

## Ep #1-40 - One With the Father

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. In this passage, we see a confrontation between the Jews and the Lord. They are still angry over His healing of a lame man (John 5) and the blind man (John 9) on the Sabbath day, and seek to force Him to reveal Who He claims to be.

III. John 10:22-30. The challenge of the Jews.

- A. V.22. This was not an Old Testament feast. I Maccabees 4:52-59. 164B.C. Not an inspired holiday, but we have similar holidays, like July 4. The Lord is in Jerusalem, but we do not know if He was celebrating this feast or not? Winter (I Mac. "Casleu" = December.) Not like our winters: about 40°F at the coldest in Israel.
- B. V.23. The temple was a campus. This "porch" (or covered walk) is said to have been left over from Solomon's temple. (according to Josephus)
- C. V.24. The Jews surround Him and demand an answer. The Jews are His enemies, the religious leaders and rich, ruling class. They literally say "raise our souls."
- D. V.25. He already told them (verse 11). His works show them the answer.
- E. V.26. The reason they do not believe: they are not His sheep.
- F. V.27. His true sheep did follow Him (like the twelve, John, Nicodemus.) But we are not Israelites, so this is not talking about us as sheep. Every Israelite was born to a covenant, but could be cut out of it. We are not born into anything, but come into relationship with God when we believe in Jesus Christ. We are in Christ, not Israel.
- G. V.28. He gives eonian life. It flows to them, then through them to others. Never=ou me...eis ton aiona, "by no means...in respect to the eon." We receive it in the future kingdom. If they cannot be snatched out of His hand, that means security!
- H. V.29. The Father is greater than all. None can snatch from His hands. We too safe!
- I. V.30. Verses 28-29 compared show this, but now He states plainly His equality with the Father.

IV. John 10:31-33. The Jews reject Him.

- A. V.31. They take up stones to stone Him. Second time they have tried this (John 8:59.)
- B. V.32. The Lord challenges them. For which good work are they going to stone Him? The Lord uses sarcasm here. His words stop them.
- C. V.33. They have to answer the One they were going to execute! They recognize His meaning: He makes Himself God. If they were wrong, the Lord should have told them, not excused His words. Remember the point of John: that we believe!

V. Conclusion: The Lord's enemies demanded answers from Him. Yet He had already given them the answer, but they could not accept it, because they were not His sheep. The Lord is indeed the Christ, and He is also the Son of God, one with God Himself. Do we believe this? Are we believers in Him? Do we belong to Him? Are we safe in His hands?