

Valley Bible Church – Sermon Notes

Sermon Notes for September 18-19, 2004

"Christ Calls Witnesses to the Stand"

John 5:39-47

The fourth witness that Christ called to support His claim was the Scripture (John 5:39-47).

The religious Jews believed that the better they knew the Old Testament Scriptures, the better chance they had of being saved (John 5:39).

Though the Jews studied the Old Testament, they were unable to see the very Person who the Scriptures were designed to reveal (John 5:39).

The reason why these religious Jews were unable to see Christ in the Old Testament was because they were unwilling to see Christ (John 5:40).

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Because the religious Jews were unwilling to bow to Christ, they were unwilling to come to Christ, even if coming to Christ was the only way for them to have life (John 5:40).

Therefore, Jesus turned the table in John 5:41-47 and began to prosecute His opponents.

The reason why Jesus felt it necessary to prosecute these religious Jews was not because they had not praised Him, but rather because they did not love God (John 5:41-42).

Christ knew that they did not love God because they had not received Him even though He came in the name of His Father.

Coming in the name of the Father meant that in His coming, He revealed His Father both in word and deed (John 5:43).

When Jesus said that these false christ's come "in their own name," He meant that these so-called false christ's came without the proper credentials.

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But even though false christ came in their own name without the proper credentials, those Jews who did not love God were still very inclined to receive them.

Those Jews who were inclined to receive false christ would continue to be so inclined as long as they loved the praise of men more than they loved the praise of God (John 5:44).

Jesus pointed to Moses as an accuser of those Jews who refused to receive Him as their Messiah (John 5:45).

If these Jews had in fact believed Moses as they claimed they did, then certainly they would have believed in the One whom he had written about (John 5:46).

Deny the truths contained in the Scriptures and all is lost. The Jews needed this lesson, so do we today (John 5:47).

Those who are able to look beyond the window of God's Word and see the glory of Christ will inevitably be changed into His likeness.