

EXTINGUISHING THE LIGHT
(John 12:35-50)

- I. CLOSING the Window of OPPORTUNITY (John 12:35-36)
 - A. The LIGHT would be among them for a LITTLE LONGER
 - 1. God's patience toward the Jews is STILL EXTENDED
 - 2. God's patience toward the Jews will SOON EXPIRE
 - B. They were about to be OVERTAKEN by the DARKNESS
 - C. They must BELIEVE in the Light to become "SONS of LIGHT"
 - D. Jesus "went AWAY and HID Himself from them"

- II. CAUSES of Persistent UNBELIEF (John 12:37-43)
 - A. They COULD NOT believe (12:37-41)
 - 1. Unbelief PERSISTED despite the EVIDENCE (12:37)
 - 2. Unbelief EXPECTED due to PROPHECY (12:38; cf. Isa. 53:1)
 - 3. Unbelief IMPOSED as an act of GOD (12:39-41; cf. Isa. 6:10)
 - B. Many of the RULERS recognized the TRUTH but "were not CONFESSING"
Him (12:42-43; cf. 2:23-24)
 - 1. They FEARED excommunication from the synagogue
 - 2. They LOVED the approval of MEN rather than of GOD

III. CONSEQUENCES of BELIEF and UNBELIEF (John 12:44-50)

A. The BENEFITS of true faith in Christ (12:44-46)

1. Enjoying a personal knowledge of both the FATHER and the SON
2. Being DELIVERED from DARKNESS to LIGHT (cf. Col. 1:13-14)

B. The CONSEQUENCES of UNBELIEF in Christ (12:47-50)

1. Characterized as DISOBEDIENCE
2. Will be JUDGED by Jesus' WORDS which they REJECTED

C. Jesus' CURRENT ministry was salvific rather than judgmental

1. He came to DIE to purchase our REDEMPTION
2. He'll return to JUDGE those who REJECT Him