

Lord, I Believe!

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John 9:24-41

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The Scriptures Contained the Prophecy of the Messiah

- The Pharisees knew the Scriptures... very well...
- Isaiah 42:1-9 - quoted by Matthew 12:15-21 regarding Jesus
- John masterfully is showing us Jesus is the Messiah - Jn 20:30-31

What Kind of Faith?

- Everyone has faith... what matters is about Jesus
- John's narrative contrasts faith of Pharisees vs. formerly blind man
- Pharisees not thrilled Jesus has given sight... seeking answers^{9:15}
- Didn't like answers of man so called his parents^{9:18} who said 'ask him'^{9:23}
- Again interrogated man^{1:24} afraid of answer... if Jesus healed then...
- They would be faced with choice: accept Messiah and worship or get rid of
- Man born blind can now see physically & spiritually, unlike Pharisees
- Pharisees seek to force his answer... man spouts the truth he knows^{9:25}

We Know... Or Did They?

- They claim to know truth, *we know*²⁴, *we know*²⁹ false intellectual confidence
- They knew God's Word, Nicodemus *we know*^{3:3}, but they knew little of Jesus
- Demanded man *give glory to God* - like Joshua^{7:19} said to Achan to admit sin
- Man holds to only truth he knows unlike Pharisees who thought they knew
- Seek God Psa^{119:18}; Trust the gift of His Spirit^{Jn14:26} to guide you in faith
- Leaders stuck to Moses²⁸⁻²⁹ but doubted prophets about Jesus^{3:16-17;7:28-29;8:42}
- Moses pointed to Jesus^{Jn5:45-47}; ironic Jesus just gave sight^{Isa29:18;42:7} = Messiah
- We have traditions that destroy today: Judaism still looking for Messiah
- Roman Catholicism grew out of gospel-believing church declares church is necessary for salvation^{4thLateran Council-1215;2ndVatican Council1962-65}
- Traditions are good but always must be tested against truth of God's Word
- May by His grace may we allow our traditions to be servants of Jesus & Gospel

We Know²⁴, But We Don't Know²⁹

- John shows us Pharisees don't know origin of Jesus
- Man's answer is embarrassing³⁰⁻³³ to them; don't signs affirm His claims???

Authority Abused

- Sadly, Pharisees refuse to see truths of Word fulfilled in Jesus...
- Just as prophets foretold^{Isa8:14-15;29:13-14} they didn't believe
- Leaders revile man and abuse/cast out man³⁴
- Leaders are to protect the sheep of the church for God's glory
- Discipline is to be for glory of God; purity of His Church; and reclaim sinners
- Not for protecting reputation of leaders - but sin often prevails^{Ecc1:9}

Jesus Declares Truth

- Jesus went to man rejected by supposed shepherds³⁵
- Made the reality of Messiah clear to the man...
- Man believed & worshiped Jesus! Goal of the Gospel!
- Will you believe in Jesus who was sent to be sin for you^{2Co5:21} so that you might be counted as righteous by faith in Jesus?

Jesus Declares Judgment

- Jesus declares His mission³⁹ so that leaders could hear Him...
- They asked if they were blind... He let their own words convict them
- Will you come to Jesus in simple and humble faith?