If another comes in his own name, you will receive him. How can you believe, when you receive glory from one another and do not seek the glory that comes from the only God?

(45) “Do not think that I will accuse you to the Father. There is one who accuses you: Moses, on whom you have set your hope. For if you believed in Moses, you would believe me; for he wrote of me. But if you do not believe his writings, how will you believe my words?”

Think on these things:

- 1) In v.22 we learned that Jesus is the judge of mankind. In v.30 He says that He is just. What does He say is the reason His judgment is just?

Jesus’ judgment is not based on His own will, but it will be based on the Father’s will.

- 2) Jewish law requires that serious matters in court require two corroborating testimonies (see Numbers 35:30; Deuteronomy 19:15-21; Matthew 18:15-20; and Matthew 26:59-63). Who does Jesus point to as the two witnesses to His authority (vs.33, 37)?

Jesus’ two witnesses are John the Baptist and God the Father, who confirmed He sent Jesus by accomplishing great works through Him. (Numbers = 2+ witnesses needed to convict of murder. Deut. = 2-3 witnesses for any crime or wrongdoing. Only 1? Let the Priest or Judge interrogate him to establish truth. Matthew = 2-3 witnesses among church leaders to resolve conflicts. Matthew 26 = 2 witnesses not found to convict Jesus of wrongdoing.)

- 3) The Jewish leaders DID study their bibles (Old Testament scriptures – v.39). Yet Jesus accuses them of two things in verses 38 and 42. What are they guilty of, leading to disbelieving Jesus?

1) **Studying God’s Word did not mean it abided in (influenced) them. They missed the point...**

2) **They pursued knowledge, but the Love of God was missing in their lives.**

- 4) Jesus says something about men and God in v.37b. How do these verses shed light on this?

In v.37b, Jesus says: **"His voice you have never heard, his form you have never seen".**

Exodus 33:19-23 **Moses asked God to show Himself to Moses, but God said that was not possible. He agreed to pass by Moses in His glory, but only if Moses stayed in the cleft of a rock covered by God's hand until He went by, and then He would allow Moses to see His back.**

Isaiah 6:1-5 **Isaiah, in a vision, was brought into God's throne room. It was bright and smoky, and shook all the foundations as the angels cried out, "Holy, Holy, Holy." Isaiah hit the floor claiming he was a dead man, a sinner from a nation of sinners, now seeing God in glory!**

Colossians 1:15-20 **Jesus is the image (and voice) of the invisible God to us. The fullness of God is in Him as Creator and Sustainer of the world, and everything that now exists, exists for Him. As Head of the Church, He made peace between heaven and mankind.**

Hebrews 1:1-3 **Jesus is the radiance of the glory of God, the exact imprint of His nature. He is heir of all things, and he was sent to bring God's message in these last days. He is above all the angels of God.**

- 5) What were the Jewish leaders losing by refusing to accept Jesus' "authority" as the Christ (v.40)?

(Eternal) life

- 6) V.44, supported by John 12:42-43, contains a very important truth regarding people's priorities in life. What should we be focused on? What is God's promise in Matthew 6:33?

Our focus should be **being recipients of God's glory, "Well done, My good and faithful servant." We must choose and seek God's approval and blessings above anything given by others.**

God's promise? **God says we are to seek His Kingdom above all other life pursuits, and God promises that He will ensure all our "needs" are taken care (food, clothing, etc...).**

- 7) For the Jewish leaders confronting Jesus in this passage, who does Jesus say will be the condemning witness against them come Judgment Day (v.45)?

Moses will give witness against them.

- 8) Jesus told the leaders that Moses "wrote of me" (v.46). Moses wrote the first 5 books of the Old Testament, and an example of prophecy can be found in Deuteronomy 18:15-19. What did Moses tell the people of Israel? Can you recall any other Old Testament prophecies about Jesus?

Moses – **Moses prophesied in 18:15-19 that God would raise up a prophet like him, a Jew, in whom God would put His words in His mouth. Anyone refusing to listen to Him would be accountable to God (the Father).**

Other prophecies? **Many options. Virgin birth. Born in Bethlehem. A Nazarene. Sin-bearer for the world (Isaiah). Crucifixion, with criminals. No broken bones, but pierced side. Etc....**

People and situations I want to pray for this week: