

John 11:47-57

Man's Worst, God's Best

A. Man at His Worst

- 1) Ignoring God's Revelation – v. 46-47
- 2) Arrogantly Managing God – v. 48
- 3) Human-Centric – v. 48
- 4) Self-Centric – v. 48, 50
- 5) Wicked Scheming – v. 50

B. God at His Best

- 1) Providence – v. 51

God working cooperatively with His creation to cause / direct their every act (even their evil acts) to accomplish His purposes in such a way that men are fully responsible and God is free from sin.

- 2) Prophesied Plan – v. 51-52
 - a. A Substitute
 - b. A Gathering
- 3) Purposeful Control – v. 54-56

Praxis

1. What is meant by leaders “arrogantly managing God”? In what ways are you tempted to engage in this thinking / practice?
2. Where in the Scriptures do we find God using the intentions of evil men to accomplish His own plan? Any time in your life that you recognize He has done this? How does such result in your hope and worship?
3. Consider all the ways in which we might participate in God's intention for Jesus' death to “gather into one the children of God who are scattered abroad” (v. 52)...