

**BEREAN BAPTIST CHURCH: GOSPEL OF JOHN**  
**BELIEVING JESUS THE CHRIST: 21. LISTENING TO HIS VOICE**  
**MORNING, MAY 2, 2021**

KEY TEXT: JOHN 10:37-42; 11:46-12:22

INTRODUCTION:

-John 10 shows the d that Jesus has brought: His sheep f Him, but those who are not His sheep will not l

I/ SIGNS AND A CALL TO BELIEVE: 10:37-42; 11:1-16

1. Believing in Jesus

-the first sign John recorded (at a wedding: 2:1-11) was a revelation of Jesus' g, increasingly being linked to the c!

-John 10:40-42 refers back to John's ministry (John 1; also 3:31-36; 5:33-35): his t proved true

-there will be more sheep (John 10:16): the Samaritans confessed Jesus as Saviour of the W (4:42)

2. Biased Against Jesus

-some professed to believe Moses, but did not know the S (John 5:39-47) or the F (7:28; see 8:44): their opinion is set: this man c be from God, whatever He does (9:24-29)

II/ SHUNNING THE LIGHT: 11:46-57

1. What They Got Wrong (in spite of the evidence: 11:47-48: they do not question the facts)

- they thought it was in their power to k the Prince of Life – just after He r the dead!
- they thought their destiny was in their hands to manipulate and c through political means
- the very signs graciously given that we might believe confirm their u

2. What They Got Right (in spite of themselves! 11:45-53)

-Jesus m die or they will l everything

- it is the case that Jesus would die for the nation: this is Jesus' m (see John 12:23-28)
- they cannot stop the "world" going after Him (11:47 compare 12:19): the "s children of God" (11:52) and the nation will be one p – a vast h (12:23-24)

III/ SEEING JESUS: 12:1-22

1. Devotion: 12:1-11

-Mary (sister of Martha and Lazarus) is at Jesus' feet (Luke 10:39; 11:32; 12:3)! But the disciples believed this was a "w"; they do not understand that the cross is e (12:25-26) for fruit

-Mary acted on faith: she a His body for burial, illustrating devotion to Jesus that does not measure the c, and does not turn back in the face of the s (Contrast 12:42-43; see 15:18-25))

2. Demonstration: 12:12-15 (compare Psalm 118; Zechariah 9)

-the Triumphal Entry highlights the nationalistic z to make Jesus K that Jesus flatly rejects

-Psalm 118:25-26 identifies Jesus' mission: "S now! (Hosanna)"; but Zechariah 9:9-11 shows that He is the King of p by the b of the covenant

3. Determination: "We would see Jesus!": 12:16-22

-the "Greeks" (Greek speaking Gentiles from border regions) want to see Jesus: d words (1:39, 46; 4:29)

-do we believe the w? Are we ready to s out the Lord Jesus?

**LORD'S TABLE DEVOTIONS: THE CROSS AND THE CHURCH**  
**3. PRACTICE GODLINESS BLAMELESSLY**  
**EVENING, MAY 2, 2021**

KEY TEXT: Titus 2:11-3:8

-Paul wrote to Timothy and Titus to encourage the pastoral role; in light of the cross, Pastors (and the Church) must...

1. **Proclaim Grace Broadly:** to testify to the ransom in Christ throughout the world as appointed
2. **Preserve the Gospel Boldly:** the church will function as the “pillar and ground of the truth” as it is in Jesus
3. **Practice Godliness Blamelessly:** transform lives so that they adorn the Gospel

I/ THE CROSS PRODUCES GODLY LIVING: TITUS 2:11-12; 3:4-7

1. Grace Rescues from Sin and Reveals Salvation

- the “knowledge of salvation” is essential (compare Luke 1:77; 2 Timothy 3:15): to know both the need and the answer – compare the Spirit’s role in John 16:7-15
- Titus 3 illustrates this well: 3:1-3 underlines the need; 3:4-7, the salvation (compare Ephesians 2:1-5)

2. Grace Regenerates and Renews

- what sets the New Covenant apart is that we are not just taught: the heart is changed and the Spirit poured out: Titus 3:4-5 underlines this point: “washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Ghost”
- this counters those who object that “salvation by grace” destroys motivation for holiness, since the very essence of grace is to make us clean – the filth of sin being what we are saved from!
- compare Titus 2:12: say “yes” to sobriety (our own self-control); righteousness (treating others with justice); and godliness (as we relate to God): compare Micah 6:8

II/ THE CROSS PROMPTS GOOD WORKS: TITUS 2:14; 3:8,14

1. The People of God (2:14): “bought with a price” to glorify God: compare Exodus 19:3-6; 20:1-3

- the means will be a redeeming sacrifice – there, it was the Passover Lamb; here, it is “our great God and Saviour Jesus Christ, who gave Himself for us, to redeem us from all iniquity”
- the act of deliverance was/is the means to the end: the goal was to have that people for Himself: here stated as “zealous of good works”, that are “ordained by God that we should walk in them” (Ephesians 2:10)

2. The Profit to Others (3:8)

- increasing in good works is the product of solid Christian ministry: “affirm these things (of 3:4-7) constantly” so that there would be wide benefit in their community because of their faith
- compare Ephesians 4:1-16: a “walk” worthy of our vocation (calling), which is to glorify God by Christ in the church, 3:20-21, that consists of being prepared for works of service by means of the pastors and teachers making us stable

3. The Productive Christian (3:14; on “bearing fruit”, see John 15:1-8; Galatians 5:22-26; Colossians 1:9-12

- this is a practical productivity – providing need – a sharp contrast to the selfish pursuit of lust and malice in 3:3!

III/ THE CROSS PERSUADES OF GLORIOUS HOPE: TITUS 2:13; 3:7

1. The Impact of Hope on Godliness: 2:13

- beware thinking that the present is irrelevant, or that the future is too distant to worry about: they are both integral:
  - that this world is not my home gives courage to pay the price for following Jesus – I am not losing what really matters;
  - as I live soberly, righteously and godly in this present world, I am breathing the atmosphere of heaven (remember Ph.3 about citizenship), and am better able to see its superiority over this world

2. The Inheritance For Which We Hope: 3:7

- as “heirs of eternal life” based on the finished work of Christ, we can say that because of the cross of the Lord Jesus...
  - we have a Gospel to proclaim without shame in all the earth that is powerful to save all who believe
  - we have a message to maintain that is always relevant, even if it is also always under attack
  - we are transformed, so that our very existence proves that the Father sent the Son, that the Gospel is adorned with beauty, and is a trustworthy saying worthy of all acceptance!