

Valley Bible Church – Sermon Notes

Sermon Notes for February 25-26, 2006

"The Importance of Saving Faith"

John 12:44-50

John detailed for us certain facts about Jewish unbelief in John 12:37-43.

The first fact about Jewish unbelief is that they dismissed the evidence (John 12:37).

The second fact about Jewish unbelief is that the unbelief of so many Jews, in spite of the evidence, fulfilled prophecy (John 12:38).

The third fact about Jewish unbelief in the time of Christ is that God was its ultimate cause (John 12:39-40).

Genuine faith in Christ does not only reflect a faith in Him but also a faith in the One who sent Him (John 12:44-45).

When Jesus said, "He who believes in Me does not believe in Me," He meant that a person who believes in Him does not believe in Him alone.

If we want to see God, we should be looking at Jesus. In fact, if we want to see God, the only way for us to see Him is by us looking at Jesus (John 14:8-11).

Genuine faith in Christ will lead people out of darkness (John 12:46-49).

When Jesus said, "If anyone hears My sayings and does not keep them, I do not judge him," He simply meant that judging them was not the reason why He had come into the world.

Though Christ's coming was not for the purpose of judgment, those who reject Christ and His sayings will have "one" who judges them (John 12:48).

The "one" who will judge them for rejecting Him and His sayings on the last day will be "the word" that He had spoken to them.

Jesus can personify "His sayings" or "the word He spoke" as the judge of the whole earth because He is the Word according to John 1:1 and He is the judge according to John 5:22.

The reason why the words of Jesus are so final and threaten unbelievers with judgment is that they are the words of the Father (John 12:49).

Genuine faith results in eternal life (John 12:50).

May God give us the boldness to proclaim His gospel so that we might be a fragrance of Christ among those who are being saved and among those who are perishing.