

EVALUATING JESUS OBJECTIVELY

John 7:40-52

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INTRODUCTION: WHICH IS WORSE?

? Which is worse in your judgment, someone who is ignorant of what the Bible says or someone who knows what the Bible says and doesn't obey it?

Review of John 7

Jesus challenged the crowd to consider the Law. vv. 16, 19, 24

The Pharisees accused the crowd of ignorance of the Law. v. 49

The Pharisees reject the Law out of arrogance. v. 52

I. JESUS' INSISTENCE

? What did Jesus mean when He said, "My teaching is not My own, but His Who sent me?"

1. I don't identify with any rabbinic school or tradition.

2. Check out the Scripture and see if who I am and what I say aligns with Scripture.

John 5:30-47

John 7:14-19

Jesus said, "Don't judge by appearances, but judge with right judgment."

II. THE CROWD'S IGNORANCE

? What were they confused about?

A. "BUT WE KNOW WHERE JESUS COMES FROM."

Malachi 3:1

"Behold, I am going to send My messenger, and he will clear the way before Me. And the Lord, whom you seek, will suddenly come to His temple; and the messenger of the covenant, in whom you delight, behold, He is coming," says the Lord of hosts.

B. "BUT WE THOUGHT CHRIST WOULD COME AND STAY."

C. "WILL CHRIST DO MORE SIGNS THAN THIS?"

Deuteronomy 13:1-5

D. 'CAN THE CHRIST COME FROM GALILEE?'

1. This Really Is The Prophet

2. This Really Is The Christ

? How can the Christ come from Galilee instead of Bethlehem?

Micah 5:2

"But as for you, Bethlehem Ephrathah,
Too little to be among the clans of Judah,
From you One will go forth for Me to be ruler in Israel.
His goings forth are from long ago,
From the days of eternity."

(Matthew 2)

Isaiah 9

There was a division, some believed, some were skeptical, others wanted to arrest Him.

III. THE LEADERS' ARROGANCE

The religious leaders arrogantly disregard the law in two ways:

A. WHEN NICODEMUS BRINGS UP ABOUT THE LAW,
THEY ATTACK HIM.

B. THEY DON'T BRING CLARITY TO THE CROWD WHEN
THEY COULD

CONCLUSION: EVALUATING CHRIST OBJECTIVELY

? The crowd and the Pharisees appeared to be using the Law to assess the claims of Jesus, but they were unable, why?

1. They didn't submit to the Law but sat in judgment over it.
2. They used the Law inconsistently to disprove claims, rather than to assess the truth.

Acts 17:11

Now these [Bereans] were more noble-minded than those in Thessalonica, for they received the word with great eagerness, examining the Scriptures daily to see whether these things were so.

? How can we assess Jesus' claims objectively?

1. Humbly submit to what Scripture says
2. If there is something I don't understand about Scripture, wait until God reveals the consistency of Scripture.

3. You must be born again.

John 1:11-13

? Which is worse, ignorance of Scripture or arrogance to know it and disobey?

Romans 3:21-31