

“Father Knows Best”

John 12:44-50

June 15, 2014

VIDEO: John 12:44-50

For John this is no doubt a final theological summary, comprising the main motifs that have been publicly revealed in the ministry of Jesus.

Many of its themes are now familiar:

1. Jesus has been sent by the Father ([12:44](#), [49](#));
2. To see the Son is to see the Father
3. The Father is the sole authority in his ministry ([12:45](#), [49](#))
4. Jesus is the Light of the world shining in darkness ([12:46](#))
5. He is bringing salvation ([12:47](#))
6. His words are the very words of God
7. He is bringing eternal life ([12:50](#)) to those who will show faith ([12:44](#), [46](#)).

But we also have a warning.

- A. Just as Moses' word will judge Israel ([5:45](#)), so now Jesus' word will remain as a deposit of revelation by which human lives may be judged ([12:48](#)).
- B. Moreover, discipleship is not just a matter of knowing Jesus' word; it is also a matter of "keeping" and "doing" what Jesus has said ([12:47](#); cf. [8:31](#); [Matt. 7:24-27](#); [James 2:14-26](#)).
- C. To reject Jesus is to face eternal judgment
- D. The Word of God will be the judge of those who reject it

44 *And Jesus cried out and said, “He who believes in Me, does not believe in Me but in Him who sent Me.*

Jesus CRIED OUT (urgent emphasis)

Whoever BELIEVES in Jesus... (“biblical Believing”)

...actually BELIEVES in the ONE who SENT Jesus

- Biblical belief in the biblical Jesus is indivisible from biblical belief in God, the biblical Father
- Jesus is a SENT One (missionary)

45 *“He who sees Me sees the One who sent Me.*

Jesus is still “CRYING OUT”

Whoever “SEES Jesus” (children of Light vs. dark)

- John 4 woman vs. John 5 paralytic...
- John 9 equates to the quintessential example...

To SEE Jesus is to SEE God the Father (One Essence)

Again... Jesus is a SENT One (missionary)

- To be Christ-like is to BE a sent one
- “Sent ones” = apostolic / missionary ministry
- Now read Acts 1:8 & Matthew 28:18-20!

Don't miss the point... Jesus is God! (John 1:1ff)

46 *“I have come as Light into the world, so that everyone who believes in Me will not remain in darkness.”*

Jesus “has come” = again... our Messianic Missionary!

Jesus is the Light of the world!

“so that” = purpose statement!

“everyone / whosoever” is in ALL gospel details – Amen

“who believes in Me” = biblical believing ONLY (All-in)

- John 6:44 (God's grace-filled initiative)
- Ephesians 2:8-10 (grace by faith for works)

“will not” = unifies a “cause” and “power” statement

“remain” = KEY theological fact... = default statement

“remain in darkness” = biblical believing frees the soul!

47 *"If anyone hears My sayings and does not keep them, I do not judge him; for I did not come to judge the world, but to save the world."*

**** MAJOR TRANSITION **** shifting from positive to negative

See the "anyone" or "whosoever" catch-all introduction

"hears My sayings" – NOTE: you don't have "see" to be held accountable... all you have to do is "hear"

"and does not keep them" = DISOBEY, "reject"

- NOTE: rejecting His truth = rejecting Him
- Rejecting Truth = choosing darkness!

"I do not judge him" = temporary reprieve

- Christ's first coming was as Savior
- Christ's next coming will be as Judge
- Illustration: first time a parent comes into a situation with the kids... "I'm warning you... you better..." The second time, judgment (wrath) will address the disobedience.

Don't take God's grace for granted!

- Jesus came to seek and save the lost...
- He truly came as a missionary the first time...
- You and I carry on His missionary ministry...
- When He comes back, we'll shift gears then...

*“Behold, the Lamb of God
who takes away the sin of the world!”*

48 *“He who rejects Me and does not receive My sayings,
has one who judges him; the word I spoke is what will
judge him at the last day.*

QT: The very Word that he rejects becomes his judge! Why? Because the written Word points to the Living Word, Jesus Christ ([John 1:14](#)). - Warren Wiersbe

Whoever “rejects Jesus” = those who reject His Truth

“does not receive My sayings” = REJECTION of Jesus

“has one who judges him” = Jesus is saying: “just because I’m not judging you this time around does not mean that you do not have a judge or that you will not be judged...”

“the word I spoke” = 2 Timothy 3:16-17 (the Bible!)

“the word I spoke will judge you” = God’s Word will be the standard by which YOU WILL BE judged!

“at the last day” = Judgment Day is coming for ALL!

- Don’t be caught short-sighted
- Don’t think that you can outrun judgment
- BE ready!

THINK about THIS... are you “Rejecting or Receiving”

- Definitions matter...
- Applications matter...
- Ignorance is no longer an excuse...
- If your lips & life differ... lives are judged!
- Lips are lie... lives tell the truth.
- If you say you “receive Jesus” but in reality, you reject His truth... you’ve rejected Jesus.

Unbelief has consequences:

John 3:3; Titus 1:16; 2 Thess 1:8; 1 Peter 4:17

***** Thus = "sons of disobedience" (Eph 2:2 & 5:6 & Col 3:6)**

Personal accountability:

John 8:37, 43-44, 47

*** Matthew 7:24-27

*** Parable of Soils

*** Hebrews 12:25

49*“For I did not speak on My own initiative, but the Father Himself who sent Me has given Me a commandment as to what to say and what to speak.*

Jesus is the voice of God...

His message comes from God the Father!

So many of the prophetic aspects of Christ’s ministry are validated in the past, present, and future promises of God, per His Word...

- Here again Jesus is declaring His deity
- Here again Jesus is declaring His triune unity

50*“I know that His commandment is eternal life; therefore the things I speak, I speak just as the Father has told Me.”*

- Here again Jesus is declaring His truth is life!
- Jesus was THE loving truth-teller!
- Thus, Christ-likeness = loving truth-telling.
- “You will be My witnesses...”
- “Go and make disciples...”

Closing Quote: Warren Wiersbe

As you have studied these twelve chapters of the Gospel of John, you have seen Jesus Christ in His life, His ministry, His miracles, His message, and His desire to save lost sinners.

You have considered the evidence...
Have you come to the conviction that Jesus Christ is indeed the Son of God,
the Savior of the world?

Have *you* trusted Him and received
everlasting life?

*"While you have the light, believe in the light, that you
may become sons of light"*

(John 12:36)

**If men refuse the testimony of
these first twelve chapters of
John's Gospel, God has no
more to say to them.**

- H.A. Ironside

*"Truly, truly, I say to you,
he who receives whomever I send receives Me;
and he who receives Me
receives Him who sent Me."*

(John 13:20)

Let's Pray.