

Episode #1-31 The Words That Stopped an Arrest

I. The purpose of the gospel of John is to produce believers in the fact that Jesus is the Christ, the One anointed by God to be the Savior of the world, and that Jesus is the Son of God, God represented in human form.

II. The issue of belief or lack of belief continues. The Lord is at the feast of booths. Halfway through the feast, He began to teach in the temple, spurring a confrontation between Himself and the Jews, who wanted to kill Him for healing on the Sabbath.

III. The officers and the Lord. John 7:32-49.

A. V.32. Send officers (temple guard) to arrest Him. Sent = apostello.

B. V.33. He speaks to the officers. Avoiding arrest by talking? His words made the universe! They cannot stop the course God laid out for Him. Sent = pempo.

C. V.34. When would they seek Him? During the destruction of Jerusalem? Many of Jerusalem's leaders were crucified. Would look for a Deliverer, but none would come

D. V.35. Cannot imagine where He means. Among the Greeks? No, He meant heaven.

E. V.36. They are puzzled, do not realize He will leave the earth altogether.

F. V.37. End of the feast. The last day of the feast was always a Sabbath. He makes the same offers as He made to the Samaritan woman.

G. V.38. Those who drink are believers. This will fulfill Scripture (Is. 12:3, 55:1, 58:11; Ez. 47:1, Joel 3:18, Zech. 13:1, 14:8). He is the Source of living water! Zech. 13:1.

H. V.39. The water is the Spirit. Not yet given at this time, though He has been now.

I. V.40. They thought He was the Prophet, Deut. 18:18. Correct, but He is also far more!

J. V.41. Others thought He is Christ. This was true, but others doubt this because He came out of Galilee.

K. V.42. This is true. Is. 11:1, Micah 5:2. But He was born there! They assume He was not, so come to an erroneous conclusion.

L. V.43. He caused a division. He still does today! He caused a division among the Pharisees, 9:16, and among the Jews, 10:19.

M. V.44. They could not arrest Him because God did not will it so. Why could they not arrest Him? We don't know, just that they could not foil God's will.

N. V.45. The officers (temple guard) finally return to their masters empty-handed.

O. V.46. He stopped His Own arrest by the words He spoke. They knew it, though they did not really understand it!

P. V.47. The Pharisees do not believe in the power of His words, so they accuse officers.

Q. V.48. This was a poor excuse, shows their arrogance. Nicodemus, one of them, did!

R. V.49. Claimed the people were cursed by ignorance! But verse 19, they had the law and did not keep it. Which is worse, to not know the law and not keep it, or to know it and not keep it?

IV. Conclusion: The Pharisees did not believe in spite of the evidence. Some did not believe because they thought He was from Galilee. Some did believe. The temple officers knew the power of His words, as did Nicodemus. Do we know the Lord's power? Do we believe, or do we reject Him for similar reasons?