

execute judgment and his authority to do it. He gives this as his testimony because he is the son of man. It denotes that he has come and taken on the form of man, that he held the government in his hand, that he is the promised Messiah.

In Verse 23, that all men should honor him as Jesus Christ. If God shall have a son's honor, it is the duty of all, to honor and respect him.

In Verse 24, here is the rule by which the son goes to execute his commission. The character of the Christian is here implied that he will hear the word of Christ, that he will have pardon, that he will have privileges, that he will be passed from life to death. And here is the righteousness of the proceeding in Verse 30. This is his own testimony of himself.

In Verse 31, which he bears of himself, as the son of God and the son of man.

In Verse 32, he produces other witnesses that bear witness to him. He says the father himself bore testimony to him. The seal which the father put on his commission was done so by a voice from Heaven. And that he sent his power to him. Those who decline to bear witness of themselves certainly will find great humility in Christ here to give as a testimony when he was assured of his mission for all.

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already. And the dead will hear the voice of the son of God, which speaks of the resurrection at the end of time. This says nothing as that does of the dead in their graves and all of them have their coming.

Now some think this was fulfilled when perhaps Lazarus was raised, or Jairus' daughter. But all whom Christ raised was spoken too as Dancial arise, young man, arise. Lazarus come forth. Whereas those raised unto thee in the Old Testament were not raised by word but by application. If we had time to look at 1 Kings 17:21, 2 Kings 4:34, 13:21. Some understand it of those saints that rose with the Christ but we do not read of the voice of the son of God calling them. But rather we understand that this doctrine of Christ for the recovering and quickening of those who were dead and trespasses in sin. Now the hour was coming when dead souls should be made a live by the preaching of the gospel. And while Christ was upon this earth, he healed and brought men to life. Sinners are spiritually dead, the conversion of the soul to God is the resurrection of death to life, and the voice of the son of God that souls are raised to spiritual life. The dead shall hear and they shall be made to hear, to understand, to receive, and to believe the voice of the son of God. The voice of Christ must be heard by us and we may live by it. A resurrection however is yet to come, spoken of in

Verse 28, marvel not at this, he said. So the resurrection was proof of his commission.

When this resurrection shall be, the hour is coming, the hour fixed to an hour. The great appointment to judgment. He has appointed, it has not yet come, it is not the hour spoken of in Verse 25, that is coming and now is. But here is one that is certain to come and it is nearer everyday and it is closer to our door. How far off we do not know but we know that it is to come.

Who shall be raised. All that are in the graves, all that have died from the beginning of time, all that shall die til the end of time. Many shall rise. Christ here tells us that those many shall be all. All must appear before the judge, all must be raised, every person, and the whole of every person, every soul shall return to its body, and every bone to its bone. Grave is the prison of the body. And they will be held there as prospects for the resurrection. It may be called the dead, it may be asleep, and even those that are now put in their graves shall arise. But because most are put in graves, Christ used the expression, all that are in the graves. And the Jews called the graves sheol -- signifying the state of the dead.

How shall they be raised. Two things we are told. The efficiency of the resurrection, they shall hear his voice.

That is, he shall call them to hear it -- his voice, as he called Lazarus, come forth. When Christ arose, there was no voice. Not a word spoken. And he arose by his own power. But we find in 1 Thessalonians 4:16 the Lord shall descend with a shout, a shout of a King. The voice of the ark angels sound, there will be the trumpet of God. And they shall come forth out of the graves but this is not all, they shall all appear before Christ. To what they shall be raised to different states of happiness and misery.

Those who have done good shall come forth to a resurrection life to live forever. Those who have done well will be profitable unto others. The resurrection of the body will be a resurrection of life to all of those. And those who have been sincere in doing good and to live in happiness.

Now those who have done evil in the resurrection will suffer damnation. They will receive their treatment because they have not repented and they have rebelled against God. And it will be too late to mediate for them. And in Verse 27, the Father judges them. He does not rule us by mere right of creation but by right of a covenant which he has made and we either have to accept it or reject it. This is the testimony which he gives by his own authority.

This deals with the great day of judgment. The final universal judgment which is committed to the son of God to

studying them. Some were criticizing them, but Christ indeed did search the scriptures to discover his own glory and the glory of the Father, as they searched the scripture. And this is certainly good advice to all those who would find Christ, must find him in the scriptures, who will diligently seek to study the scriptures. Those who would have a design to find him, will find him if they search for him.

It was a common but corrupt saying among them, he that has the words of the law, has eternal life. They thought they were sure of Heaven.

Now the thing about this is, a man may have a Bible today, he may have it in his home, but that's not enough. You must get the testimony of the scripture for yourself. You must search the scripture to find Christ, as a new way of life to lead you to eternal glory. This is the testimony which testifies of Him. It gives a witness to Jesus Christ. And it testifies of Christ.

They had neglected him and his doctrine. You will not come to me that you might have life. Verse 40. You search the scriptures, you believe the prophets, but now who cannot see that all of these do not testify of Jesus Christ. The only reason why sinners die is because they will not come to Christ for life and happiness. And it is not because they

III. The Testimony of John The Baptist - Verse 34.

The report on John's message, these people had accepted this verdict which John the Baptist had witnessed to Jesus, this was his business. To direct the people to behold the Lamb of God. Now the testimony of John was a solemn public testimony.

It was a true testimony. It was the truth and Christ does not say that he did not bear the truth. But he says John gave an honest testimony of him.

In Verse 34, there are two things that he adds about John's testimony, I receive not the testimony from men. Christ saw fit to quote John's testimony here. That the word of Christ concerning the salvation, that it was a testimony to the man because John the Baptist was one whom they had respect for. He was a light among them. And the character of John the Baptist was a burning and a shining light. He was honorable, he was a light, he enlightened the world. He was a burning light, denoted that he was sincere. He was not just a painted fire -- made light to shine, but he was a shining light and he had great affection for the people. And he was willing in season and out of season to preach for him. And we know that it pleased God that John should be a preacher of the gospel and to point to Jesus Christ. Now if

they had continued, however, to follow John and to refuse Jesus, they would have missed the point. But here is a testimony of John the Baptist.

IV. The Testimony of His Works - Verse 36.

We read here that the work which the Father giveth me to finish, that these works are illustrated here in the wonderful miracles and things which performed. That God sent him to be a witness and a testimony. And we must be glad of all the supports, the confirmations of our faith. Now this greater testimony of the works that God had sent him to finish, in general whose whole course and life and ministry has revealed God and his will to us. The miracles were brought as proof of him. And these works bear witness of him and testimony of him. Men made whole

V. The Testimony of the Father - Verse 37, 38.

Now he produces here, John does, the testimony of the Father concerning him. Now the prints is not accustomed to being followed or follow his ambassador, himself, to confirm his commission. But here God was so pleased with his Son that he sent his voice from Heaven at the time of his baptism. This is my Beloved Son. A voice from Heaven, this was one way to testify of his Son. And God sent him to bear

witness and he sends you to give a commission and he will seal it and he will never leave you alone. He will always be with his servants, no matter how rough a time his servants may have on their errands -- God's testimony is with them. And he declares that he will be with them. Those that proclaim his gospel and his truth, he is one you know nothing of. As some people might say, but here is God bearing testimony by His voice.

1 He testifies by the descent of the dove and this is an extra ordinary thing, never saw or heard of before or since. The voice and the dove. And in Verse 39, he testifies that he must abide.

2 Again at the transfiguration of Jesus, God again gives testimony to his Son. Matthew 17:5.

3 Once after the triumphal entry, John 12:28, God again gave testimony to his Son.

VI. The Testimony of the Scriptures - Verse 39.

One of the last testimonies he calls upon is the testimony of the scriptures, The Old Testament, which witnessed to him. You may be read, you may search the scriptures, and you will do well, you will read in these.

And they were reading them in the synagogue, they were

had God's command, they failed to act, they failed to undertake for God. To failed to conquest, they depended upon themselves. They had forgotten how God was able to deliver. So this important man at the house of mercy had wasted 38 years because he had nothing but man to trust in. He might well typify this testimony of Moses. For as Dr. Marcus Dodd says, why did Jesus tell that man to take up his bed and walk. And his answer was in order that he (make no provision) for a relapse. And that's the philosophy of the Christian life.

This man acted in obedience and he might have gotten up and said, well, I'll try to rise. I think I am healed. But I'll leave this old mattress here in case the thing is not permanent, I'll be able to come back. And that's the thing that has happened to lots of people. Time to time they fall back into their old sin. Instead of burning the bridges behind them and going ahead in their glorious decision.

Joan of Arc it is related had to opposing commands, which came to her. Her Father ordered her to stay out of the battle for freedom, to remain on the farm, and to help with the work. On the other hand, she believed that God had chosen her, commanded her, to set out to save the kingdom.

The angels she believed she had seen in a vision had commanded her to arm herself. Her Father swore that he would rather

cannot, but because they will not. They will nearer accept the life offered because of spiritual and divine, they will not agree to his terms.

In Verse 41, those words, I receive not honor from men, they object to him. Now he did not want the applause of courts or people of that time.

There was a lack of their love of God in Verse 42. I know you very well, that you have not the love of God in you. The reason why people slight Christ is because they do not love God. It is not because people are ignorant today but it is because of a lack of love. Now people do not do fool hearted things against the church, against Christ, against the kingdom, and against God, because they are ignorant. It is because they lack this love, they may have a zeal for law, they may have a zeal for the Sabbath, but really they are without love of God. And that makes a difference.

Christ sees through all our disguises because he says, I know thee.

In Verse 43, there was another crime charged them, their readiness to entertain false Christ and false prophets and that's the reason why he is giving this testimony here. That they will not forsake these mercies that he has offered to them.

Verse 44, they were charged with pride in vain glory and unbelief. The ambition was to despise Christ, you desire to receive it, and then you turn around and give honor to some body else. That is not respect and that is not true honor. He says, they honor and they come from God, and they must seek him and they must aim at him. The influence this had upon their infidelity. How can you believe who are thus.

VII. The Testimony of Moses - Verse 45.

In Verse 45 on to the end of the chapter we find he calls upon Moses to give his testimony. Moses was testifying even against these unbelieving Jews. He showed the difference between the law and the gospel. Christ did not come into the world to find fault, pick and quarrel with everybody, to spy upon the actions of the men, or to promote some hobby he had, but he came to advocate, to reconcile men to God and what fools they were to feel that Christ was against Moses. Galatians 4:21. He shows them the unreasonableness of their infidelity. And think not he says that I have come to challenge and do away with this law. Moses himself, he says, certainly convicts your unbelief. Instead of accusing the crucifiers, he prays, Father forgive them. There are those who even Moses and whom you trust points to the Christ.

Verse 46, Moses gave testimony to Christ. He wrote of him being the seed of woman, the seed of Abraham, the great prophet and the figures to come. He wrote about Jesus

He proves his charge from their disbelief of Him. Had they believed Moses, they would have believed in Him. The surest trial of faith is by the effect it produces. Many say that they believe, whose actions give their word, the lie. For had they believed the scriptures, had they believed the truth, they would have done otherwise.

Those who rightly believe on the part of the Scripture will receive every part of this. The prophets and the testimony of Moses, but their disbelief of Moses is inferred here that you have rejected him and then some of you on the other hand have received his writings but have rejected the one that he has been writing about.

For we might tie this in with the testimony of the important man who had been wasting away for 38 years. This is something of the exact time that Moses wandered aimlessly about in the wilderness. God had commanded them at Kadesh Barnea to turn back into the wilderness until all the generation of the men of war were wasted away. Deuteronomy 2:14. Those 38 years under the leadership of Moses, the giver of the law, were wasting away, important time. And it was when they

for his daughter not to go away with men at arms but that he would drown her with his own hands. Now she must obey one command and disobey the other. Beyond a doubt, this was the greatest battle she was called upon to fight. Her later battle against the English was less hard than this. God grant that we shall be able to see and understand that the testimony of Christ supersedes that of any other person whatsoever.

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