



**Sermon Title: "The Prophet Isaiah and the Glory of Christ"**

**Scripture: John 12:37-50**

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Sunday, April 29, 2018

## **INTRODUCTION**

***2 Corinthians 12:9-10 - "I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest upon me. For the sake of Christ, then, I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities. For when I am weak, then I am strong."***

***John 12:37-50 -***

## **I. THE TRUTH ABOUT UNBELIEF**

***John 1:11 - "He came to His own, and His own people did not receive Him."***

***John 12:37-43 -***

Note: As it relates to salvation and unbelief, Scripture clearly affirms both human culpability and divine sovereignty. To be biblical, we must embrace both.

### **A. The Reality of Human Sinfulness**

***John 3:19 - "And this is the judgment: the light has come into the world, and people loved the darkness rather than the light because their works were evil."***

Note: Tomorrow is the WORST DAY to follow Jesus.

***John 12:37, 42-43 -***

***John 5:44 - "How can you believe, when you receive glory from one another and do not seek the glory that comes from the only God?"***

Note: When we (in complete dependence upon Christ) place our faith and trust in Jesus, He (that is God - God the Father, God the Son, and God the Spirit) get's ALL the glory and praise!

Note: True saving faith results in being satisfied in Christ, not craving the praise of others.

***Galatians 1:10 - "If I were still trying to please man, I would not be a servant of Christ."***

## B. The Reality of Divine Sovereignty

*Isaiah 53:1-3; John 12:39-40; Romans 9:15-18 -*

Note: God is free, God is sovereign, and He has the right to do as He pleases with His creation.

***Romans 11:33-36 - “Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are His judgments and how inscrutable His ways! ‘For who has known the mind of the Lord, or who has been His counselor?’ ‘Or who has given a gift to Him that he might be repaid?’ For from Him and through Him and to Him are all things. To Him be glory forever. Amen.”***

***Acts 4:27-28 - “...for truly in this city there were gathered together against Your holy servant Jesus, whom You anointed, both Herod and Pontius Pilate, along with the Gentiles and the peoples of Israel, to do whatever Your hand and Your plan had predestined to take place.”***

*Isaiah 6:1-10; John 12:41 -*

Note: What Isaiah saw and spoke of was, in fact, the glory of Christ.

## II. THE TRUTH ABOUT JESUS, HIS FATHER, AND HIS WORD

1) To believe Jesus is to believe the Father. To see and know Jesus is to see and know the Father.

***John 12:44-45 -***

2) It is true that Jesus came to save, but one day everyone will stand accountable to His word.

***John 12:46-48; Hebrews 4:12-13 -***

3) Jesus faithfully speaks the message of salvation, a message that comes directly from the Father.

***John 12:49-50; John 3:16-21 -***

### Take Home Questions for Further Study & Reflection & Application...

1. Why does John say that the Jews refused to believe? Why didn't the miracles convince them?
2. What does 1 Corinthians 2:14 teach us about the sinful human heart?
3. Why does John point to the writings of Isaiah 53:1 and 6:10? What does John want us to see?
4. How does John connect Jesus to what Isaiah saw and experienced in Isaiah 6:1-10? (John 12:41)
5. What does it mean that the religious leaders loved the glory of man more than the glory of God? (John 12:42-43) Why is this such a tragedy?
6. Why is it impossible to love/believe/follow God the Father but hate/reject Jesus?
7. What does Jesus say will one day judge all mankind? (John 12:48)