

Living Godly in the Family of God

Volume Three
John 8-11

Bert Allen

Published by Christ Assembly

1360 S. Patrick Dr., Suite 1A
Satellite Beach, FL 32937

www.ChristAssembly.org

Permissions

You are granted a limited, revocable license to distribute this material through all lawful means, provided that you do not alter the wording or format and do not charge for copies or seek to recover any costs of publication; you may not receive any donations related to this work. Notice of revocation may be posted at ChristAssembly.org/book-notices and be sufficient to revoke all licenses without further notice. You maintain the sole obligation to stop any dissemination after the notice is published. Furthermore, you may not derive any economic benefit from such publication or distribution. All rights reserved by Herbert L. Allen, Jr. Please post a link to ChristAssembly.org for all web publications.

All Scriptural quotations are from the New American Standard Bible, Giant Print Hardcover edition. Page numbers refer to that Giant Print, Hardcover Bible.

"Scripture quotations taken from the New American Standard Bible® (NASB), Copyright © 1960, 1962, 1963, 1968, 1971, 1972, 1973, 1975, 1977, 1995 by The Lockman Foundation Used by permission. www.Lockman.org"

Acknowledgment

My wife, Beverly Allen, has devoted herself to ChristAssembly.org. Most days her body gives her trouble, but she spends time helping ChristAssembly.org. She brings her doctoral training in biochemistry and molecular biology to her work and greatly improves the quality of ChristAssembly.org. She has spent many hours creating graphics, reviewing articles and books, and providing careful proof reading, even when she does not feel her best.

We have been married more than forty years and Jesus used her life to make my life so much better in so many ways. Her constant love and support improve my life daily. She also provides honest feedback and careful analysis. I love my wife and want everyone to know that she spends her time serving Jesus behind the scenes at ChristAssembly.org.

Table of Contents

1. Learning about the Godliness and Freedom Today
2. Learning about Godliness and Blindness Today
- a. Learning about Godliness and the Good Shepherd Today
3. Learning about Godliness and Sickness Today
4. Conclusion

1

Learning about Godliness and Freedom Today

Jesus declared that He was the Light of the world. Everyone who follows Him will not walk in darkness, but will have the Light of Life. The Pharisees objected and said Jesus was testifying about Himself, and such testimony would not be true. Jesus told them that they never knew Him.

Jesus proclaimed that everyone who sins is the slave of sin, but the Son makes people free. The Jews responded that Abraham was their father and they had never been enslaved to anyone. Jesus then explained that if they were truly the children of Abraham, then they would do the deeds of Abraham. Instead, they were doing the desires of their father, the devil, who is a murderer and a liar.

When the Jews called Jesus a liar, a Samaritan and demon possessed, He told them that He did not seek His own glory, but the glory of the Father Who sent Him. He also proclaimed that Abraham rejoiced to see His day, and he saw it and was glad. Jesus said that before Abraham was born, I AM. The Jews then picked up stones to stone Him, but he left the temple.

HALLELUJAH !

Day Three Hundred Thirty Five

The Light of the World Today



Why did Jesus say He was the Light of the world? Jesus said He was the Light of the world so that people could follow Him and not walk in the darkness, but have the Light of life.

Jesus invited people to follow Him. He wanted them to understand He alone was the Light of the world. When people follow Him, they would no longer walk in darkness. They would have Jesus, Who is the Light of the world.

Jesus implied that everyone not following Him was already walking in darkness. The religious leaders and many people in the crowd were walking in darkness because they were not following Him. Jesus provided the Light of life which would guide them forever. They could follow Jesus and walk in His light, not in the darkness any longer.

Walk in Darkness

1. **Grateful.** I am very grateful for Jesus. He promised many things and we should be grateful for His promises.
2. **Light.** Jesus promised that He was the Light of the world.
3. **Promise.** Jesus promised that if we follow Him, we will not walk in darkness.
4. **Follow.** Jesus promised that if we follow Him, we will have the Light of life.
5. **Today.** All of those promises apply to us today, right now.
6. **Delight.** Thanksgiving means we delight in the promises of Jesus. They always come true.
7. **We Thank God.** We rejoice today because we thank God for all the great promises concerning Jesus and His love at work in our lives.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by following Jesus.**

- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we follow Jesus as the Light of life, knowing that we no longer have to walk in the darkness.**

- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we join together in following Jesus, and enjoy the Light of life in Him. We no longer have to stumble about in the darkness as we follow Jesus.**

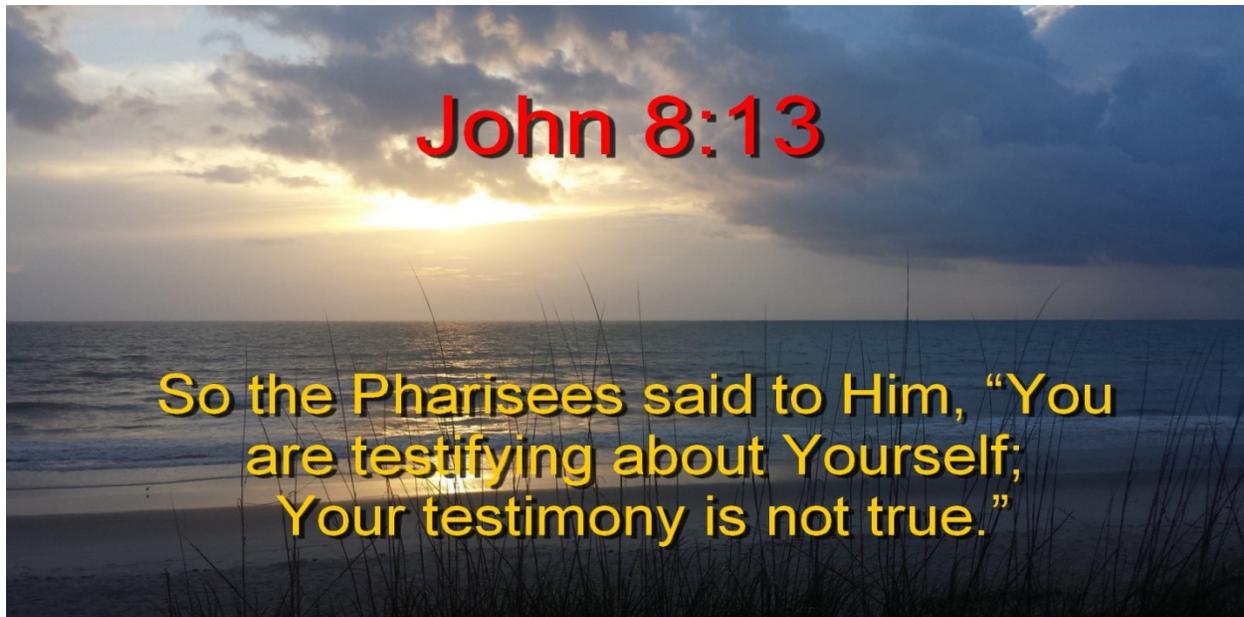
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by following Jesus, the Light of life. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by following Jesus and avoid stumbling through the darkness?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Three Hundred Thirty Six

About Yourself Today



Why did the Pharisees say that the testimony of Jesus was not true? They said His testimony was about Himself and so untrue.

The Pharisees were twisting the Law of Moses. They claimed the testimony of Jesus was untrue. The Law of Moses required more than one witness to establish a disputed matter.

In this case Jesus testified about where He came from. The Pharisees said that no prophet came from Galilee. Jesus was not claiming He came from Galilee. He came from heaven and was born in Bethlehem, the very city described by the prophets where Messiah would be born.

The Pharisees had no interest in the truth. They were far more concerned with their hatred and prejudice against Jesus. They wanted to seize Him and kill Him. He called Himself the Son of God and healed on the Sabbath. They desired no further proof or testimony.

Testifying about Yourself

1. **Teaching.** Jesus continued teaching the crowds. He declared Himself to be the Light of the world.

2. **Distorting.** The Pharisees attacked Jesus by distorting the Law to their own destruction. They claimed Jesus could not truthfully testify about Himself.

3. **Law.** Actually, the Law required witnesses to corroborate some matters. The Law never called everyone who testified about himself a liar.

4. **Spiritual.** The Pharisees did not know God and could not understand the Law, because the Law is spiritual and must be spiritually discerned.

5. **Denied.** The Pharisees, as part of the religious leadership, denied Jesus was the Christ and called Him a liar.

6. **Lying.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we know that anyone who calls Jesus a liar must be lying.

7. **Truth.** We rejoice today because Jesus proclaimed Himself the Light of the world. We do not walk in darkness because we follow Jesus, the Light. Jesus always told the truth.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by avoiding our prejudicial judgments about people.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God by not twisting Scripture to our own destruction.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God by counting upon Jesus to always tell the truth, even when He testifies about Himself.**

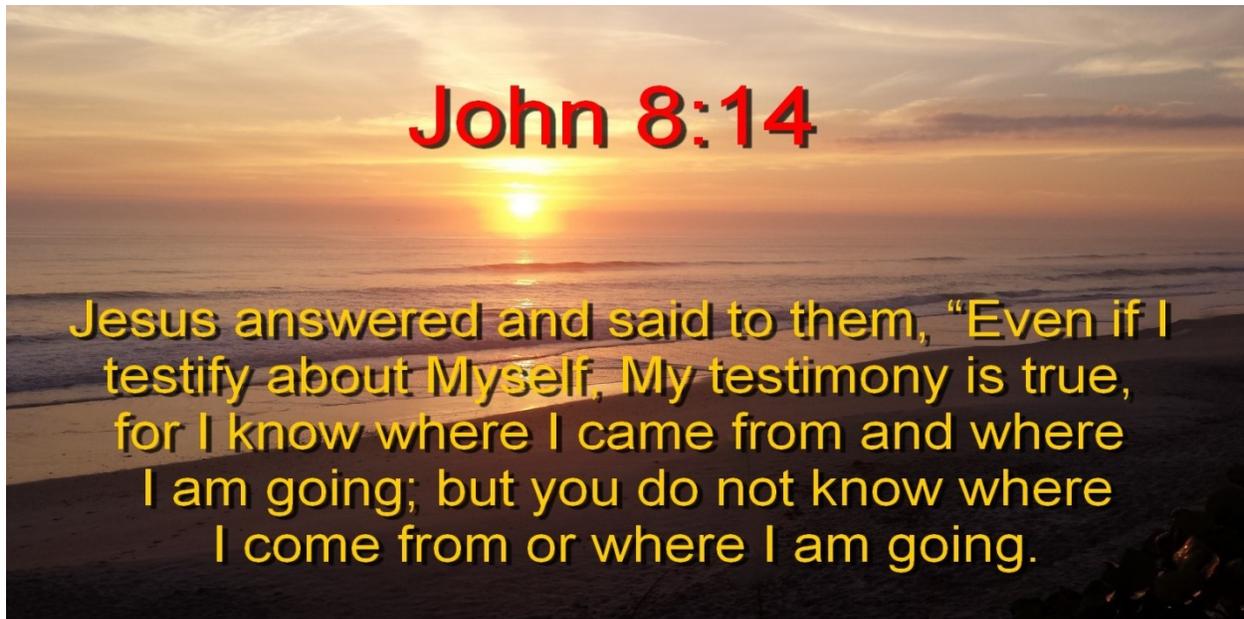
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by listening to Jesus testify about Himself. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by accepting the revelations Jesus made about Himself and His purposes for coming to earth?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Three Hundred Thirty Seven

Jesus Answered Today



Why was the testimony of Jesus true? The testimony of Jesus was true because Jesus knew where He came from and where He was going.

Jesus emphasized that His accusers did not know where He came from. They did not know that He came from heaven and was born of a virgin in Bethlehem. Because they did not know where Jesus came from, they also misunderstood the Scriptures and fulfilled them at the same time. The Scriptures indicated that when Messiah appeared, people would not know where He came from. The Pharisees thought Jesus came from Nazareth, but they were wrong. He came from heaven.

Jesus also explained that the Pharisees did not know where He was going. They did not know that Jesus came down from heaven, sent by His Father in heaven. Because they did not know God the Father, they did not know Jesus and where He came from, even after He told them where He came from.

My Testimony Is True

1. **Corrected.** Jesus corrected the Pharisees' misstatement concerning where He was from. The Pharisees thought He came from Nazareth of Galilee.

2. **Heaven.** Jesus knew where He came from: He came from heaven to be born of a virgin in Bethlehem on earth.

3. **Testimony.** Jesus declared His testimony was true, even without corroborating witnesses (He listed corroborating witnesses in John 5), because He knew where He came from and where He was going: heaven.

4. **Truth.** As God in the flesh, descended from heaven and soon to ascend back to heaven, Jesus always told the truth. God cannot lie.

5. **Confronted.** Jesus confronted the Pharisees about their misapprehension of His true home and His divinity. They distorted the Law to their own destruction by rejecting Jesus and His free gift of salvation.

6. **Rely.** Living Godly in the family of God means we always rely upon Jesus to tell us the truth. He never lies about anything.

7. **Risen.** We rejoice today because Jesus descended from heaven, purchased our salvation, and ascended back to heaven, having promised to send the Holy Spirit and to return soon. We love a risen Savior, Lord of lords and King of kings.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by accepting the testimony of Jesus as true.**

- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we believe Jesus to understand the words and works of Jesus.**

- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we join together to listen to the words of Jesus and accept all that He said as true.**

Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by accepting the testimony of Jesus about Himself as true. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by understanding that God the Father sent Jesus from heaven to give His life for ours?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Three Hundred Thirty Eight

You Judge Today



Why did the Pharisees misjudge Jesus? The Pharisees misjudged Jesus because they judged according to the flesh.

The Pharisees did not judge with righteousness. They were seeking their own desires. They never knew God and never practiced the ways of God. They lived for themselves, seeking to justify themselves under the Law of Moses.

They never kept the Law of Moses and never turned to God by faith for salvation. They kept trying to prove their own righteousness. Yet, the Law of Moses testified that they did not keep the Law, and so they were sinners needing a Savior.

Jesus did not come to judge anyone. Everyone who did not believe in Him was judged already, because they rejected Jesus as the Light of the world. They did not come to the Light for fear that their evil deeds would be exposed.

According to the Flesh

1. **Pharisees.** Jesus continued His answer to the Pharisees' statement that He was a liar, because He testified about Himself.
2. **Rendered.** Jesus pointed out that the Pharisees had become judges, having rendered their judgment against Jesus.
3. **Incorrect.** Liars often render their own judgments without hearing from the accused or ascertaining all the material facts. They rush to incorrect judgments, distorting the truth to their own destruction.
4. **Judgement.** The human Pharisees sat in judgment upon Jesus when they should have accepted by faith Jesus as God and Savior.
5. **Judged Already.** You may recall that Jesus had said previously He did not come to judge, but everyone who does not believe in Jesus has been judged already.
6. **We Know.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we know Jesus did not come to judge people.
7. **Life.** We rejoice today because born-again believers never come into judgment, but have passed out of death into life.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by not judging according to the flesh.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God remembering that Jesus did not come to judge anyone.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God by remembering that the Day of Judgment will come, but we have passed out of judgment into eternal life.**

Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by not judging anyone. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by withholding judgment about people Jesus has not yet judged?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Three Hundred Thirty Nine

My Judgment Is True Today



Why would the judgment of Jesus be true? The judgment of Jesus would be true because He and His Father would render the same judgment.

Jesus was never alone. His Father always was with Him. Jesus did the works of His Father. Jesus said that to see Jesus was to see the Father. Jesus, the God-Man, was the visible representation of the invisible God.

Jesus did not come to render judgment, but was sent by His Father to be a sacrifice for the sins of the world. Jesus opened the door of salvation and made an open proclamation of salvation by faith alone in Him. He talked about Himself as the Bread of Life, the Living Water, and used many other symbols to describe Himself and His mission. Jesus lived in perfect harmony with God the Father at all times.

Not Alone

1. **Testified.** Jesus continued His reply to the Pharisees. They said He was a liar because He testified about Himself.
2. **True.** Jesus talked about judgment. He said even if He judged, His judgment would be true.
3. **Judged.** Jesus had stated that the Pharisees judged according to the flesh. He said He was not judging anyone.
4. **Not Alone.** Jesus also declared that He was not alone in His judgment.
5. **Concurred.** His Father who sent Him concurred in the judgment.
6. **Share.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we know Jesus and the Father share the same judgments.
7. **Spared.** We rejoice today because both the Father and Jesus love us and have spared us from the Great White Throne judgment. All who appear there are cast into the lake of fire. We have eternal life and never face such judgment, having been saved by grace through faith in Jesus.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by recognizing that the Father sent Jesus and abides with Jesus.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we understand that Jesus and the Father live and act in harmony in all things, including judgment.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God by joining together with Jesus and His Father as we live to the glory of God.**

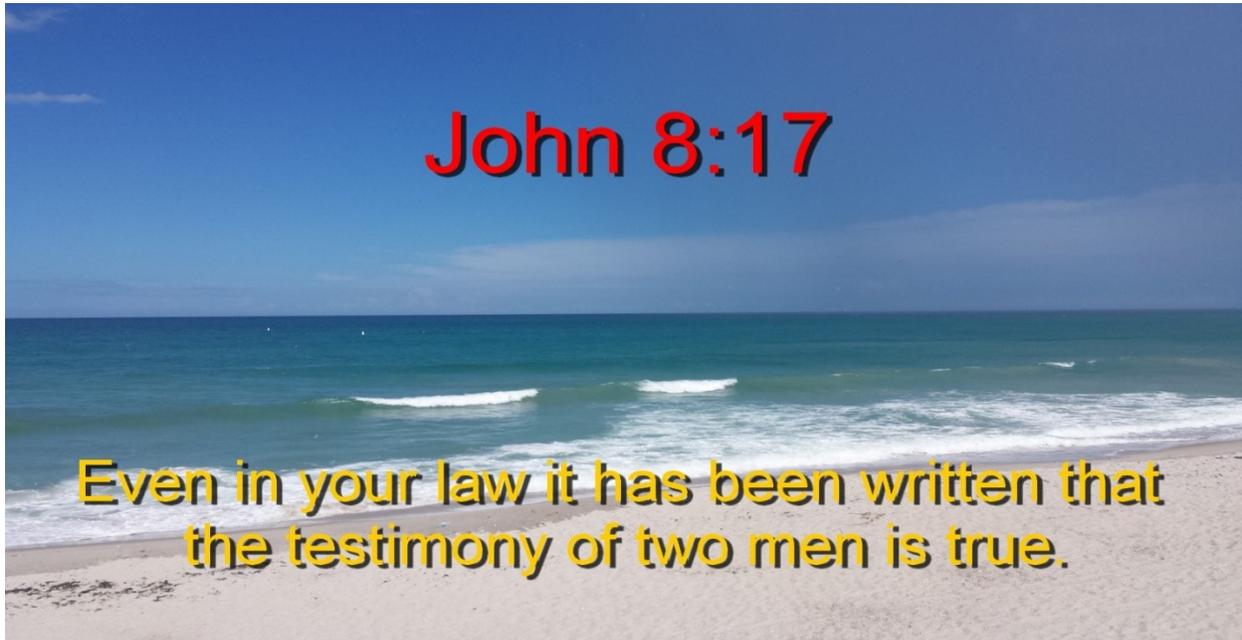
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by witnessing Jesus and the Father act in perfect harmony in all things. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by trusting the judgments of Jesus?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Three Hundred Forty

Your Law Today



What does the Law say about the testimony of two men? It has been written in the Law that the testimony of two men is true.

The Pharisees told Jesus His testimony was not true because He testified about Himself. The Pharisees twisted the Law like a pretzel to reach that conclusion. Two witnesses establish the truth. That standard does not mean that one witness lied.

The Pharisees implied that Jesus was a liar because He testified about Himself. Jesus replied that His Father was always with Him and His Father joined Jesus in the testimony.

Jesus also showed the Pharisees that they were wrong about their interpretation of the Law of Moses. Jesus always spoke in unison with His Father. When One testified, so did the Other One.

Two Men

1. **Law.** Jesus knew the Law, because He gave the Law to Moses.
2. **Testimony.** Under the Law of His accusers, Jesus pointed out that the testimony of two men is true.
3. **Fulfilled.** Jesus never broke the Law, but actively fulfilled it.
4. **True.** Jesus was not judging anyone, but even if He did, His judgment is true.
5. **Judgment.** The Pharisees rendered their judgment against Jesus and concluded He was a liar, a Law breaker, and a blasphemer.
6. **Both.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we know that God the Father always gave the same testimony that Jesus gave. They both told the truth all the time.
7. **Confirmed.** We rejoice today because Jesus gave testimony about Himself and the Father. Both originated and confirmed that testimony. God the Father sent His Son, Jesus, to be the Savior of the world.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by believing that Jesus always knew and complied with the Law of Moses.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God by listening to the testimony of Jesus and His Father and they testified together.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God by joining together to love the testimony of Jesus and His Father.**

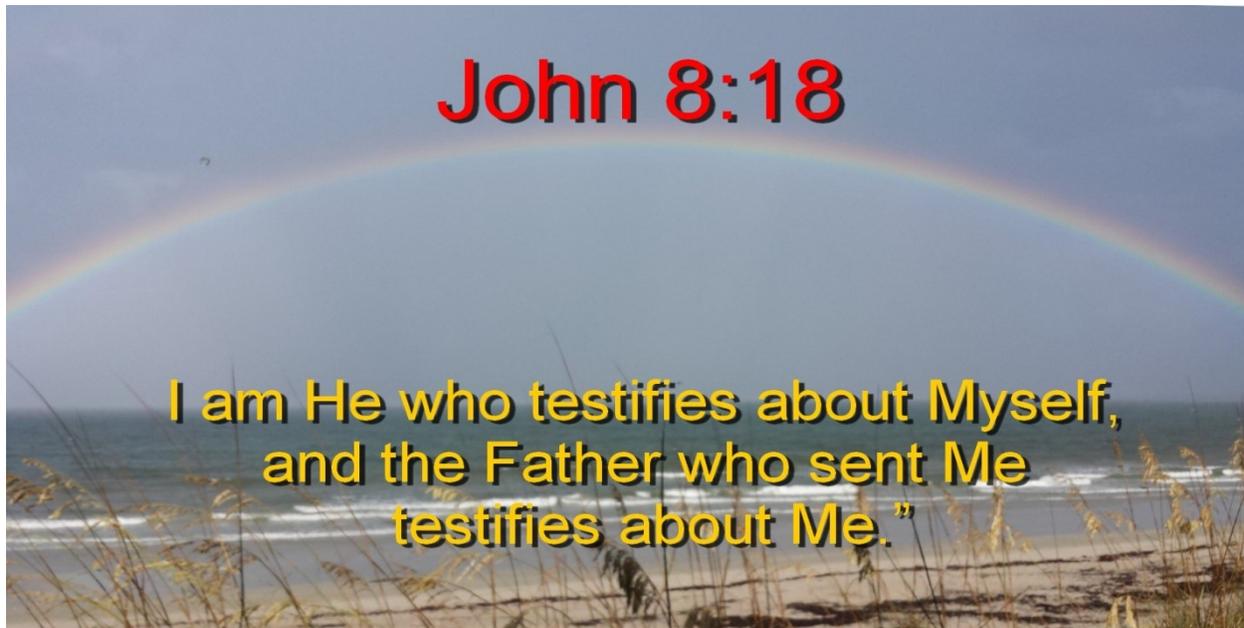
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by believing that Jesus always testified to the truth and His Father joined with Him in that testimony. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by telling the truth about Jesus and His Father?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Three Hundred Forty One

Testifies Today



Who testified about Jesus? Jesus testified about Himself and the Father Who sent Jesus testified about Jesus.

The Pharisees twisted the Old Testament Law about establishing the truth about a disputed matter through the testimony of two witnesses. The Pharisees claimed that Jesus testified about Himself, and so His testimony was not true. They essentially called Jesus a liar.

Jesus responded that God the Father not only sent Jesus to earth, but God the Father also testified about Jesus. The Pharisees never knew God the Father or the ways of God the Father. If they had known God the Father, then they would have known Jesus, the Son of God.

Testifies about Me

1. **I Am**. Jesus repeatedly used the phrase “I Am” to answer questions and make proclamations. This term has similarities to the Hebrew word of Yahweh in the Old Testament.

2. **He**. Jesus responded to the Pharisees claiming that Jesus was not telling the truth because He testified about Himself. The Pharisees twisted the Old Testament Law which required two witnesses to establish a contested matter. The Old Testament Law never said that just one witness always meant that witness was lying. Yet, the Pharisees claimed Jesus was lying because He was a single witness.

3. **Myself**. Jesus testified about Himself. Interestingly, Jesus was both God and Man at the same time. He was fully human (without sin) and fully God in the flesh.

4. **Father**. God the Father sent Jesus into the world and Jesus did the works of His Father upon earth. God the Father was always with Jesus.

5. **Sent**. God the Father sent Jesus into the world. The Pharisees thought that Jesus came from Nazareth. They claimed that no prophet came out of Galilee according to the Old Testament prophets.

6. **Testifies**. Living Godly in the family of God means that we know that God the Father not only sent Jesus, but God the Father also testified about Jesus. God the Father was always with Jesus and Jesus did the works of His Father and spoke the words of His Father.

7. **Me**. We rejoice today because God the Father testified about Jesus. Therefore, Jesus not only testified about Himself, but God the Father also testified about Jesus. Therefore, even under the Old Testament law about witnesses, Jesus and His Father bore testimony, thus confirming the truth under the Old Testament Law.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by rejoicing that God the Father sent Jesus into the world.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God by rejoicing that God the Father testified about Jesus, confirming the testimony of Jesus about Himself.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God by joining together to worship Jesus coming into the world to bear witness to the great love of God the Father for the world of sinners.**

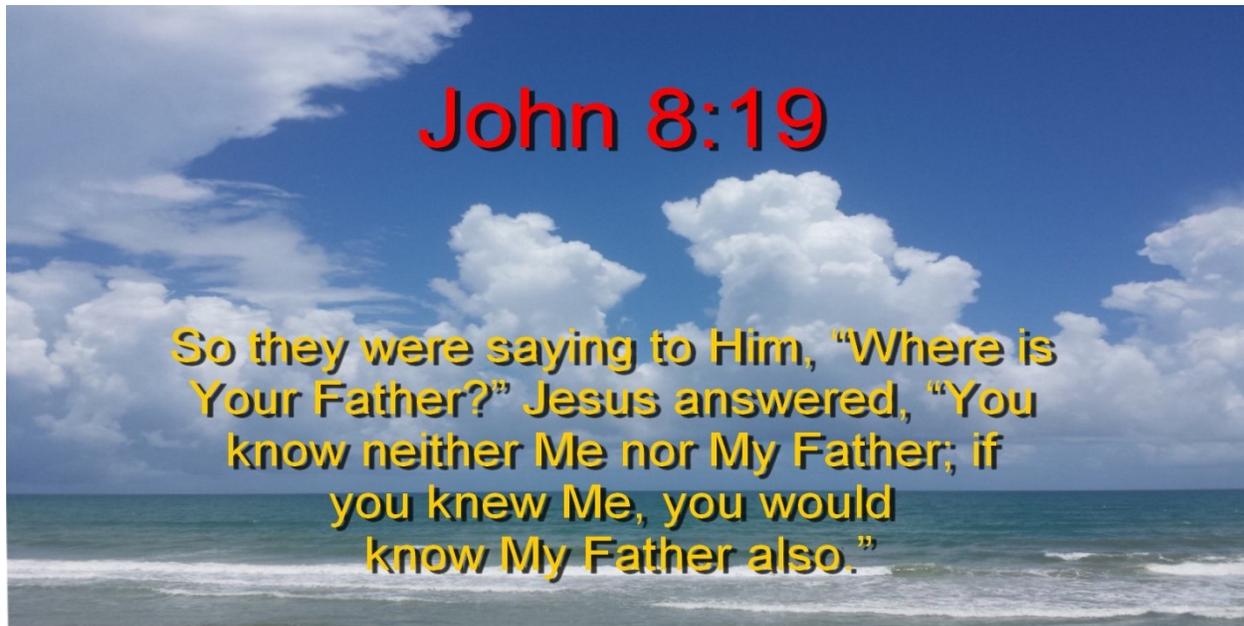
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by listening to the testimony of Jesus about Himself and the testimony of God the Father Who also testified about Jesus. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by listening to the testimony of Jesus about Himself, confirmed by the testimony of God the Father?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Three Hundred Forty Two

Where Is Your Father Today



Where is the Father of Jesus? Jesus said that if you knew Him, then you would know His Father also.

Jesus had a discussion with the Pharisees at the Feast. He said He was the Light of the world. He said that anyone who followed Him would not walk in darkness, but have the Light of life. The Pharisees said He was testifying about Himself and so His testimony was not true. Jesus then replied that His Father also testifies about Him, thus providing two witnesses.

The Pharisees then asked where His Father was. They wanted to know where He was so they could hear His testimony about Jesus. Jesus replied that they did not know Him or His Father. If they knew Him, then they would know the Father also. Jesus exposed that they were very blind regarding God the Father. They claimed to know Him, but their denial of His Son proved they never knew the Father Who testified about His Son.

You Know Neither

1. **Answer.** Jesus answered the Pharisees' charge of lying by stating that His Father joined in the statements of Jesus.

2. **Where?** The Pharisees asked Jesus, "Where is your Father?"

3. **Link.** Jesus answered and drew an important link between Himself and His Father: if you know the Father, then you will know the Son, Jesus, also.

4. **Father.** So, when the Pharisees claimed to know God the Father, but did not know Jesus was the Son of God, their own words proved they never knew the Father. Some people today claim to know God, but do not know Jesus. You cannot know God if you do not know Jesus.

5. **Only Way.** Jesus alone is the way to the Father and the only way to know the Father.

6. **Heaven.** Living Godly in the Family of God means that we know Jesus. We also know that God the Father sits on His throne in heaven, and also is present everywhere (omnipresence).

7. **Two Persons.** We rejoice today because we know Jesus and we know His Father: two divine Persons, one eternal God, loving us forever.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by remembering that God the Father testified about His Son.**

- **We live more Godly in the family of God by understanding that only born-again believers know God the Father and His testimony about His Son.**

- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God by loving Jesus because God the Father testified that He sent His unique Son, Jesus Christ, to die for our sins and be raised from the dead.**

Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by remembering the testimony of God the Father about His Son. Will you live Godly in the family of God today and thank God that you heard and believed the testimony of both God the Father and His Son Jesus and accepted Jesus as Savior?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Three Hundred Forty Three

The Treasury Today



Where did Jesus speak these words? Jesus was in the treasury when He spoke the words about His testimony that He was from God.

Jesus went to Jerusalem to celebrate the Feast. He obeyed His duty under the Law of Moses to assemble with the other Jews in Jerusalem. He knew that the Jews were seeking to kill Him, even before He left Galilee to return to Jerusalem.

Although the religious leaders planned on seizing Jesus and condemning Him to death, they did not seize Jesus. They sent officers to arrest Jesus, but those officers returned empty handed because they heard Jesus speak words which no one else spoke.

No one seized Jesus while He was in treasury, teaching openly in public in Jerusalem. No one seized Jesus because His hour had not yet come. Jesus lived on the timeline set by God the Father.

His Hour

1. **Openly.** Under attack by the religious leaders, Jesus kept right on teaching openly in the temple.

2. **Sought.** Although the religious leaders sought to seize Him, no one seized Him because His hour had not come.

3. **Sovereign.** God has absolute plans that follow His sovereign time line. No one will seize Jesus until the proper time has come.

4. **Later.** Later, Jesus will pray, knowing that His time has come and He would be betrayed and arrested.

5. **Plan.** In our lives, we can have faith that God has a plan for our lives too. He knows the number of our days.

6. **Trust.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we trust God to protect us as we walk with Him, using our spiritual gifts to His glory.

7. **Sent.** We rejoice today because Jesus has sent us into world to do the Father's will, just as the Father sent Jesus before us. We cast all our cares upon Him, because He cares for us.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by remembering that Jesus lived on a time schedule set by His Father.**

- **We live more Godly in the family of God by understanding that others lived on that same time schedule set by God the Father.**

- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we rejoice in the control that God exercises over time and circumstances that arise in our lives.**

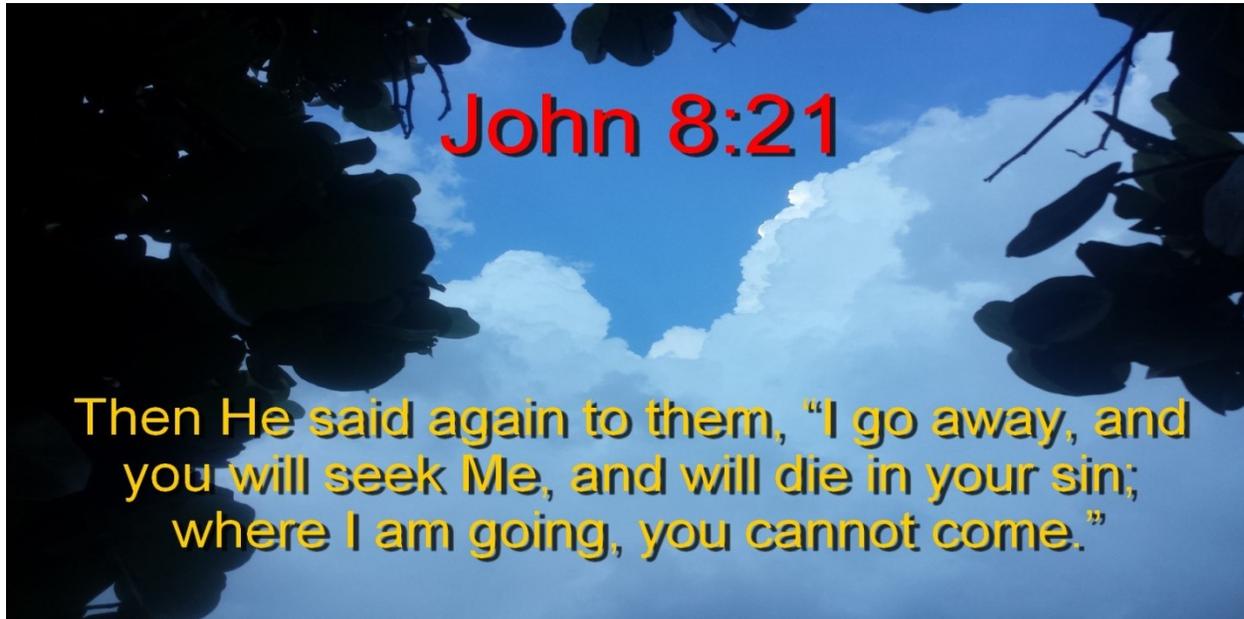
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by following the timeline of God the Father for our lives. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by trusting God the Father to lead you through life on His timeline?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Three Hundred Forty Four

I Go Away Today



Why did Jesus say that He will go away? Jesus said that He was going away, meaning He was going back to heaven.

Jesus also explained that they would seek Jesus and die in their sin. Only people who accept the free gift of salvation from Jesus will go to be with Jesus in Paradise. Everyone else will die in their sins. Jesus warned these people that they would die in their sins, because of their rejection of Jesus as God and Savior.

Jesus elaborated further that where He was going, they could not come. He was going to back to heaven to be with His Father, but they could not come to the Father except through Jesus. They had rejected Jesus and so they would never be able to come to the Father, unless they repented and turned to Jesus as God and Savior.

Die in Your Sin

1. **Warned.** Jesus repeated important truths. He warned religious leaders and others about dying in their sins.

2. **Reject.** Jesus warned the Pharisees about dying in their sin. Anyone who rejects saving faith in Jesus will die in his sin.

3. **Die in Sin.** Jesus also warned people that after He goes away, they will seek Him and die in their sin.

4. **After.** Jesus meant that after they kill Him, He will be resurrected bodily, and ascend back to heaven.

5. **Heaven.** Jesus also warned them that where He was going (Jesus was going to heaven), they cannot come.

6. **Received.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we have believed Jesus and have received the free gift of eternal life. We will not die in our sin. We heeded the warning of Jesus.

7. **Eternity.** We rejoice today because we are going to heaven to be with Jesus for all eternity. We will always be with Him and He with us.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by listening to Jesus warn people they will seek Him when it is too late for them.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God by warning people today that they will die in their sins if they reject Jesus.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God by accepting Jesus as God and Savior, and spreading the Good News of Salvation to people who will die in their sins without Jesus.**

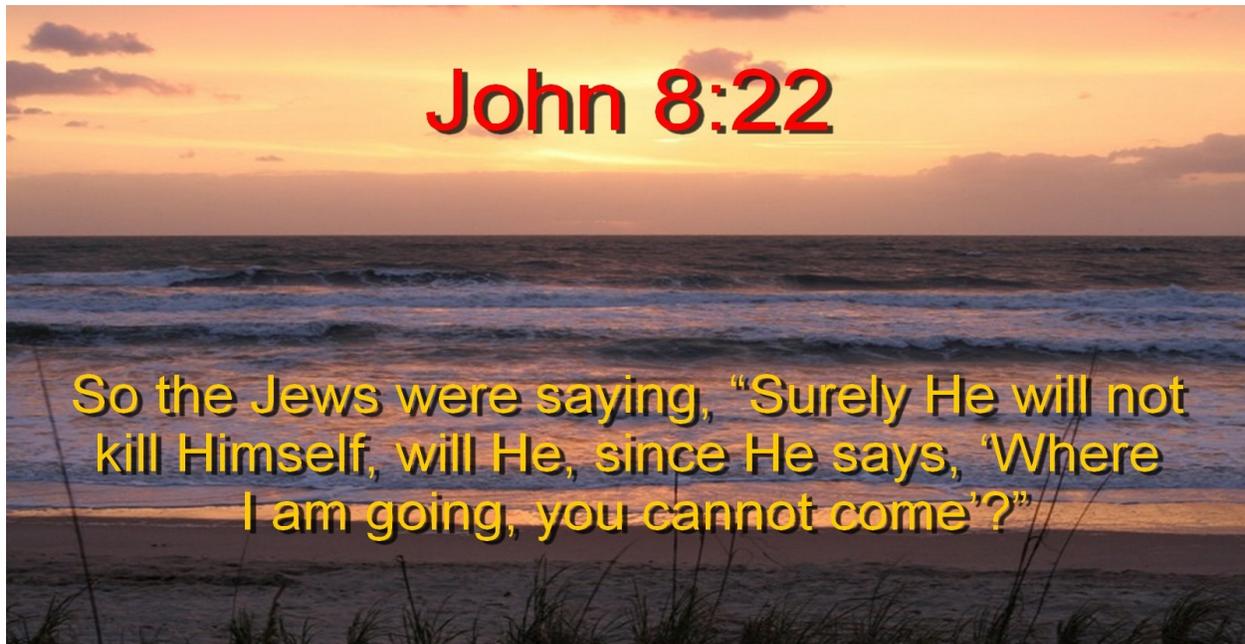
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by warning people about the danger of dying in their sins. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by remembering that we will be going where Jesus is in heaven when we die on earth?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Three Hundred Forty Five

Kill Himself Today



Why did the Jews question whether Jesus would kill Himself? The Jews questioned whether Jesus would kill Himself because He said that where He was going, they could not come.

Jesus used symbols to communicate deep spiritual truths. He also used common expressions and simple words. In this case, the Jews wondered if Jesus intended to kill Himself. They never considered that they were going to kill Jesus. They did have some inkling that Jesus was speaking of His own death.

The Jews also failed to understand that Jesus was speaking about returning to heaven after His death on earth. The Jews did not understand that Jesus came from heaven and would be returning to heaven. They particularly did not understand that Jesus was telling them that they were not going to heaven.

You Cannot Come

1. **Repeatedly.** The religious leaders repeatedly misapprehended Jesus and His warnings.
2. **Rejected.** Jesus repeatedly warned them that they would die in their sins, because they rejected Him.
3. **Discussed.** The Jews discussed among themselves what Jesus meant when He said "Where I am going, you cannot come."
4. **Meant.** Jesus meant He was going to heaven, and they could not follow Him to heaven.
5. **Deliver.** The Jews wondered whether He would kill Himself. In fact, the religious leaders intended to arrest Jesus and deliver Him to the Romans for execution.
6. **Heaven.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we will be going to heaven as we follow Jesus.
7. **Faith.** We rejoice today because Jesus gave us faith to receive Him as Savior, even when other people rejected Him.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by warning people they will die in their sins if they reject Jesus.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we praise God that we will be with Jesus after our deaths.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we proclaim with one voice the warnings of Jesus about rejecting His free gift of salvation.**

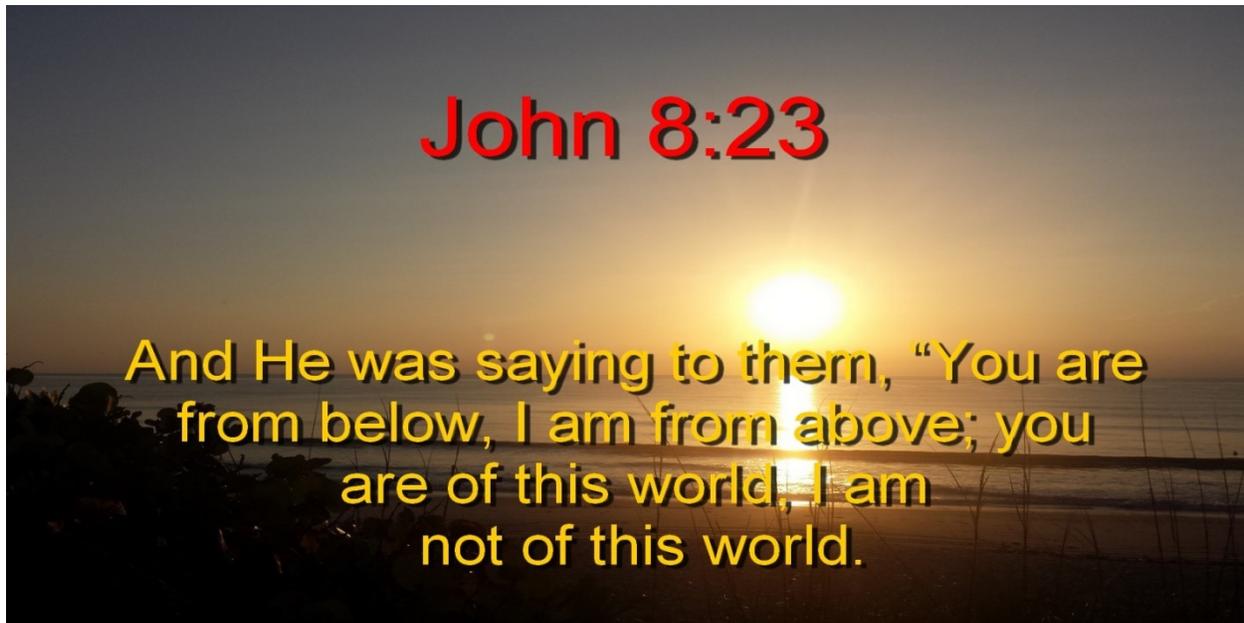
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by praising Jesus that we will be with Him because we will not die in our sins. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by believing every word Jesus said in the Bible?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Three Hundred Forty Six

From Below Today



Why did Jesus say that the Jews were from below? Jesus said the Jews were from below because He was not of this world, but from above.

Jesus emphasized to the Jews that they were rejecting Jesus because they did not understand that He was from above. He was literally not of this world. God the Father sent Jesus from heaven to earth.

Jesus repeatedly emphasized that by rejecting Jesus, the crowd was acknowledging that they never knew God. Because they never knew God, they rejected the Son of God, Jesus. Jesus was in effect sharing the Gospel of Jesus Christ with the crowd of religious unbelievers. He showed them that they did not know God or the Son of God. They were going to perish in their sins unless they received Jesus by faith and believed that He was the Bread of Life, the Light of this world. He was God in the flesh, Who offered the free gift of salvation.

From Above

1. **Reveal.** Jesus continued His discourse with the Jews. He continued to reveal Himself to them.

2. **Below.** Jesus said that the Jews were from below. They were evil people from earth.

3. **Heaven.** Jesus also said that He was from above. Jesus came from heaven.

4. **System.** Jesus also said the Jews were of the world. He meant that they lived according to the evil world system, under the dominion of the devil.

5. **Not of.** Jesus proclaimed that He was not of the world, and not a part of the world system.

6. **Loved.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we know Jesus came from heaven because He loved the world, but He was not of the world.

7. **Delivered.** We rejoice today because Jesus delivered us from the world system to be with Him forever.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by believing that Jesus was from above.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we believe that Jesus was not of this world.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we join together to warn unbelievers that Jesus was not of this world.**

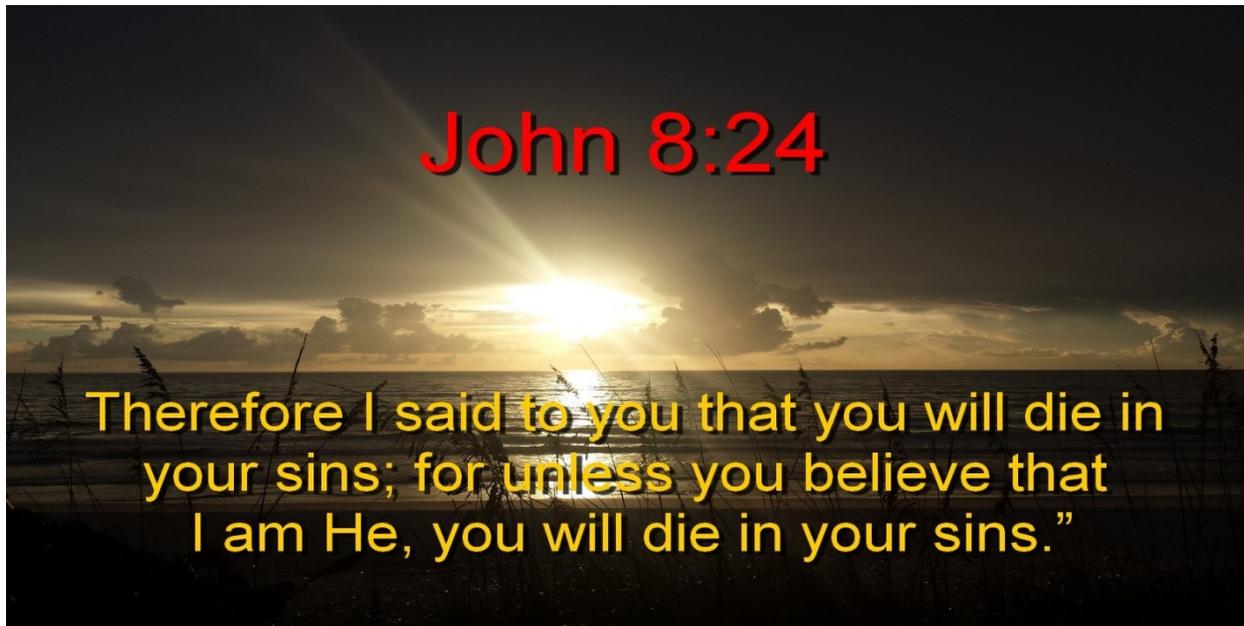
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by proclaiming that Jesus was not of this world. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by sharing with people of this world that Jesus was not of this world, but from above?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Three Hundred Forty Seven

Die in Your Sins Today



Why did Jesus say that people would die in their sins? Jesus said that people would die in their sins unless they believe that Jesus is the Son of God, the Savior of the world.

Jesus was not willing for any to perish. He came to die for the sins of the world. He did not want anyone to die in their sins. People have a hard time facing their own sins. They love the darkness because the Light may expose their sinful actions. They reject Jesus as Savior, in part, because they love walking in darkness. They have been thoroughly deceived in many ways.

Jesus warned people that they are currently in their sins and they will die in their sins unless they accept Jesus as the Son of God and Savior. Jesus made a very exclusive proclamation. Jesus alone brings salvation by faith in Him. Without faith in Him as God and Savior, everyone will die in their sins.

Unless You Believe

1. **Warned.** Jesus loved His opponents and repeatedly warned them.
2. **Explained.** Jesus specifically explained that they would die in their sins.
3. **Die.** Unless they believed that Jesus is the I AM God of the Old Testament, and Savior of the world, they would die in their sins.
4. **Believe.** Jesus meant that salvation from the eternal death penalty comes only from faith in Jesus. They must believe He is the I AM God.
5. **Faith.** Without faith, the Jews were going to die in their sins. Throughout the Bible, only faith in Jesus, the I AM God, can keep you from dying in your sins.
6. **I AM.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we believe Jesus is the I AM God, our Savior.
7. **Flesh.** We rejoice today because Jesus came from heaven, took flesh, and paid the death penalty, so that He died for all my sins. I am not going to die in my sins, because Jesus has already died for them, and I believe He died for me.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by warning people they will die in their sins.**

- **We live more Godly in the family of God by sharing the Gospel of Jesus Christ with people who will die in their sins.**

- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God by joining together to praise Jesus that by faith in Him, we will not die in our sins.**

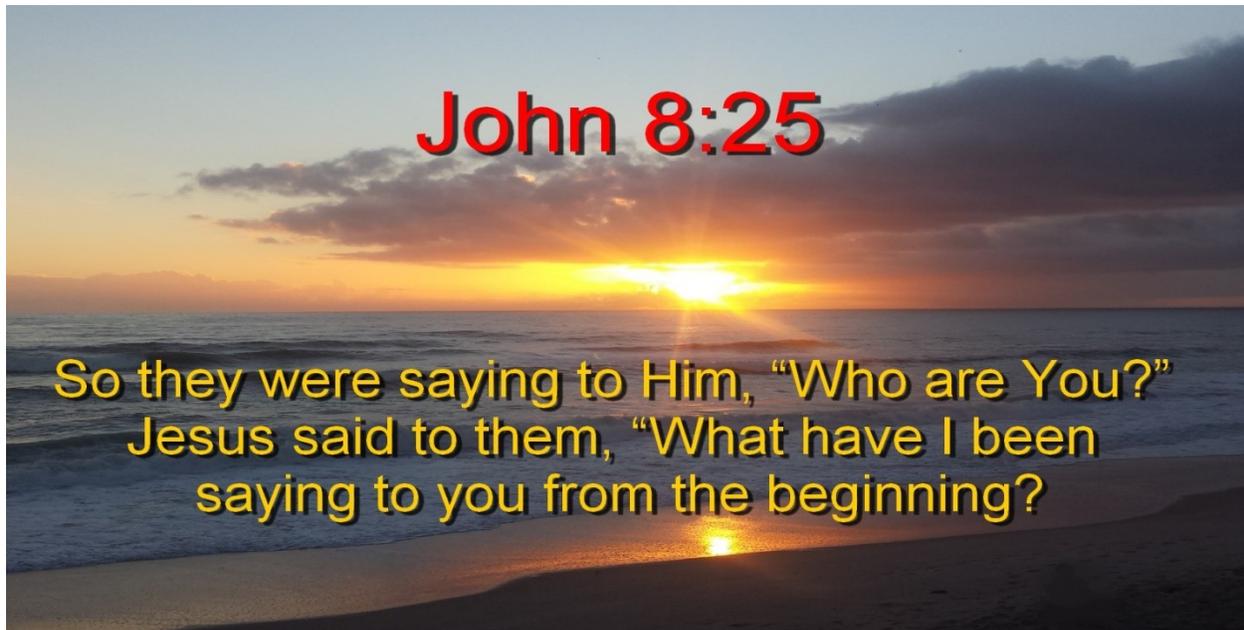
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by warning people about the peril of dying in their sins. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by praising Jesus for saving us, so that we will not die in our sins?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Three Hundred Forty Eight

Who Are You Today



Why did the Jews ask Jesus, "Who are you?" Jesus provoked the question by declaring He was from above, not of this world, and that they would die in their sins unless they believed in Jesus as God and Savior.

Jesus provoked many questions. He astonished people with His teaching. Jesus penetrated the minds and hearts of people with His words. He opened channels of spiritual communication. The Jews generally rejected the spiritual teaching of Jesus and Jesus Himself. Because they were of the world, they could not understand the spiritual statement of Jesus.

Jesus was not willing for any to perish. He drew them back to His consistent testimony that He came from heaven, sent by God the Father, to speak the words and do the works of God the Father in heaven. The Jews never knew God the Father, and so never knew God the Son when He stood in front of them as the God-Man. They were in danger of dying in their sins.

From the Beginning

1. **Who?** The Jews asked Jesus: "Who are you?" They did not comprehend what Jesus had repeatedly told them.

2. **Failure.** The failure to identify Jesus as the only Savior means that you will die in your sins.

3. **Identity.** Apparently, the Jews had grown concerned about the true identity of Jesus, or they wanted to trap Him with His own words.

4. **Consistent.** Jesus replied, "What have I been saying to you from the beginning?" Jesus always remained consistent in His statements because He always told the truth.

5. **Always.** While Jesus always told the truth, the Jews called Jesus a liar and refused to believe in Him.

6. **True.** Living Godly in the family of God means that unbelievers do not listen to Jesus and believe what He says is true; they refuse to believe in Him.

7. **Savior.** We rejoice today because we know Jesus and we believe every word He has said is the truth. He is God in the flesh and our Savior.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by expecting that people will ask questions about Who Jesus is.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God by sharing with people from the Bible about Who Jesus really is and always has been, and always will be.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God by remembering that Jesus loves sinners, even those people who reject Him and argue with Him, and even seek to seize Him and kill Him.**

Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by sharing the love of Jesus Christ for people opposed to them. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by talking with people who are dead in their trespasses and sins about the great gift of Jesus Christ?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Three Hundred Forty Nine

Many Things Today



What did Jesus have to say? Jesus had many things to speak and to judge concerning the Jews.

The Jews were wondering what Jesus meant about leaving and they could not follow Him or find Him. Jesus then disclosed that He already had many more things to speak and to judge.

Jesus had already revealed that He spoke the words given to Him by His Father. The Father had also given all judgment to the Son, so that people would honor the Son.

The Jews did not believe Jesus was the Son of God and rejected His message of salvation. He only spoke the words of His Father. The Father directed Him to speak to the world. Jesus made an open offer of salvation to the Jews. By faith in Him they could receive the free gift of eternal life, but they were unwilling. They never knew God the Father and rejected the Son of God.

To the World

1. **Have.** Jesus said I have many things to speak and to judge. Jesus already knew all the things He was going to do.

2. **Speak.** Jesus said that He had many things to speak concerning the Jews. Although Jesus had been speaking with the Jews for some time, He had more to say to them. He had already astonished them with His teaching and disclosed He was from heaven, sent by God the Father.

3. **Judge.** Jesus said that He had many things to judge concerning the Jews. Jesus said that He did not come to earth to judge, but the Father had given all judgment to Jesus, so that the people would honor Jesus.

4. **True.** Jesus said that He Who sent Him was true. Jesus meant that God is always true, and always tells the truth. Jesus was a truthful witness and His Father gave truthful testimony.

5. **Heard.** Jesus said that what He heard from His Father, He spoke. Remember that Jesus said He had many more things to speak to the people.

6. **Speak.** Living Godly in the family of God means that what Jesus heard from His Father, those things He spoke. Jesus did not speak for Himself; He spoke for God the Father who sent Him to earth to speak the words and do the works of His Father.

7. **World.** We rejoice today because Jesus spoke the things He heard from His Father to the world. He brought good news of salvation to all who would hear Him and believe that He had the words of eternal life.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by knowing that Jesus has many things to speak and to judge.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we understand that Jesus spoke and will judge in righteousness.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we join together to praise Jesus that He brought the words of God the Father to the world, so that the world may not perish, but have everlasting life by faith in Jesus.**

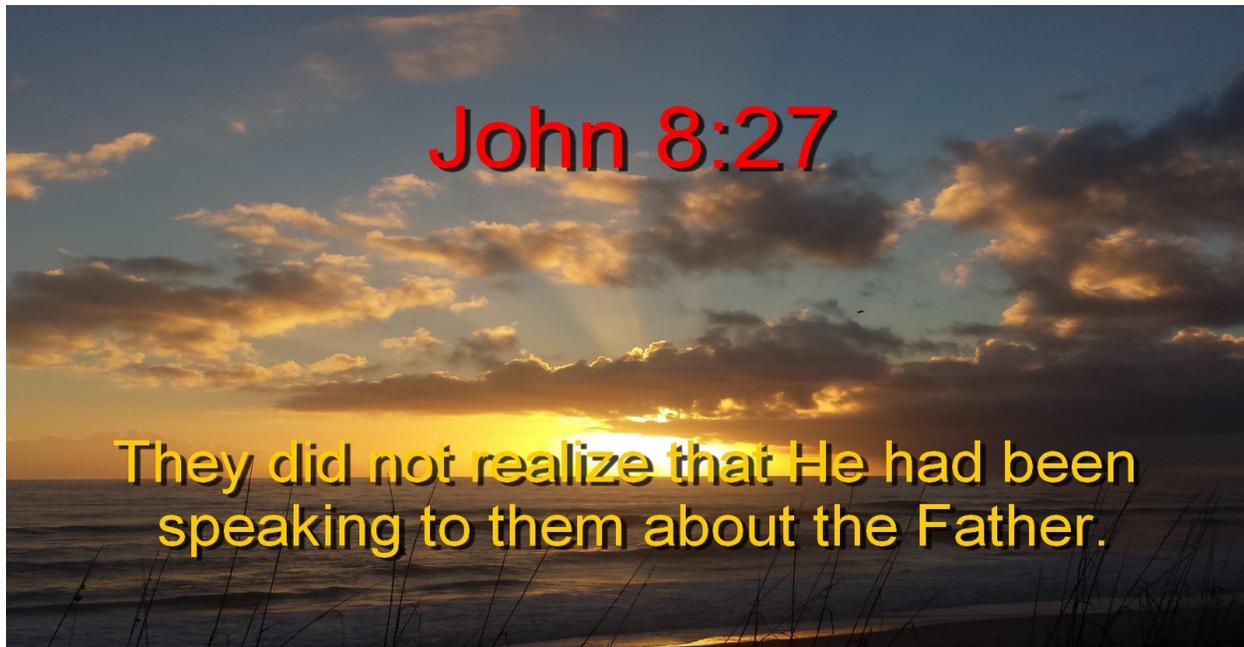
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by trusting Jesus always to tell us the truth. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by praising Jesus for bringing the words of the Father to the world?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Three Hundred Fifty

Realize Today



Did the Jews understand what Jesus was talking about? The Jews did not realize that Jesus was talking to them about the Father.

Jesus had repeatedly stated that He was sent by God the Father to earth. God the Father sanctified Jesus and sent Him into the world to proclaim the words of the Father and to accomplish the work which the Father gave Him to do.

Jesus also embodied the love of God the Father. Jesus demonstrated the love of God the Father for people who thought they knew God the Father, but actually never knew God the Father. They sought to establish their own righteousness. They did not understand that the righteousness of God came by faith in Jesus Christ, the Son of God, and only Savior. If the Jews had known God the Father and loved Him, then they would have loved Jesus, the Son of God.

The Father

1. **Father.** The Jews did not understand that Jesus had been speaking to them about the Father.

2. **Insight.** Under the inspiration of God, John provided more spiritual insight into the minds and hearts of the Jews.

3. **Lack.** God revealed the lack of understanding in the Jews.

4. **Understand.** Jesus explained His relationship to the Father perfectly, but the Jews did not have ears to hear or a mind to understand.

5. **Never Knew.** Because the Jews never knew the Father, they did not know the Son Who reveals the Father.

6. **Revealed.** Living Godly in the family of God means that God revealed the Son to us and the Son revealed the Father to us. We realize that Jesus was talking about the Father.

7. **Learn.** We rejoice today because we love to learn more about the Father as we read in the Bible what Jesus said about the Father.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by understanding that people did not understand that Jesus spoke about His Father.**

- **We live more Godly in the family of God when we understand that people do not hear and understand the words of Jesus unless God the Father reveals Jesus to them.**

- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we join together in worship of Jesus and His Father for bringing the words of eternal life to us, which is to know God the Father and Jesus Christ Whom He has sent.**

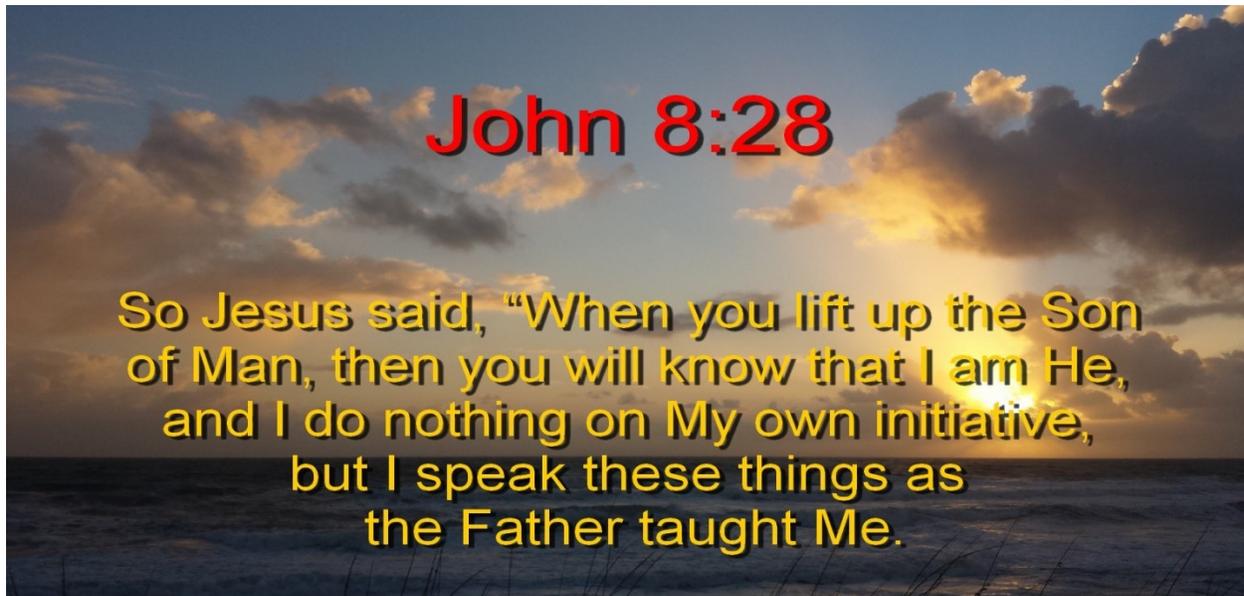
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by thanking Jesus that He spoke the words of God the Father to us. Will you live Godly in the family of God today and rejoice in the love of God the Father expressed through the life, death, resurrection and ascension of Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Three Hundred Fifty One

Lift Up the Son of Man Today



When will the Jews know that Jesus is the Son of Man? The Jews will know that Jesus is the Son of Man when they lift Him up.

Jesus made many prophecies about His death. Jesus referred to the Jews as lifting up the Son of Man. He meant that He would be crucified by the Jews, with the assistance of the Romans.

When the Jews crucified Jesus, Jesus said that they would know He did nothing on His own initiative. He only spoke the things given to Him as the Father taught Him.

God the Father sent Jesus to earth to speak God the Father's words. Jesus listened and learned from God the Father. He spoke the words of God the Father.

The Father Taught Me

1. **Prophecy.** Jesus prophesied many things. Here He prophesied His death; describing it as they lift up the Son of Man. Jesus knew they would crucify Him.
2. **Crucify.** When they crucify Him, at that time they will know that Jesus is the I AM God.
3. **Will Know.** They will also know that Jesus did nothing on His own initiative. You may recall the Jews called Jesus a liar because He testified about Himself.
4. **Taught.** Jesus spoke the things as the Father taught Him. Jesus was fully God and fully man. As a man, He learned things from God, including what to speak and how to say it.
5. **Proclaimed.** Jesus always had His Father testifying about Him. The Father proclaimed from heaven that people should listen to Jesus.
6. **We Know.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we know Jesus is the I AM God, and that He did nothing on His own initiative.
7. **Life.** We rejoice today because Jesus spoke the words of eternal life to us, just as He learned them from His Father.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by remembering that the Jews lifted up Jesus.**

- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we understand that the Jews knew that God sent Jesus after they lifted Him up.**

- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we understand that all sinners lifted Jesus up on the cross because He died for the sins of all of us.**

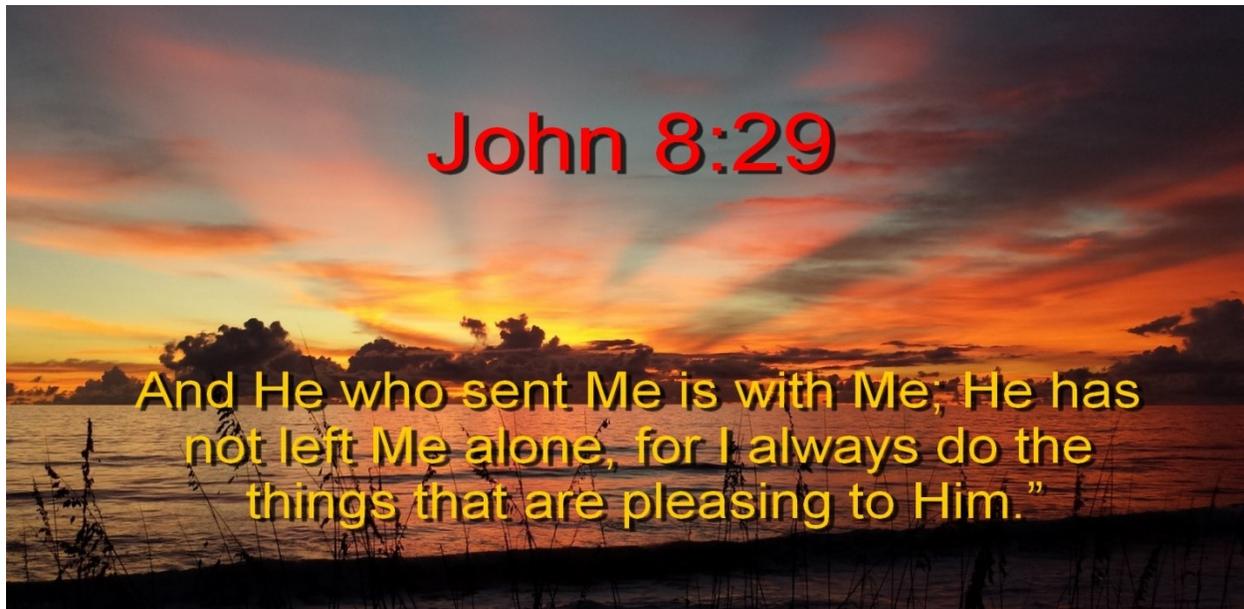
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by remembering that Jesus spoke what God the Father taught Him. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by praising Jesus that He revealed God the Father to us?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Three Hundred Fifty Two

Sent Me Today



Did Jesus always please God the Father? God the Father never left Jesus alone, because Jesus always pleased God the Father.

God certainly forsook Jesus to death, but God the Father never left Jesus, even when He died on the cross, bearing the penalty of sin. God did not deliver Jesus from death, but Jesus pleased God the Father by dying for the sins of the world. God the Father and God the Holy Spirit never abandoned Jesus on the cross.

Jesus emphasized that He always pleased God the Father. Jesus pleased God the Father by doing all things He learned from God the Father and accomplishing the works which God the Father gave Him to do.

Jesus commanded us to please God the Father, just as Jesus always pleased God the Father. As we prove to be the disciples of Jesus, so we always have Jesus and God the Father abiding with us.

With Me

1. **Goal.** As a child, I wanted to live one day without sin. I never reached that goal, but Jesus reached that goal every day for a lifetime.

2. **Sent.** Jesus explained that His Father sent Him to earth. His Father was always present with Him.

3. **Indwells.** In our lives, Jesus abides with us and the Holy Spirit indwells us. Jesus never leaves us alone, just as the Father never left Him alone.

4. **Pleasing.** Notice too that the Father never left Jesus alone, because Jesus always did the things pleasing to His Father.

5. **Behavior.** As born-again believers, our behavior counts. God wants us to please Him in all that we do. He lives within us and we in Him.

6. **Strive.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we strive to please God in all that we do, because He is with us.

7. **Bless.** We rejoice today because Jesus lives in us today; by the power of God, we please God and bless His name.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by remembering that Jesus always pleased God the Father.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God by remembering that God the Father sent Jesus and was always with Jesus.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God by worshipping Jesus for always pleasing the God the Father.**

Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by doing the things pleasing to God. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by pleasing God in all things?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Three Hundred Fifty Three

He Spoke Today



Did many people come to believe in Jesus? As Jesus spoke these things, many people came to believe in Him.

People have different kinds of faith. You may believe that your car will start if you turn the key in the ignition or press the button. You may believe that the chair will hold you up if you sit in it. Jesus spoke and many people believed in Him.

Jesus had already provided a simple test about whether a person had saving faith. Nicodemus believed five nice things about Jesus, but Nicodemus did not have saving faith when he came to Jesus at night because he had never been born again. Only people who have been born again have saving faith in Jesus. Jesus made sure that people could know if they truly had saving faith in Him.

Many Came To Believe

1. **Truth.** Jesus amazed crowds with His teaching. He consistently revealed truth from His Father.
2. **Many.** Having heard Jesus, many people came to believe in Him.
3. **Believed.** In the Gospel of John, just because people believed in Jesus does not necessarily mean they had saving faith.
4. **Faith.** In the next passage, Jesus explained what it means to have saving faith.
5. **About.** In this case, believing in Jesus meant they believed something about Jesus, but we will see Jesus test their faith.
6. **Belief Matters.** Living Godly in the family of God means that believing in Jesus does not always mean you have saving faith. It always matters what you believe about Jesus.
7. **Savior.** We rejoice today because we have saving faith in Jesus. We abide in His word and know Him as Savior.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by believing in Jesus for salvation.**

- **We live more Godly in the family of God by being sure we have saving faith.**

- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we join together in worshiping Jesus for giving us saving faith.**

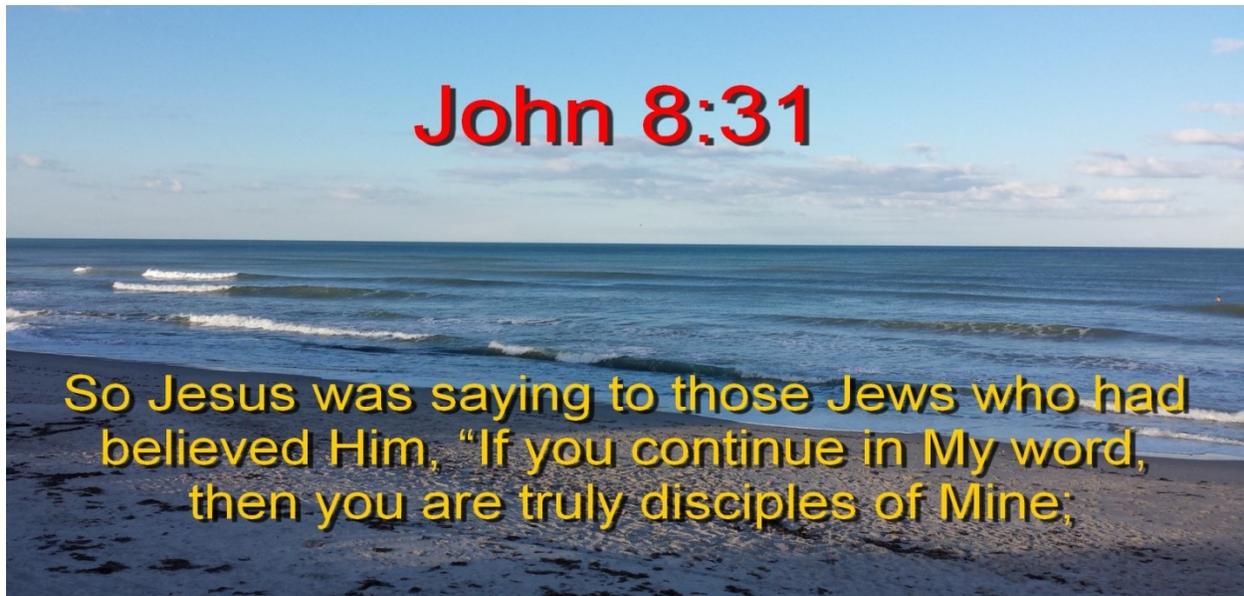
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by praising God that many people believed in Jesus. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by praising God the Father Who gives us saving faith?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Three Hundred Fifty Four

Continue in My Word Today



What did Jesus say to the Jews who believed in Him? Jesus told them that if they continue in His word, then they are truly disciples of His.

Jesus gave a simple test about faith and discipleship. If you want to know if you are truly saved and a disciples of Jesus, then ask yourself if you continue in His word. In other words, do you have a relationship with Jesus or did you just pray a prayer once in your life?

Jesus did not mean that we have a sinless life after salvation. Jesus consistently taught that salvation takes an instant. We receive the free gift of salvation from Jesus by grace through faith. But Christianity does not last an instant. Jesus emphasized that He abides with us. The Holy Spirit comes into our lives and we live in the power of the Holy Spirit.

Disciples of Mine

1. **Saying.** Jesus said many things. He said them openly and publicly. He talked to believers and unbelievers. He made Christianity open and public. He challenged people who claimed to believe in Him to life as His disciple.

2. **Believed.** In the Gospel of John, not everyone who believed in Jesus had saving faith. Some believed so long as they saw His signs. Others merely made a profession of faith.

3. **Abide.** Jesus described continuing in the faith as abiding in the faith. Saving faith means you abide in Christ, not just for a moment, but always.

4. **Word.** Jesus presented a simple test to see if you really have saving faith. Jesus said saving faith means you abide in the word of Jesus. You live according to what He said and you continue to believe in Him. Jesus was not talking about sinless perfection, but an abiding love for Jesus evidenced by obedience to Him.

5. **Truly.** Jesus said that you are truly His disciple when you abide in His word.

6. **Disciples.** Living Godly in the family of God means that disciples learn from Christ. Jesus linked together two separate things: salvation and discipleship. You are saved in an instant by grace through faith. Because you are saved by faith, you walk in the good works God prepared beforehand for you to do. You still sin after salvation, but you walk in the Light and the blood of Jesus cleanses you from all sin.

7. **Mine.** We rejoice today because Jesus intends that we learn from Him and serve Him as His disciple. He will teach us and lead us. God has given us the Helper to teach us all things and follow Jesus all day, each day, learning from Him.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by continuing in the word of Jesus.**

- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we understand that some people make a profession of faith, but they do not have saving faith in Jesus.**

- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we encourage the faith of each other by continuing together in the word of Jesus and so prove we are the disciples of Jesus.**

Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by continuing in the word of Jesus. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by rejoicing that you keep the word of Jesus?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Three Hundred Fifty Five

Know the Truth Today



What will set you free? If you know the truth, then the truth will set your free.

So many unbelievers seek to live in freedom. They often mean they seek to live in freedom from God and His ways. Other unbelievers think they are believers because they had some kind of faith in Jesus.

Jesus addressed a group of Jews about their faith in Him. They had listened to Jesus and witnessed His signs. He astonished them and they marveled at the things He did and said. They believed Jesus, but Jesus wanted them to know the truth and be free.

Jesus said that believers with saving faith will know the truth and the truth will set them free. Jesus described Himself as the truth. Jesus also described His words as truth, and His words will sanctify believers.

Make You Free

1. **Proof.** Jesus continued His test for saving faith. He first revealed that saving faith means you continue in His word, and so prove to be His disciple.
2. **Faith.** Jesus then explained that saving faith also means that you will know the truth and the truth will make you free.
3. **Progression.** Please notice the progression. First, you believe Jesus. Second, you continue in His word. Third, you show yourself to be His disciple. Fourth, you know the truth. Fifth, the truth will set you free.
4. **Focus.** Saving faith focuses upon Jesus and the word of Jesus. If you continue in His word, you will know the truth and the truth will set you free.
5. **Spiritual.** Knowing the truth sets you free. As we will see, Jesus means spiritual freedom.
6. **Free.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we know the truth and the truth has set us free.
7. **We Know.** We rejoice today because Jesus gave us His word, we believed Him and His word, and now we know the truth and have been set free.

Summary for Today

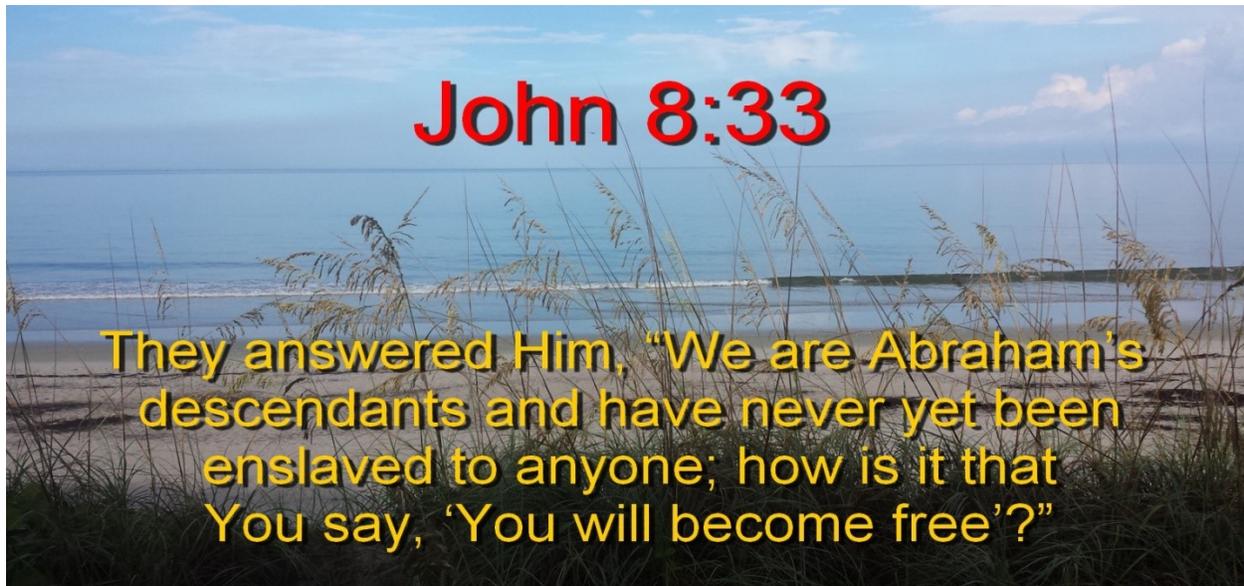
- **We live Godly in the family of God by knowing the truth.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we know the truth and the truth sets us free.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God by rejoicing in the freedom that Jesus brings into our lives.**

Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by knowing the truth that sets us free. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by living in freedom based upon knowing the truth?

HALLELUJAH !

Three Hundred Fifty Six Abraham's Descendants Today



Why did the Jews think they had never been enslaved to anyone? They thought they had never been enslaved to anyone because they were Abrahams' descendants.

The Jews were completely blind. They were blind to the Roman occupation of their land where they lived under Roman law. A Roman governor with Roman troops demanded their obedience to Rome and Caesar. They had been enslaved to Rome for decades. Before that, they had been exiled and enslaved in Babylon.

The Jews were spiritually blind. They did not grasp that they were slaves of sin. To be free from the slavery of sin required that they have the faith of Abraham. They did not have the faith of Abraham and never knew the God of Abraham, Jesus Christ. They lived in slavery to Rome and spiritual slavery to sin. They were blind to both forms of slavery.

Never Been Enslaved

1. **Answered**. Jesus not only taught the people, but also conversed with them. They asked questions and He answered them.

2. **Abraham**. The Jews thought they were saved because they claimed Abraham as their father. They were circumcised in the flesh, and so they thought they were o.k. with God. Jesus destroyed their unfounded confidence in their fleshly religion.

3. **Descendants**. The Jews also thought that they were the descendants of Abraham. They did not understand that salvation was spiritual, so being a physical descendant of Abraham did not guarantee they were going to heaven.

4. **Enslaved**. The Jews did not believe they were enslaved to anyone. Of course, the Romans governed the country of Israel and stationed troops there. More importantly, they were enslaved to sin and did not know it.

5. **Say**. People say things without thinking. At times they say things without considering the spiritual implications of the words they use. People said all kinds of things to Jesus. He understood both their words and their hearts.

6. **Become**. Living Godly in the family of God means that people do not understand the concept of becoming free from sin until they receive Jesus Christ as Savior. They do not understand that they are enslaved to sin, and so need a Savior to free them from the bondage of sin, until God the Father reveals such truths to them through the message of Jesus. Jesus preached the words of eternal life given to Him by God the Father.

7. **Free**. We rejoice today because Jesus has made us free. Jesus purchased our freedom at the expense of His life. Jesus shed His life blood that we would have freedom from the slavery of sin, the stains of sin, and the death penalty of sin for all eternity.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by understanding spiritual blindness in the unsaved.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God by remembering how Jesus delivered us from spiritual slavery.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God by joining together to worship God for making us free in Jesus.**

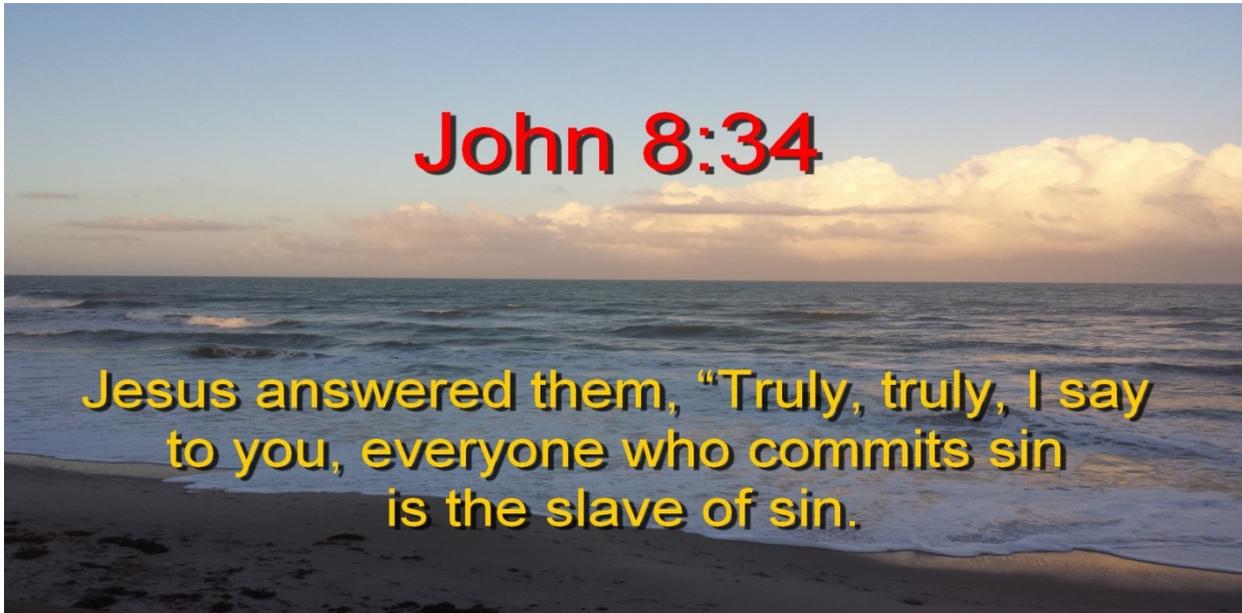
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by loving God for making us free in Jesus Christ. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by bowing down before Him and thanking Him for the freedom we have in Jesus?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Three Hundred Fifty Seven

Answered Them Today



Who is the slave of sin? Jesus answered that everyone who commits sin is the slave of sin.

Jesus answered questions from all kinds of people. The Jews denied they were ever enslaved to anyone. They claimed they were the children of Abraham and so never enslaved to anyone.

Jesus explained that everyone who commits sin is the slave of sin. They Jews were thinking in physical terms. Spiritual blindness hindered them from comprehending that they were sinners.

Everyone who sins is the slave of sin. No exceptions without Christ as Savior. People become free from the slavery of sin only by saving faith in Jesus Christ. He alone frees sinners from the slavery of sin.

The Slave of Sin

1. **How.** Jesus explained in detail how the truth makes you free.
2. **Free.** Jesus meant that the truth sets you free from slavery to sin.
3. **Sin.** Only faith in Jesus as Savior sets a person free from the slavery of sin.
4. **Slavery.** The Jews who had believed in Jesus did not understand that by continuing in His word, they would know the truth and the truth would set them free from the slavery of sin.
5. **Power.** Ponder the power of knowing the truth based on faith in Jesus. That truth breaks the slavery to sin and brings true freedom in Jesus.
6. **Faith.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we know the truth by faith in Jesus and that truth has set us free from slavery to sin.
7. **Forever.** We rejoice today because we live in freedom. We are longer enslaved to sin because Jesus has freed us forever.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by understanding that only Jesus frees sinners from the slavery of sin.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God because we know that only Jesus understands the blindness associated with slavery to sin.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God by enjoying the freedom from sin gifted to us by grace through faith in Jesus.**

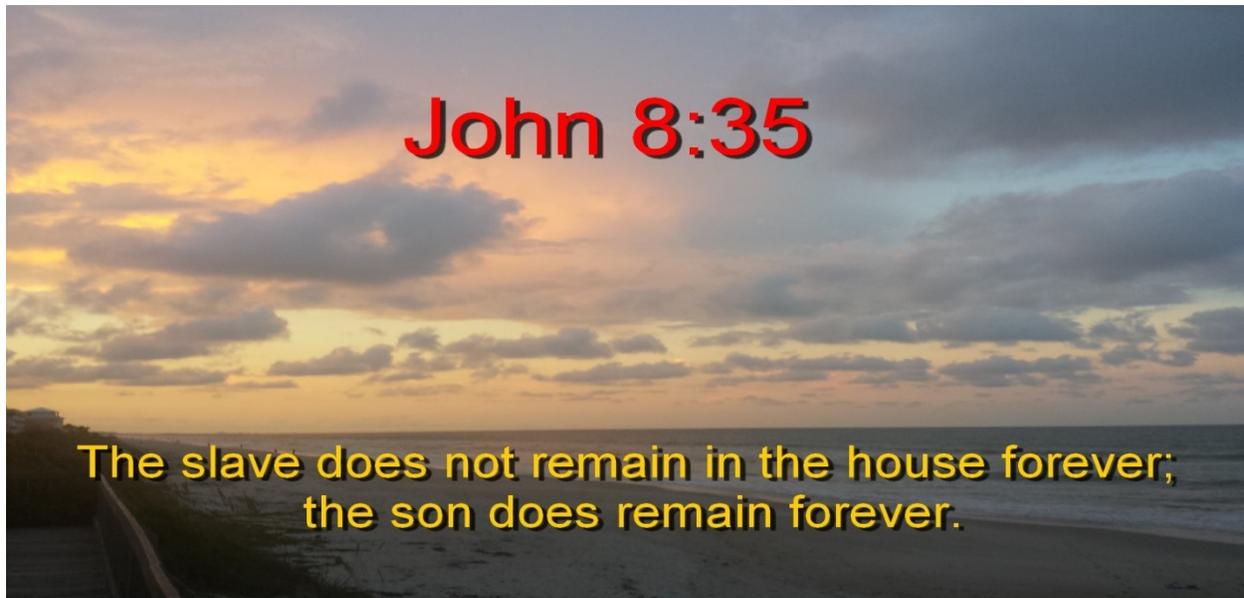
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of Godly by rejoicing in the freedom from sin Jesus gives to us. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by living in freedom today?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Three Hundred Fifty Eight

The Slave Today



Who remains in the house forever? Jesus taught that only the son remains in the house forever.

Jesus explained that if you are a physical descendant of Abraham, you are not necessarily a spiritual descendant of Abraham. You may be only a slave of sin, physically related to Abraham. You are not a son of Abraham unless you have the faith of Abraham.

If you are only a slave of sin, physically related to Abraham, then you are not a son of Abraham and will not live in the house of Abraham forever. Only the sons of Abraham live forever in the house of Abraham. Remember Lazarus went to the bosom of Abraham when he died. Likewise, Jewish believers and many others will recline with Abraham, Isaac and Jacob in the kingdom of God. The unbelieving Jews will see Abraham, Isaac and Jacob and all the prophets in the kingdom of God, but they will be thrown out.

Remain Forever

1. **Truth.** Jesus taught saving faith in Him brings truth that sets you free from sin. By faith, you are no longer a slave to sin.

2. **Slaves.** Jesus then explained that slaves do not remain in the house forever. Jesus meant that the Jews were not really sons of Abraham, because they were slaves of sin.

3. **Free.** Only when they received Jesus as Savior would they be freed from the slavery of sin and become true sons of Abraham.

4. **Remain.** Only sons, not slaves, remain in the house of Abraham forever. Only by faith in Jesus would they become a son of Abraham by being freed from the slavery to sin.

5. **Not Free.** Jesus explained that the Jews who "believed" in Him were not truly free, were not really sons of Abraham, and were truly slaves of sin.

6. **Faith.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we are no longer slaves of sin, but we have become sons of Abraham because we have the faith of Abraham in Jesus our Savior.

7. **Eternity.** We rejoice today because we are sons of Abraham and are no longer slaves to sin. We will remain with Jesus for all eternity.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by understanding that slaves do not remain in the house forever.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God by understanding that only sons remain in the house forever.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God by praising God that He has made us sons that remain in the house forever.**

Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by loving God for adopting us into His family as sons that remain forever. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by rejoicing that God has made you a son who will live forever with God?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Three Hundred Fifty Nine

Makes You Free Today



Who can make you free indeed? The Son makes you free and you will be free indeed.

Jesus taught that only He can make you free from the slavery of sin. Spiritual blindness and hardness of heart makes people who are slaves of sin think they are going to heaven.

Jesus explained that everyone, including the physical descendants of Abraham, must be freed from the slavery of sin. Only Jesus can make you free, and then you will become free indeed.

God the Father sent Jesus into the world to free people from the slavery of sin. God the Father was not willing for any to perish, but for all to come to repentance and receive eternal life in Jesus. By receiving the free gift of eternal life, Jesus makes people free from the slavery of sin and they become truly free indeed.

Free Indeed

1. **Jews.** Jesus explained to those Jews who had "believed" in Him that they were slaves of sin.

2. **Thought.** They thought they were children of Abraham and never enslaved to anyone.

3. **House.** Jesus explained they were slaves of sin living in the house of Abraham, but not really sons of Abraham because they lacked the faith in Jesus which Abraham had.

4. **Son.** Jesus then explained that the Son of God makes people free from the slavery to sin.

5. **Only.** Only when Jesus frees you from the slavery of sin will you be free indeed.

6. **Free.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we believe and know that Jesus has set us free from the slavery to sin, so that we are free indeed.

7. **Indeed.** We rejoice because we are free indeed. Jesus has freed us forever from the bondage and death penalty of sin.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by the power of Jesus Christ to free us from slavery to sin.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we understand that when Jesus frees us from slavery to sin, we become free indeed.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God by rejoicing with all the saints that God has made us free indeed today and for all eternity.**

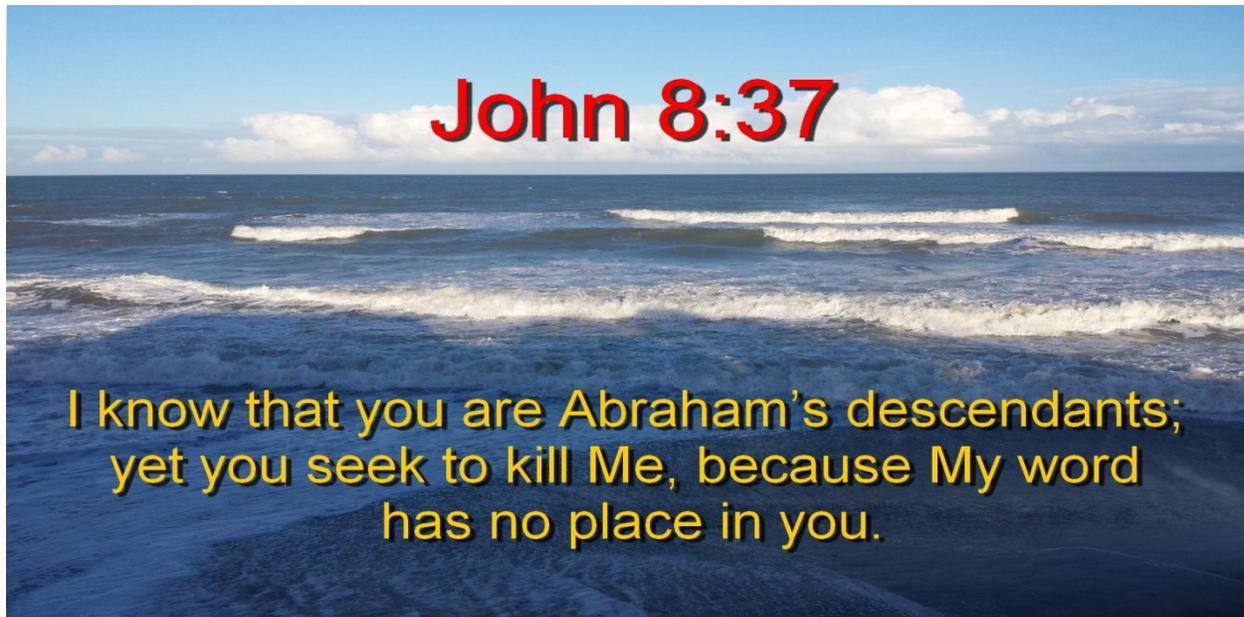
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by enjoying the freedom from slavery to sin that makes us free indeed. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by letting the spiritually blind around you know about what it means to be free indeed?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Three Hundred Sixty

I Know Today



Who sought to kill Jesus? The physical descendants of Abraham sought to kill Jesus.

The physical descendants of Abraham sought to kill Jesus because His word had no place in them. Please recall that Jesus was talking with people who had believed in Him. Jesus told those people who believed in Him that they would prove to be His disciples if they continued in His word. Now Jesus reveals to those believers that His word has no place in them.

When Jesus revealed that the word of Jesus had no place in them, He showed them that their faith in Him was not saving faith. Just because a person believes in Jesus does not mean they have saving faith. Jesus revealed that saving faith means that His word abides in them and they abide in the word of Jesus.

Kill Me

1. **Descendants.** Jesus explicitly acknowledged that the Jews were descendants of Abraham according to the flesh.
2. **Desire.** Jesus then highlighted their desire to kill Jesus. Please recall Jesus was talking with the Jews who had "believed" in Him. Those "believers" were not saved nor born again.
3. **Reason.** Jesus also explained the reason those Jews sought to kill Him: His word had no place in them.
4. **Word.** Jesus said people who continued in His word would know the truth. The truth would set them free.
5. **Hated.** Because the word of Jesus had no place in those Jews, they hated Jesus and wanted Him dead.
6. **Violently.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we recognize that some people who reject the word of Jesus violently oppose Jesus, even seeking His death.
7. **We Continue.** We rejoice today because we continue in the word of Jesus, believing He is our Savior.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by understanding that the Jews are the physical descendants of Abraham.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God by understanding that some of the Jews wanted to kill Jesus.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God by understanding that some of the Jews wanted to kill Jesus because His word had no place in them.**

Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by understanding that only people who receive the word of Jesus will love Jesus and prove to be His disciples. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by understanding that generally the Jews reject Jesus because His word has no place in them?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Three Hundred Sixty One

I Speak Today



What things did Jesus speak? Jesus spoke the things which He saw with His Father.

Jesus contrasted what He did with what things the Jews did. He spoke the things of His Father. The Jews did the things of their father. Jesus consistently testified that God the Father sent Him into the world and He did the things pleasing to His Father.

Jesus has not yet revealed who is the father of the Jews. As we will see, He was not speaking of Abraham being their father. Jesus had already shown that they claimed Abraham as their physical father, but they were not spiritually the children of Abraham.

Your Father

1. **Either.** Jesus explained that people either have God as their Father or the devil as their father.
2. **Saw.** Jesus said He did the things which He had seen with the Father. Notice that Jesus saw things with His Father. They are One God.
3. **Heard.** In contrast, the Jews did the things they heard from their father. Jesus saw with His Father, the Jews heard from their father.
4. **Devil.** The devil has tremendous evil power and the earth lies within his domain of darkness. He controlled the Jews talking with Jesus.
5. **Abraham.** Although the Jews claimed Abraham as father, Jesus exposed them as liars because Abraham was not their spiritual father. Notice too that Jesus pointed to God as His Father.
6. **Rescued.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we have Jesus as our Savior and God as our Father. God rescued us from the domain of darkness.
7. **Harmony.** We rejoice today because Jesus did what He saw with His Father. Jesus and the Father always act in perfect harmony and God loves us.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by speaking the things Jesus revealed to us in the Bible.**

- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we understand that God the Father is not the father of unbelievers.**

- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we join together to speak with one voice about God the Son, God the Holy Spirit, and God the Father, Who all work in harmony all the time.**

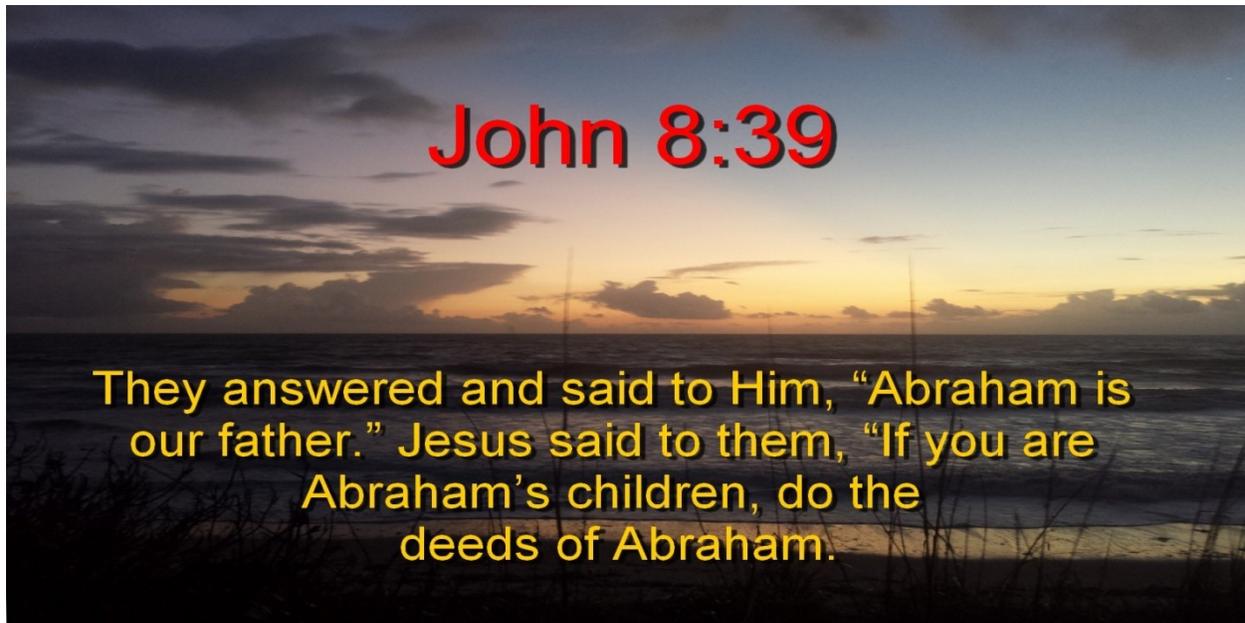
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God as we speak the things Jesus taught us from His Father. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by speaking the things Jesus spoke?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Three Hundred Sixty Two

Abraham's Children Today



What do the children of Abraham do? The children of Abraham do the deeds of Abraham.

Jesus had said that He speaks the things of God His Father. Jesus also said that the Jews were doing the things of their father. They responded that Abraham was their father.

Jesus then tested their words against their actions. If they verbally claim that Abraham was truly their father, then they should be doing the deeds of Abraham.

Jesus clearly exposed the vast difference between the deeds of Abraham and the deeds of the Jews before him. They were completely blind spiritually both in their recognition of Jesus as God and Savior and in their claim to be the spiritual children of Abraham.

Deeds of Abraham

1. **Only.** Jesus explained that only the Son of God can set you free from sin.

2. **Many.** Many people claim Abraham as their father. Many people claim God as their Father.

3. **Celebrate.** As we contemplate Christmas today, we celebrate the human birth of divine Jesus. Jesus, God in the flesh, came to free us from slavery to sin. By His grace through faith, we receive eternal life as a free gift.

4. **Remember.** Christmas may include gifts and smiles, but remember Jesus today.

5. **Deeds.** Jesus explained that Abraham's children do the deeds of Abraham. In like manner, the children of God should do the deeds of God, especially on Christmas.

6. **Worship.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we love Jesus and worship Him on Christmas. We also do the deeds of God as the children of God, especially on Christmas.

7. **Prove.** We rejoice today over the birth of our Savior. Today, we will prove to be the children of God because, like Jesus, we will do the works of God, starting with loving our neighbors.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by examining our deeds.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we compare our deeds to our words.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we encourage one another to match our deeds with our words.**

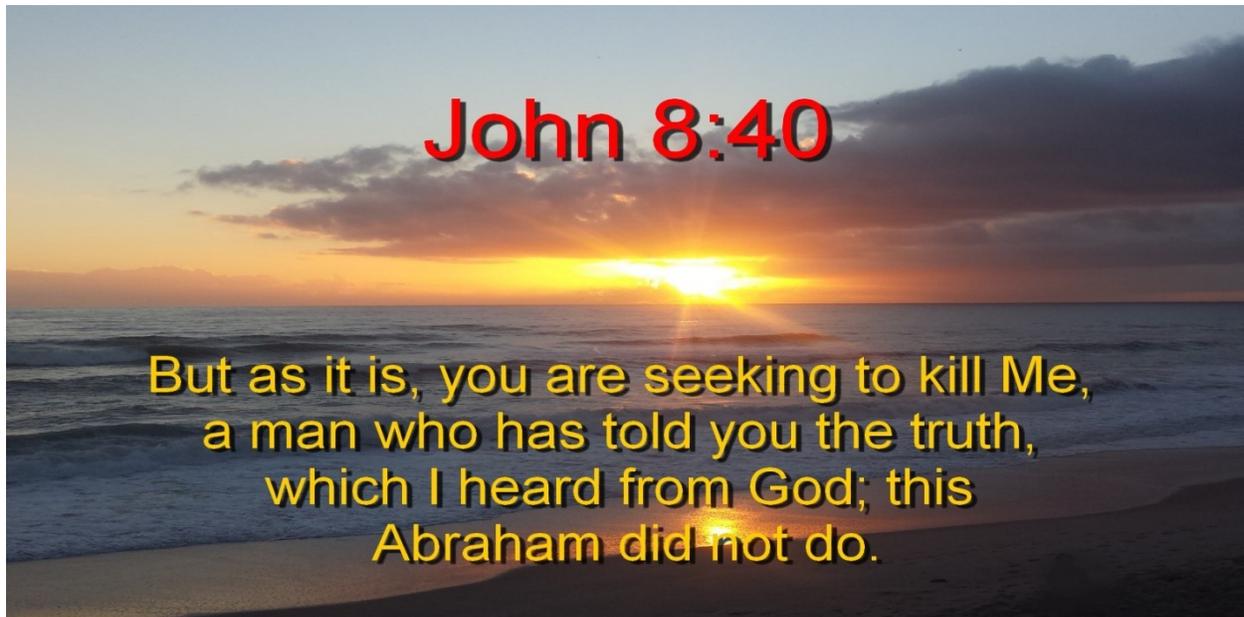
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by doing the deeds of Abraham. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by following the example of Abraham's obedience to Jesus Christ?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Three Hundred Sixty Three

Kill Me Today



Why were the Jews seeking to kill Jesus? The Jews were seeking to kill Jesus because He told them the truth, which He heard from God.

While the Jews claimed to be the children of Abraham, Jesus challenged them to compare their deeds to the deeds of Abraham. Jesus specifically pointed out that they sought to kill Jesus. Jesus reminded them that Abraham never sought to kill Jesus.

Jesus also implied that He knew Abraham personally. Jesus also stated plainly that the Jews were seeking to kill Jesus, even though they believed in Jesus. Their faith was not saving faith in Jesus. They did not abide in the word of Jesus. Instead, they opposed Him and the words He spoke from God the Father. Jesus told the Jews the truth, which He received from God the Father.

Seeking To Kill Me

1. **Truth.** Jesus spoke blunt truth to the Jews before Him. He disclosed that He knew they were seeking to kill Him.

2. **Know.** Consider what you would say to people seeking to kill you. What would you want them to know?

3. **Exposed.** Jesus always spoke the truth. Here Jesus exposed their evil desire to kill Him and continued to convict them of their sin and separation from God.

4. **Proved.** Jesus also had a greater purpose of salvation. He proved to them they were not like Abraham. Jesus showed them they were going to die in their sins, even though they took spiritual comfort in being the physical descendants of Abraham.

5. **Spiritual.** The spiritual children of Abraham would know and love Jesus, just like Abraham knew and loved Jesus in Abraham's day.

6. **Abraham.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we do the deeds of Abraham, because we share in the faith of Abraham and love Jesus as God our Savior.

7. **Same.** We rejoice today because people only go to heaven by faith in Jesus as Savior--the same yesterday, today, and forever.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by recognizing that people can be very offended and violent by speaking spiritual truth to them.**

- **We live more Godly in the family of God encouraging people to live in truth before God.**

- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we praise God for delivering spiritual truth to us and opening our hearts to receive that truth about Jesus.**

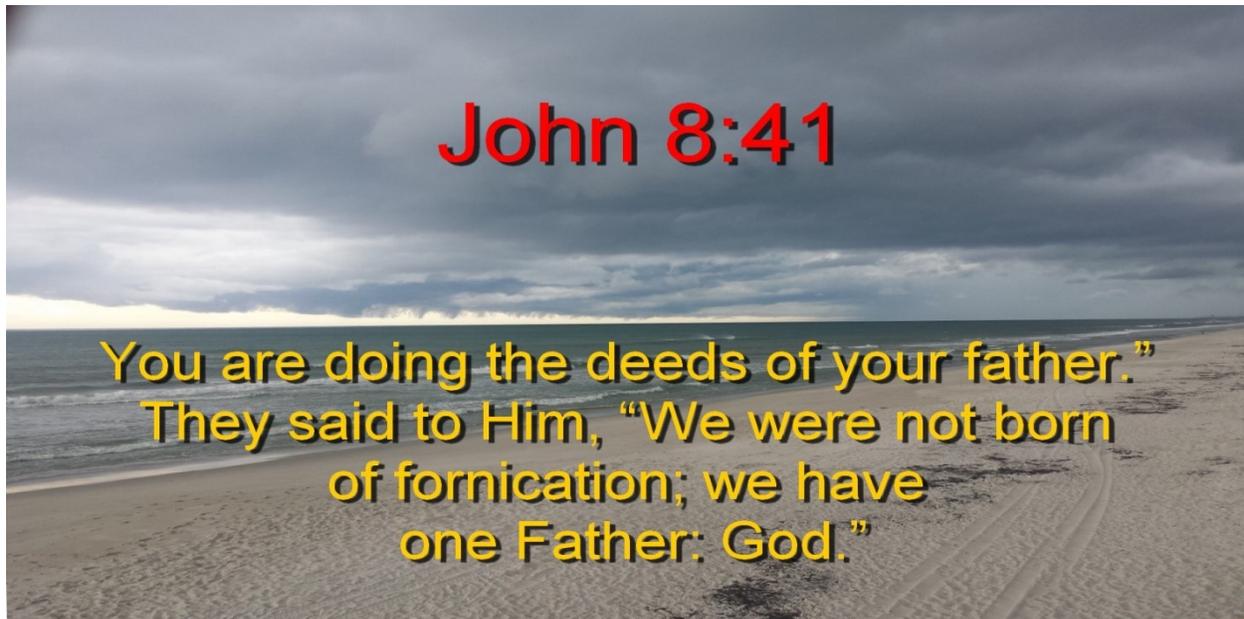
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by sharing the truth God gave to us in the Bible with unbelievers. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by rejoicing in the truths Jesus spoke to us?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Three Hundred Sixty Four

Your Father Today



What deeds were the Jews doing? The Jews were doing the deeds of their father.

Jesus had explained that they were not doing the deeds of Abraham. They were seeking to kill Jesus. Abraham never sought to kill Jesus. Jesus implied that Abraham knew Jesus, and truly Abraham knew and worshipped Jesus.

Jesus also continued to expose the Jews' false reliance upon genetic descent from Abraham. Jesus refuted such a notion by showing that they were not doing the deeds of Abraham. Therefore, Jesus showed that they were incorrect to think or assert that Abraham was their father. Jesus had not revealed who their father was, but it was not God the Father nor Abraham. The Jews implied that Jesus was born of fornication. They did not believe that He was born of a virgin and sent from heaven to earth by God the Father.

Fornication

1. **Spiritual.** Jesus knows your father. Just as Jesus has a spiritual Father, so also every person on earth has a spiritual father.

2. **Father.** Every person born by faith into the family of God has the Father of Jesus as his Father. If the Father of Jesus is not your Father, then the devil is your father.

3. **Physical.** Notice that first the Jews claimed Abraham as their father because they were physical descendants of Abraham.

4. **Abraham.** After Jesus explained that they were not spiritual children of Abraham, the Jews then claimed that God was their Father.

5. **Fornication.** The Jews further countered that they were not born of fornication. Some people say that the Jews here accused Jesus of being fathered by someone other than Joseph, the husband of Mary who gave birth to Jesus.

6. **Serve.** Living Godly in the family of God means that Jesus knows your father and you do the deeds of your father. You serve God or the devil.

7. **Adopted Us.** We rejoice today because we know God the Father. He adopted us into His family by being born of the Holy Spirit.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by doing the deeds of God our Father.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God by showing people that God is not their father.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we understand that unbelievers do the deeds of their father, who is not God or Abraham.**

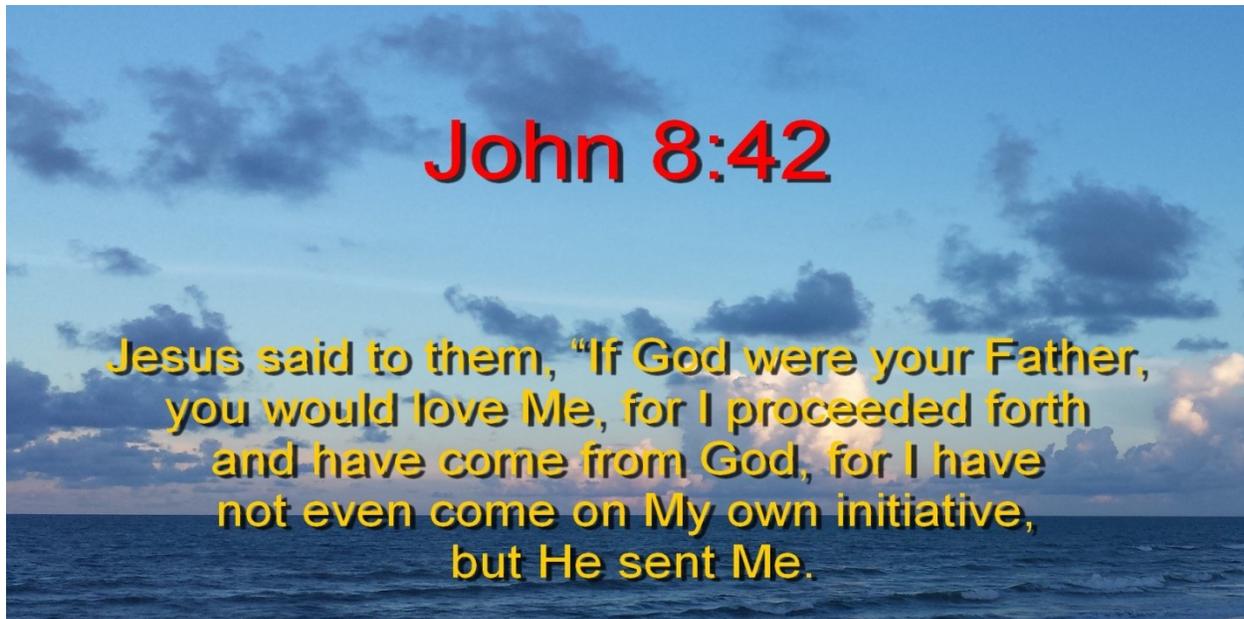
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by expecting that people may claim God is their Father, but they have another father that causes them to oppose Jesus. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by testifying to the truth about people as we share the Gospel of Jesus Christ?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Three Hundred Sixty Five

Love Me Today



Why do people love Jesus? People love Jesus because God is their Father.

People who love God the Father also love Jesus, the Son of God. Jesus revealed that He proceeded forth from God the Father. Jesus came into the world from God. In the beginning was Jesus, and Jesus was with God and was God. All things were created by Jesus.

Jesus did not come of His own initiative. Jesus came because God the Father sent Him. We praise God for His indescribable gift, Jesus Christ, come to be our Savior. God the Father gave us His unique Son, so that we might become the righteousness of God in Christ. We sing hallelujah just thinking about the marvels of God, Who loves us always.

He Sent Me

1. **God.** Jesus challenged unbelievers to consider what god they really serve.
2. **Father.** The Jews thought Abraham was their father, but they did not do the deeds of Abraham.
3. **Love.** Jesus pointed out that if God were their Father, then they would have loved Jesus.
4. **Proceed.** Jesus said that if God were they Father, they would love Jesus because He proceeded from God the Father.
5. **Come.** Jesus said that He came forth from God the Father, indicating that He was with God the Father in heaven, before God the Father sent Him to earth.
6. **Initiative.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we believe that Jesus did not come on His own initiative.
7. **Sent.** We rejoice today because God the Father sent Jesus to be our Savior, so that we will be with them forever.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by remembering that Jesus did not come on His own initiative.**

- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we understand that people who know God the Father love Jesus Who proceeded forth from Him.**

- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we join together in worshiping Jesus because God the Father did not spare His own Son, but gave Him as a sacrifice for our sins.**

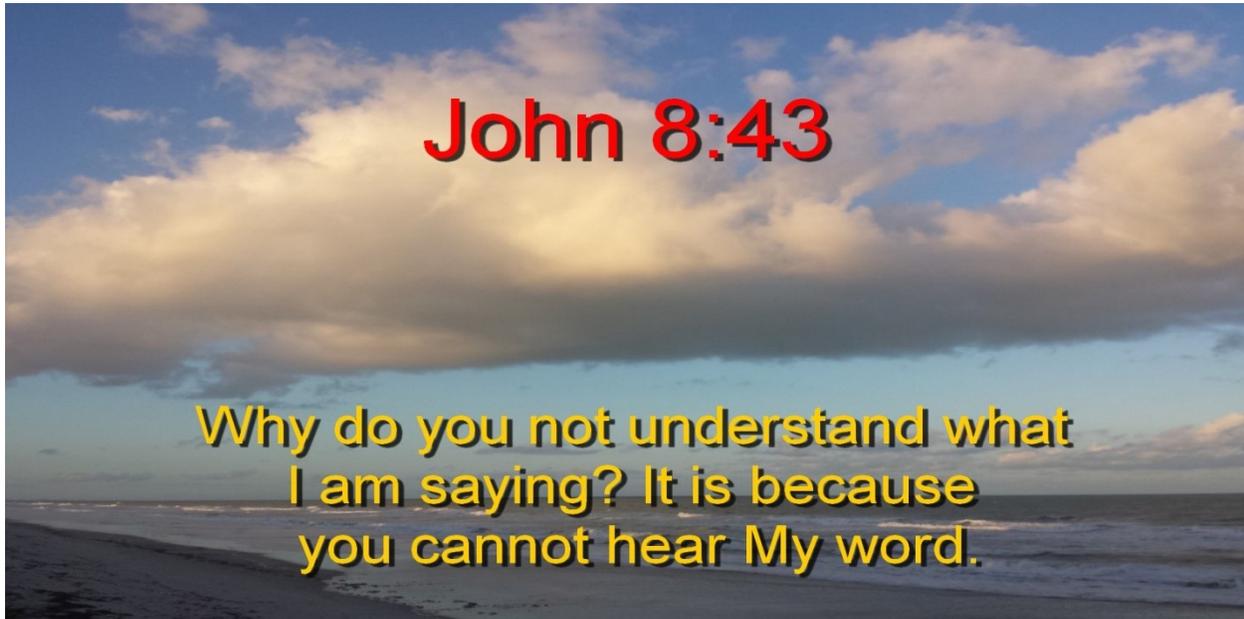
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by meditating upon Jesus and our love for Him. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by rejoicing in Jesus, sent from the Father for us?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Three Hundred Sixty Six

Not Understand Today



Why did the Jews not understand what Jesus was saying to them? They Jews did not understand what Jesus was saying to them because they could not hear His word.

The Jews did not understand what Jesus was saying. He not only perceived their lack of understanding, but Jesus also revealed the cause of their lack of understanding. Jesus understood the spiritual nature of communication.

The Jews could not understand the word of Jesus because they could not hear the word of Jesus. Jesus spoke of spiritual hearing on many occasions. He said repeatedly that people have ears, but they cannot hear. He also said that the people who have ears, let them hear what God says.

Cannot Hear

1. **Unbelief.** Jesus delved deep into unbelief. He revealed the spiritual problems with the Jews.
2. **Kill.** Jesus said those Jews "believed," but they also sought to kill Him. They did not have saving faith.
3. **Hearing.** We know that faith comes from hearing and hearing by the word of Christ. Hearing must be joined to faith.
4. **Understand.** Jesus asked and answered His own question: "Why do you not understand My word?" He answered: "Because you do not hear My word."
5. **Jesus.** Jesus explained that hearing and understanding go hand in hand. The Jews could not hear and so could not understand the word of Jesus.
6. **Word.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we hear and understand the word of Jesus.
7. **Voice.** We rejoice today because we have heard and understood the voice of Jesus calling us to Himself for salvation and eternal life.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by hearing the words of Jesus.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God by understanding that we hear the words of Jesus because He opened our hearts and ears to hear Him.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God by praising Jesus that we have ears to hear the word of Jesus.**

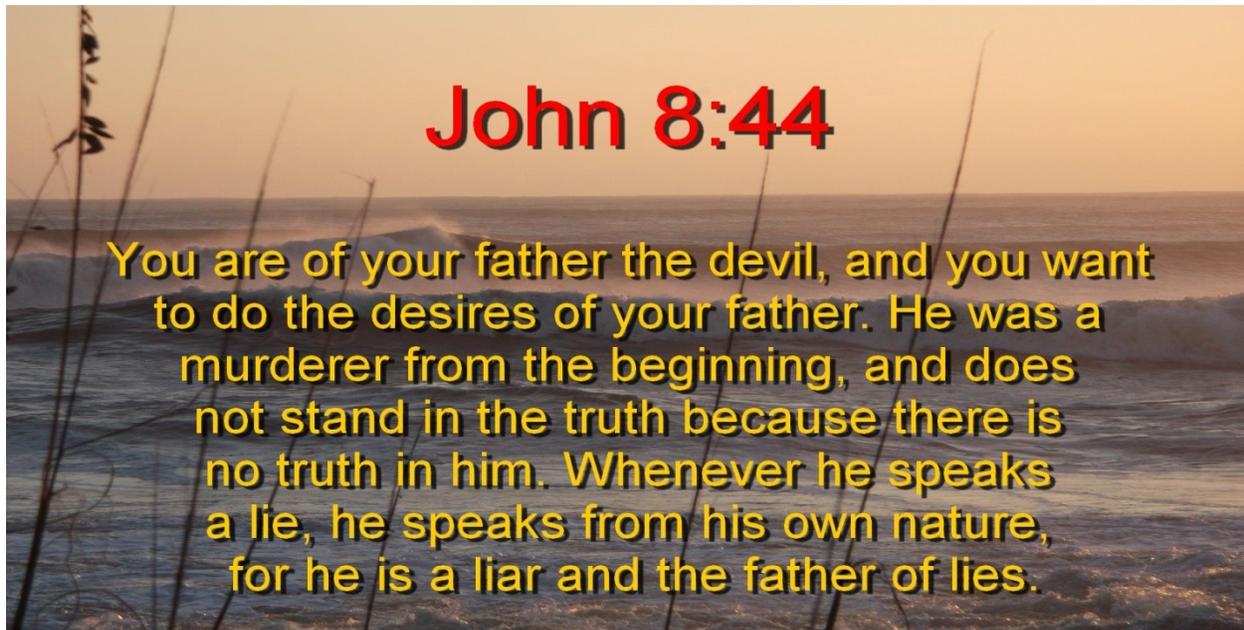
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by opening our ears to hear Jesus speak to us through the Bible. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by rejoicing that we still hear the voice of Jesus?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Three Hundred Sixty Seven

Your Father the Devil Today



Who was the father of the Jews who had believed? Jesus explained that the Jews who believed, but did not abide in His word, did the desires of their father, the devil.

The Jews thought that Abraham was their father. Jesus explained that they did not have saving faith. They wanted to do the desires of their father, the devil.

The devil does not stand in the truth. Whenever the devil speaks a lie, he speaks from his own nature. The devil is the father of lies and he is a liar. The Jews claimed to have faith in Jesus, but Jesus exposed them as liars, doing the desires of their father, the devil.

Jesus spoke the truth to them about Himself and God the Father. Jesus confronted them so that they might repent and turn to Him as Savior.

The Father of Lies

1. **Crowd.** Jesus tells the crowd about their spiritual father, the devil. He was a murderer from the beginning. The Jews wanted to kill Jesus, because they wanted to do the desires of their father.

2. **No Truth.** Their father also does not stand in the truth because there is no truth in him.

3. **Nature.** When their father speaks lies, he speaks from his own nature.

4. **Liar.** The father of the Jews is a liar and the father of liars.

5. **Murderer.** Jesus revealed to the crowd of Jews that they were liars and they sought to kill Him, because they were murderers like their father, the devil.

6. **Devil.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we know the devil is a murderer, a liar, and the father of lies. His children act like him.

7. **Set Free.** We rejoice today because Jesus has set us free from slavery to sin. We now live in truth by faith in Jesus.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by understanding that some people have faith, but their father is the devil.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God by remembering that the devil is a liar, and the father of lies.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God by praising God that Jesus understands liars and the lies people tell.**

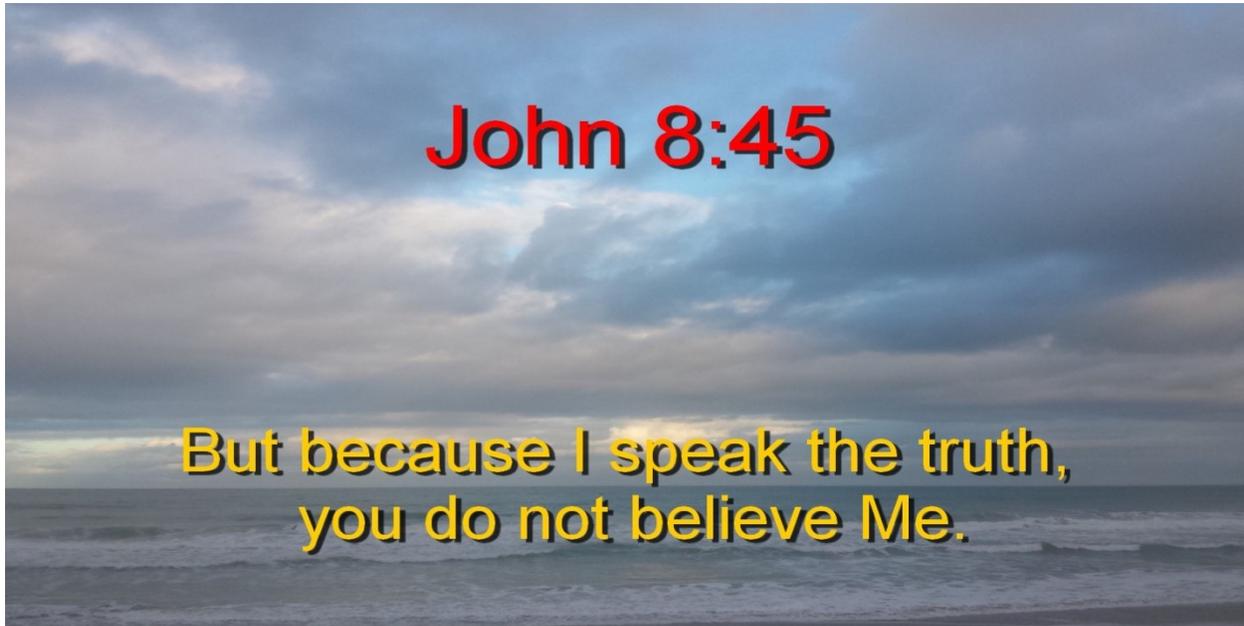
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God remembering that Jesus exposed the lies of the devil and the people who did the desires of the devil. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by letting people know that they are doing the desires of the devil when they lie?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Three Hundred Sixty Eight

Speak the Truth Today



Why did the Jews not believe Jesus? The Jews did not believe Jesus because He spoke the truth to the Jews.

Jesus had just exposed the Jews who believed, but did not keep His word, as people whose father was the devil. They were liars and doing the desires of their father, the devil.

The Jews sought to seize Jesus and kill Him. They claimed to be the children of Abraham, but Jesus demonstrated that they did not do the deeds of Abraham. They were not the children of Abraham and they were not the children of God. They claimed to be descendants of Abraham, but they were not telling the truth.

I Speak the Truth

1. **Relationship.** Jesus drew an amusing relationship between truth and faith.

2. **Lies.** The Jews were of their father the devil. He spoke lies and they happily believed those lies.

3. **Truth.** Jesus told the Jews the truth and they did not believe Him.

4. **Reject.** Liars believe lies and reject the truth. Jesus always speaks the truth and not lies.

5. **Command.** Faith and truth go hand in hand. Jesus spoke truth and commanded everyone to believe Him.

6. **Belief.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we know Jesus speaks the truth and we believe Him.

7. **Faith.** We rejoice today as we enter a new year because we know the difference between truth and lies. We love Jesus and believe Him because He always tells the truth, and so we live by faith in Him.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by understanding that Jesus always told the truth, even to people who lied about Him.**

- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we share the truths taught by Jesus with people whose father is the devil.**

- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God by recalling that Jesus told the truth, and because He told them the truth, they did not believe Him.**

Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by telling people the truth about Jesus. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by understanding that some people will not believe you, because you told them the truth about Jesus?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Three Hundred Sixty Nine

Convicts Me Today



Who convicted Jesus of sin? No one convicted Jesus of sin.

Jesus challenged the Jews to convict Him of sin. In our lives, everyone could convict us of sin, for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God. If we say we have no sin, then we are deceiving ourselves and the truth is not in us.

Jesus then asked why the people did not believe Him, since He was telling them the truth. The people could not hear the word of Jesus and so could not understand His word to believe in Him. The devil was their father and they did the desire of the devil. The devil told them lies, and they believed the lie and not the truth. In essence, they were of the world and believed the devil. They could not convict Jesus of sin, for He was sinless in all He did and said.

I Speak the Truth

1. **Questions.** Jesus asked remarkable questions. "Which one of you convicts Me of sin?" Jesus knew no sin, but became sin for us.

2. **Convict Me.** Jesus knew that no one could convict Him of sin. They charged Him with blasphemy and breaking the Sabbath, but neither charge could be proven because He never committed the alleged offenses.

3. **Truth.** Jesus then proclaimed that if He spoke the truth, why did they not believe Him? Jesus asked another amazing question.

4. **Point.** To answer a question, you should first understand the question. In this case, Jesus asked the question to make a point about faith and truth.

5. **Believe.** Jesus never lied and never sinned. He always told the truth. Therefore, the crowd should have believed the truth when they heard it from Jesus.

6. **Word.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we know Jesus never sinned. We believe every word He said, because He always spoke the truth.

7. **Offered.** We rejoice today because Jesus offered us the free gift of eternal life and salvation. He told us the truth about Himself and all things, always.

Summary for Today

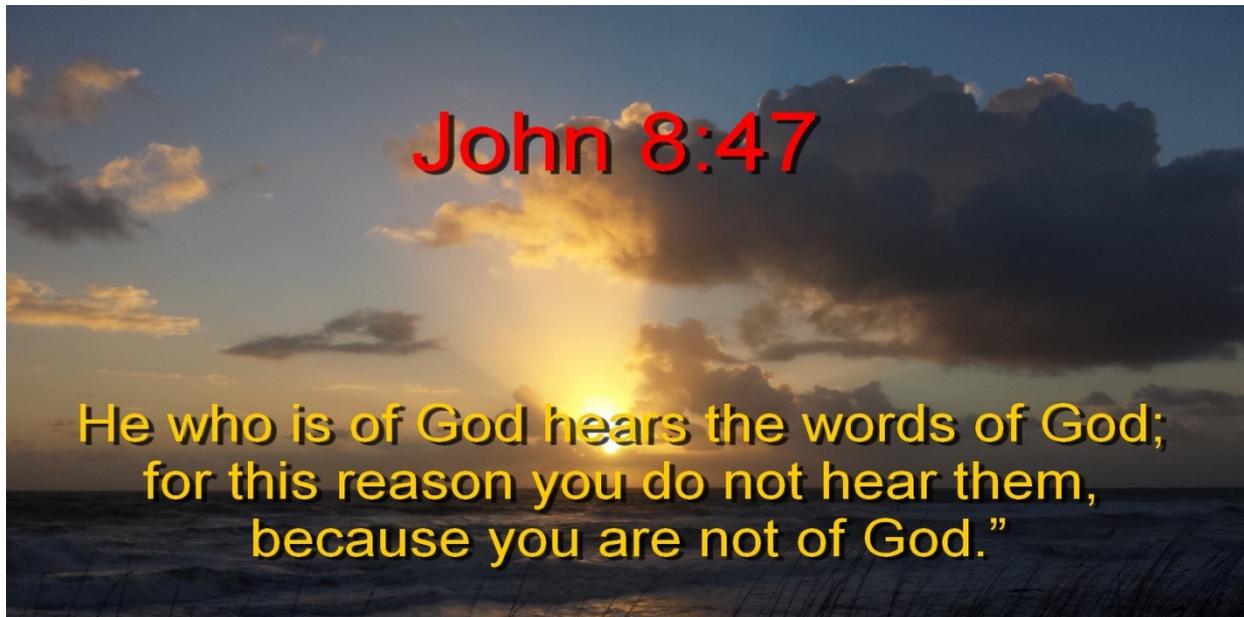
- **We live Godly in the family of God by remembering that the Jews did not believe Jesus.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we understand that the Jews did not believe Jesus because He spoke the truth to them.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we worship Jesus, Whom no one could convict of sin.**

Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by remembering that Jesus always told the truth and no one could convict Him of sin. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by loving sinless Jesus, who became sin for us?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Three Hundred Seventy Hears the Words of God Today



Who hears the words of God? He who is of God hears the words of God.

Jesus delivered a great sermon here on unbelief. He showed that people did not believe Him because they were of their father, the devil. They could not hear His word because they were not of God.

Being of God means that you understand the words of God and believe in Jesus for salvation. Only people who are of God can hear the words of God. Jesus lovingly explained the devil had deceived the people standing before Him, but not hearing a single word He said to them. They did not believe Jesus, because He told them the truth. They did the desires of their father, the devil. The devil opposed everything Jesus said and did. The devil motivated the Jews to kill Jesus. The Jews believed the lies of the devil.

Not of God

1. **Link.** Jesus linked hearing the words of God with being of God.
2. **Born Again.** In the Gospel of John, Jesus taught we must be born of the Holy Spirit and we are born again of the will of God.
3. **Respond.** Have you ever wondered why some people respond to the Gospel of Jesus Christ? Jesus told us that those people of God hear the words of God.
4. **Crowd.** The crowd was not of God and so could not hear the words of God.
5. **Children.** As children of God, we have been born of God by faith.
6. **Hearts.** We rejoice today because we have heard the words of God. He opened our ears and hearts to receive Him as Savior.
7. **Delight.** We rejoice today because we still hear the words of God today. We hear the voice of Jesus and delight in His love.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by remembering that people who are not of God do not hear the word of God.**

- **We live more Godly in the family of God by remembering that Jesus explained why people do not hear the word of God so that we would understand why unbelievers do not hear the word of God.**

- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God by worshiping Jesus for perfect explanations of unbelief and unbelievers.**

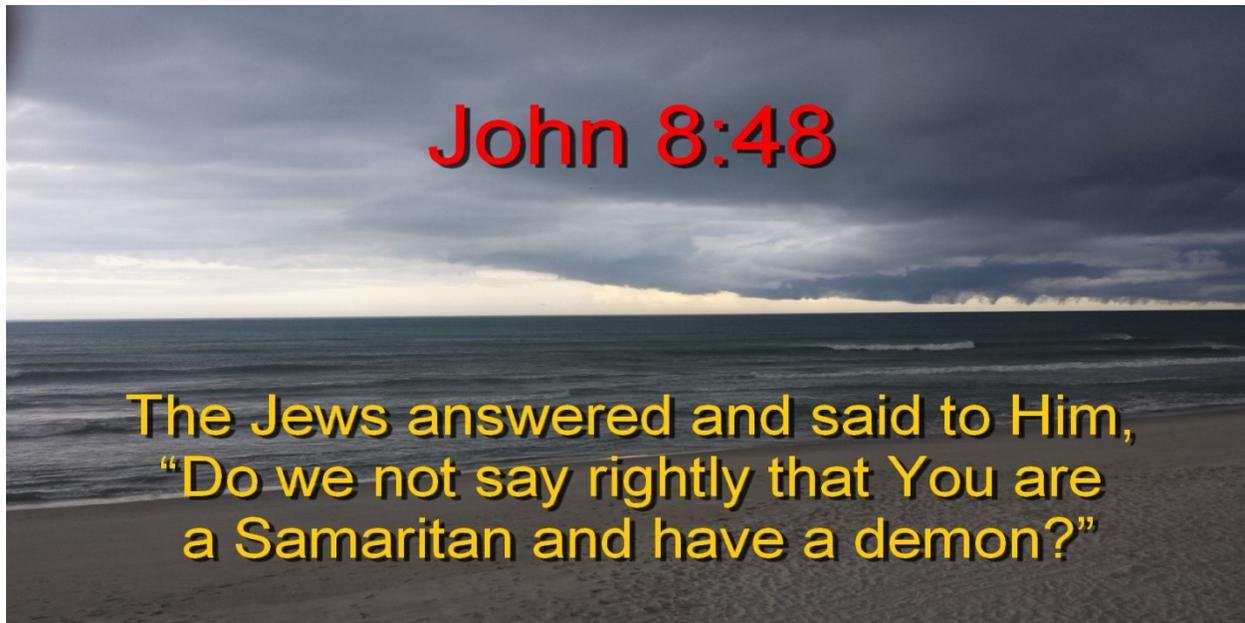
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by remembering that unbelievers cannot hear the word of God because they are not of God. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by thanking God you hear Jesus and you are of God by grace through faith?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Three Hundred Seventy One

Samaritan Today



Why did the Jews charge that Jesus had a demon? The Jews charged that Jesus had a demon because He told them they were not of God and so could not hear His words.

Jesus explained to the Jews who had “believed” in Him that they were not true believers because they did not continue in His word. They followed the desire of their father, the devil, and sought to kill Jesus. They were not truly children of Abraham, because Abraham never tried to kill Jesus.

Jesus proved to them that they were actually enslaved to sin. They could not claim truthfully that they were children of Abraham. They claimed that God was their Father, but they opposed the Son of God. That opposition showed they never knew God the Father. They were deceived by the devil and did the deeds of the devil.

Demon

1. **Jews.** Jesus had many conversations with the Jews. He talked with Pharisees, Sadducees, and many other groups of Jewish people. He talked with the poor and the rich, the sick and the healthy. Jesus asked questions and answered questions.

2. **Answered.** Jesus took time to answer questions. He gave perfect answers to every questions ever asked of Him.

3. **Rightly.** The believing Jews thought they were speaking rightly of Jesus. They thought they were telling the truth. He told them that they were not true believers and not children of Abraham because they did not do the deeds of Abraham.

4. **Samaritan.** The Jews hated the Samaritans for several reasons, dating back to the split of Israel into the Northern Kingdom, with its capital in the city of Samaria. The Jews also hated the Samaritans because they interbred with non-Jews.

5. **Demon.** Jesus confronted the Jews with their true ancestry. They were children of the devil, and they wanted to do the desires of the devil. They retaliated and said Jesus had a demon.

6. **Truth.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we know that unbelievers called Jesus all kinds of names meant to disparage Him, and yet He always responded with loving truth.

7. **Believed.** We rejoice today because we have believed that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God. He was not a Samaritan, but a Jew, and He did not have a demon, but the crowds were influenced by the devil as they opposed Jesus.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by remembering that the Jews accused Jesus of being a Samaritan.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we understand that telling unbelievers the truth often results in a backlash of insults against Jesus and His followers.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we worship Jesus for answering questions and leading people to the Way, the Truth and the Life, Jesus Christ the Righteous.**

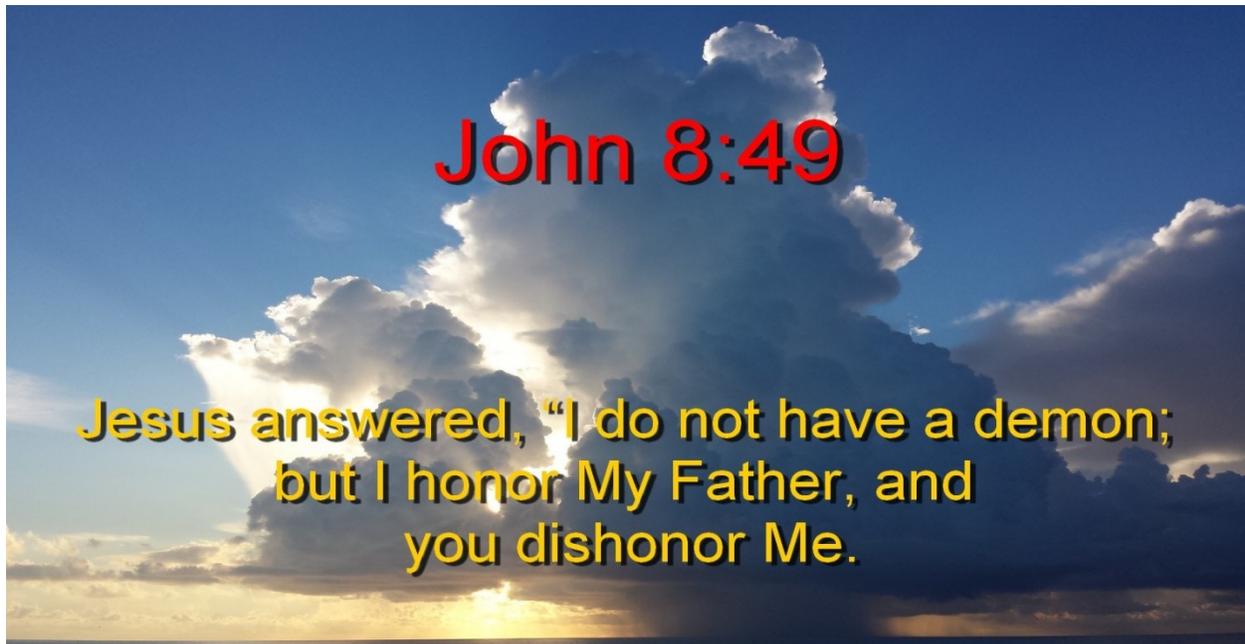
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by recalling that Jesus suffered many insults. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by not giving up on sharing your faith if someone insults you?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Three Hundred Seventy Two

Honor My Father Today



How did Jesus answer the charge that He was a Samaritan and had a demon? Jesus answered that He did not have a demon, but He honored His Father, and they dishonored Jesus.

Jesus spoke about honor to dishonorable people. They did not understand that Jesus came from heaven to honor His Father. The Ten Commandments required people to honor their Father. They were also to honor God in all things.

Jesus exposed the words the Jews used to dishonor Him. When the Jews said He was a Samaritan and had a demon, they dishonored both God the Father and Jesus, the Son of God. The Jews dishonored God by their words and actions.

You Dishonor Me

1. **Crowd.** The crowd charged Jesus with being a Samaritan and having a demon.
2. **Charge.** Jesus did not respond directly to the charge of being a Samaritan. The Jews hated the Samaritans.
3. **Denied.** Jesus flatly denied He had a demon. Jesus always told the truth.
4. **Honored.** Jesus also said that that He honored His Father.
5. **Dishonored.** Jesus then said that the crowd dishonored Jesus with their false accusations.
6. **Lied.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we know people lied about Jesus and falsely accused Him of many terrible things.
7. **Always.** We rejoice today because Jesus always honored His Father and we should always honor Jesus and His Father.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by remembering that people dishonored Jesus for telling them the truth.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God when we expect that people will dishonor Jesus today, just as they did when He told them the truth.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God by honoring Jesus in all that we do and say.**

Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by being careful to honor Jesus in all that we say and do. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by honoring Jesus and His Father today?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Three Hundred Seventy Three

My Glory Today



Did Jesus seek His own glory? Jesus did not seek His own glory, but there is One Who seeks and judges.

Jesus spoke about God the Father seeking the glory of Jesus. Jesus glorified God in all that He did and said. The honor of God and the glory of God go hand in hand.

Jesus also spoke about the One Who judges. When people dishonor Jesus and claim He has a demon, we know that person is doing the desires of the devil. Jesus came to seek and to save the lost. The devil seeks to thwart every action of Jesus reaching out in love to the lost.

God the Father will judge the unrighteous. God the Father also gave all judgment to God the Son, Jesus, so that people would honor God the Son as they honor God the Father. The Jews dishonored Jesus and would face judgment for their actions.

Seeks and Judges

1. **Accused.** The crowd accused Jesus of being a Samaritan and having a demon. Jesus replied that they dishonored Him.

2. **Dishonored.** Jesus further replied that He did not seek His own glory. As the crowd dishonored Jesus, even as He honored His Father, He was not about His own glory.

3. **Selfless.** Jesus lived a humble and selfless life. He was not seeking glory from men. At the right time, the Father would glorify Him with the glory He had before the world was.

4. **Judgment.** Jesus also mentioned judgment. Jesus had already proclaimed that unbelievers were judged already and the future day of judgment awaited every unbeliever.

5 **Wrath.** Jesus also described the wrath of God abiding upon every unbeliever who disobeyed the Son of God.

6. **Glory.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we know Jesus did not seek His own glory and neither should we seek our own glory.

7. **Raised.** We rejoice today because Jesus loved us and did not seek His glory. He died for us, but was raised in glory.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by remembering that Jesus did not seek His own honor.**

- **We live more Godly in the family of God by remembering that God the Father seeks to honor Jesus and will judge unbelievers.**

- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we worship and honor Jesus without any worries about the judgment concerning salvation.**

Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by not seeking our own glory. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by letting God seek to glorify Himself through your actions and words today?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Three Hundred Seventy Four

Keeps My Word Today



Who will never see death? Jesus said that the people who keep His word will never see death.

Jesus came to earth so that people would keep His word. The Jews claimed that Jesus was a Samaritan and had a demon. They did not know Jesus or God the Father Who sent Jesus.

Jesus made wonderful promises. He promised that anyone who keeps His word will never see death. He meant that people believing in Him have eternal life. They have passed out of death into life.

Jesus wanted people to keep His word. If they kept His word, then they would prove to be truly His disciples.

Never See Death

1. **Evangelized.** Jesus evangelized His enemies who were seeking to kill Him.
2. **Patience.** He repeatedly told them the truth in love and demonstrated extreme patience.
3. **Offer.** Jesus used the phrase "truly, truly" to emphasize His offer of salvation and eternal life.
4. **Anyone.** Jesus explained that anyone, even His enemies, could change their minds and keep His words.
5. **Eternal Life.** As Peter exclaimed earlier, Jesus had the words of eternal life; no one else had them.
6. **Keep.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we keep the words of Jesus and have eternal life.
7. **Gives.** We rejoice today because Jesus gives eternal life to everyone who keeps His word. We will never see death.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by keeping His word.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God by believing that we will never see death.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we enjoy the blessings of knowing that in Jesus we have eternal life.**

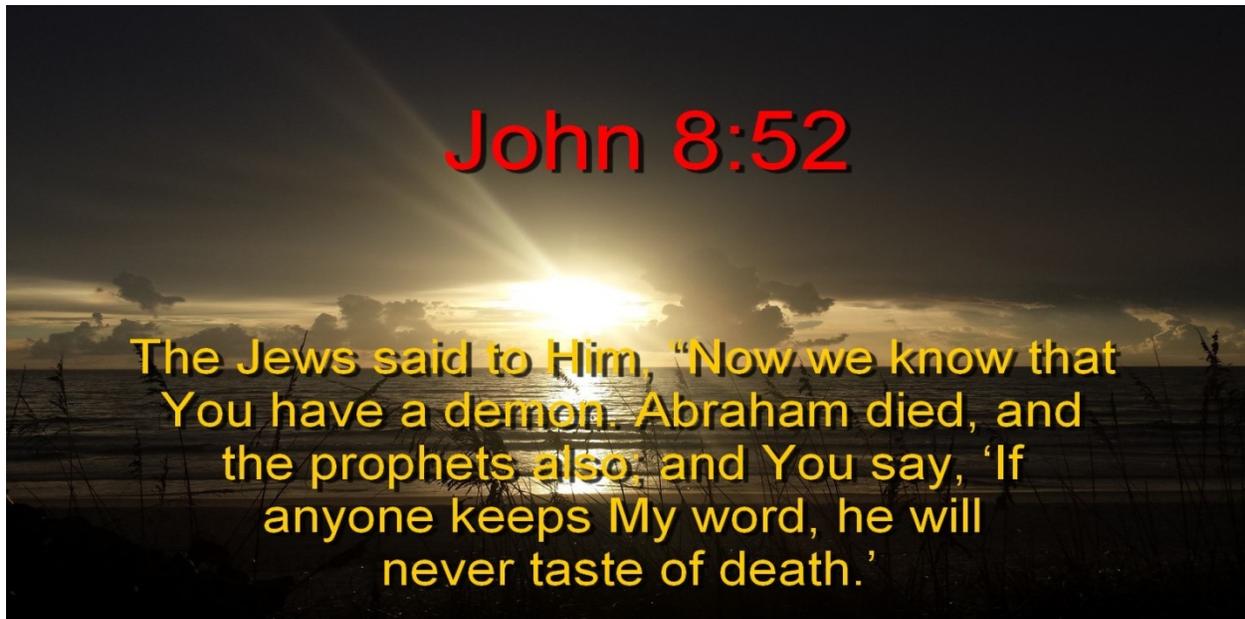
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by keeping His word. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by remembering that you will never see death?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Three Hundred Seventy Five

Abraham Died Today



Why did the Jews say that now they knew that Jesus had a demon? The Jews said that now they knew that Jesus had a demon because Abraham died.

The Jews did not understand eternal life. They also rejected Jesus teaching them about eternal life. Jesus explained that everyone who believes in Him would not taste death.

Jesus was talking about spiritual death. Abraham died physically, meaning that his body died. Spiritually, however, Abraham continued with eternal life. Abraham received eternal life by faith. He believed in God and it was reckoned to him as righteousness.

The Jews knew that Abraham died physically and could not comprehend how Jesus could say that everyone who believed in Him would never taste death. They again accused Jesus of having a demon.

You Have a Demon

1. **Anyone.** The Jews heard Jesus declaring that anyone who keeps His word will never see death.

2. **Responded.** The Jews responded that they knew Jesus had a demon because Abraham and the prophets died.

3. **Devil.** The Jews were filled with lies because they were of the devil, the father of lies. They lied about Jesus having a demon.

4. **Physical.** Jesus spoke of eternal life, not physical life as the Jews were thinking about Abraham and the prophets, who physically died. The Jews could not understand the word of Jesus.

5. **Believe.** In John 11:26, Jesus defined eternal life as "anyone who lives and believes in Me will never die." See also John 17:3. He also defined resurrection in John 11:25.

6. **Unbelievers.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we expect unbelievers to lie and accuse believers of having a demon, just as they lied about Jesus.

7. **Spiritual.** We rejoice today because Jesus never lies and we will never die spiritually, because we have eternal life in Him.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by believing the promise of Jesus that we will never taste death.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God by enjoying eternal life every day.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God by encouraging one another with the words of Jesus about never tasting death.**

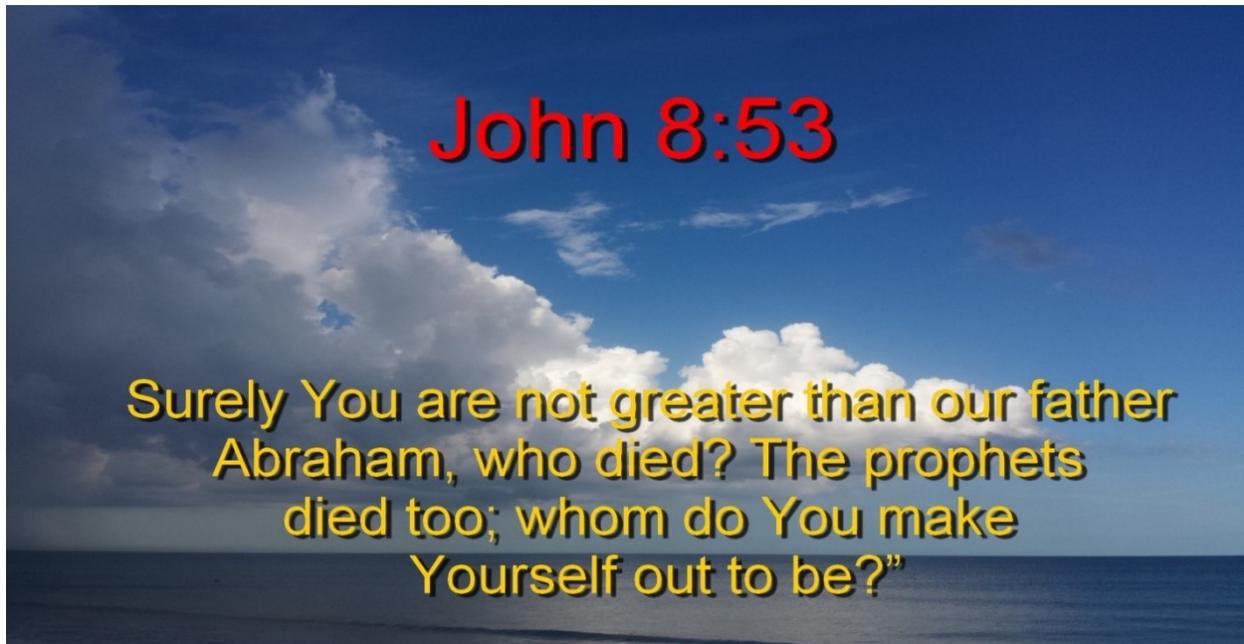
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by believing that we will never taste death. Will you live Godly in the family of God today with the assurance that you will never taste death?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Three Hundred Seventy Six

Abraham Today



Why did the Jews think that Jesus claimed to be greater than Abraham? The Jews thought Jesus claimed to be greater than Abraham because Abraham died, but Jesus promised that people who believed in Him would not taste death.

The Jews also noted that the prophets died too. Jesus also claimed that He was greater than the prophets. The Jews did not listen to Abraham, the prophets, or Jesus. They consistently disobeyed God and His messengers.

The Jews asked Jesus Who do you make yourself out to be? Jesus had been clearly stating that He was the Son of God, Who came down from heaven. God the Father sent Jesus, God the Son, to come to earth to do His will. The Jews could not understand what Jesus told them because they were unwilling to do the will of God. Instead, they opposed Jesus and said

He was a Samaritan and He had a demon. Jesus proved them wrong in every way.

Greater than Abraham

1. **Father.** The Jews could not understand Jesus or His word, because they were of their father the devil.
2. **Abraham.** The Jews now questioned Jesus about Who He was. Was He greater than Abraham? Abraham died.
3. **Messiah.** Jesus promised eternal life to everyone who keeps His word. The Jews could not grasp that Jesus was Messiah, God in the flesh.
4. **Prophets.** The Jews also noted that the prophets died. Jesus proclaimed eternal life, and these Jews had no understanding.
5. **Rejected.** The Jews also questioned Who Jesus made Himself out to be. Jesus had told them how He was from heaven and His Father sent Him. He was God in the flesh and they utterly rejected Jesus.
6. **God.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we know Abraham was the father of many nations, and Jesus was the God of Abraham and the prophets.
7. **Eternity.** We rejoice today because Jesus remains the God of Abraham and the prophets, because they live to Him for eternity.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by remembering that Jesus is greater than both Abraham and the prophets.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we expect unbelievers to doubt Jesus gives eternal life to people.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we worship Jesus as God, equal with God the Father and God the Holy Spirit.**

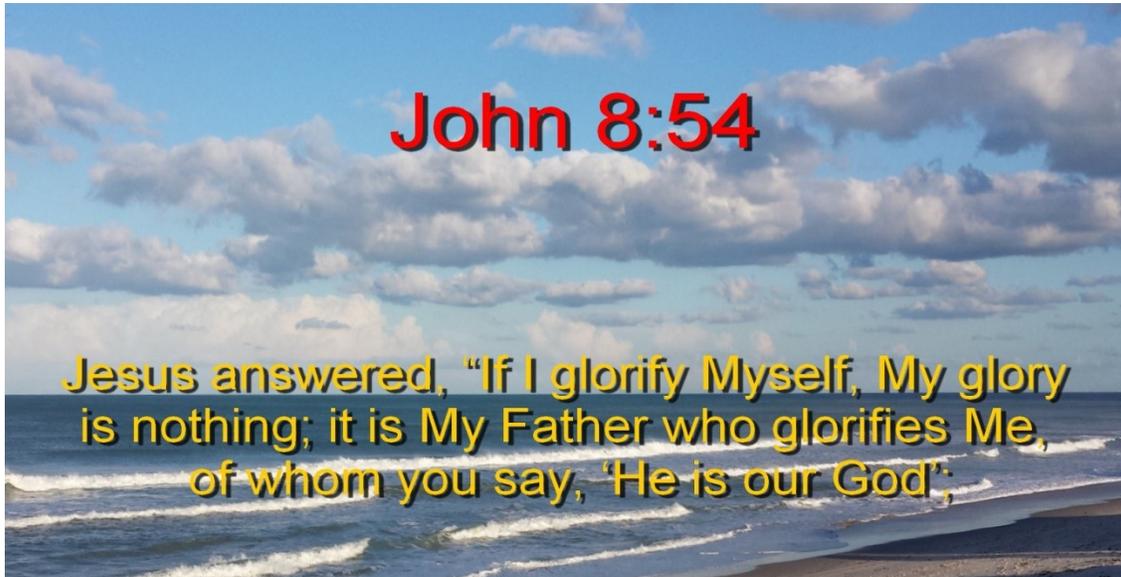
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by worshipping Jesus, greater than all other humans, because He is God Who took flesh and dwelt among us. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by pondering the infinite greatness of Jesus and His great love for us?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Three Hundred Seventy Seven

Glorify Myself Today



Who glorified Jesus? Jesus said that His Father glorified Him.

Jesus explained that if Jesus glorified Himself, such glorify would be nothing. Jesus revealed that God the Father glorified Jesus.

Jesus contrasted the Jews' claim that God the Father was the God of the Jews opposing Jesus. Jesus declared that God the Father glorified Jesus, and so the Jews' claim that God the Father was their God was false.

The Jews dishonored Jesus and claimed He was a Samaritan and had a demon. They did not glorify Jesus in any way. In fact, those Jews sought to kill Jesus. They also made false claims; such as their father was Abraham and they had never been enslaved to anyone. Jesus proved that Abraham was not their father and they were enslaved to sin.

My Glory is Nothing

1. **Responded.** Jesus always responded perfectly to every attack upon Him. Here the Jews asked Jesus about Who He made Himself out to be?
2. **Deserved.** Jesus replied that He did not glorify Himself. As God, Jesus deserved all glory, at all times, from all people.
3. **Emptied.** Jesus emptied Himself, left heaven, took human flesh and lived humbly among His own people.
4. **Loved.** Jesus came to His own, and His own received Him not. God the Father glorified Jesus; God loved Jesus.
5. **Claimed.** The Jews claimed God as their Father, but those Jews sought to kill Jesus, proving His Father was not their God.
6. **Glorify.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we do not seek our own glory; we use our lives to glorify God.
7. **Live.** We rejoice today because the Father glorified Jesus and, in Jesus, we live in the glory of God.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by never seeking our own glory.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we seek to glorify God in all that we do.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God by joining together to give glory to God with the love we have for God and our neighbors.**

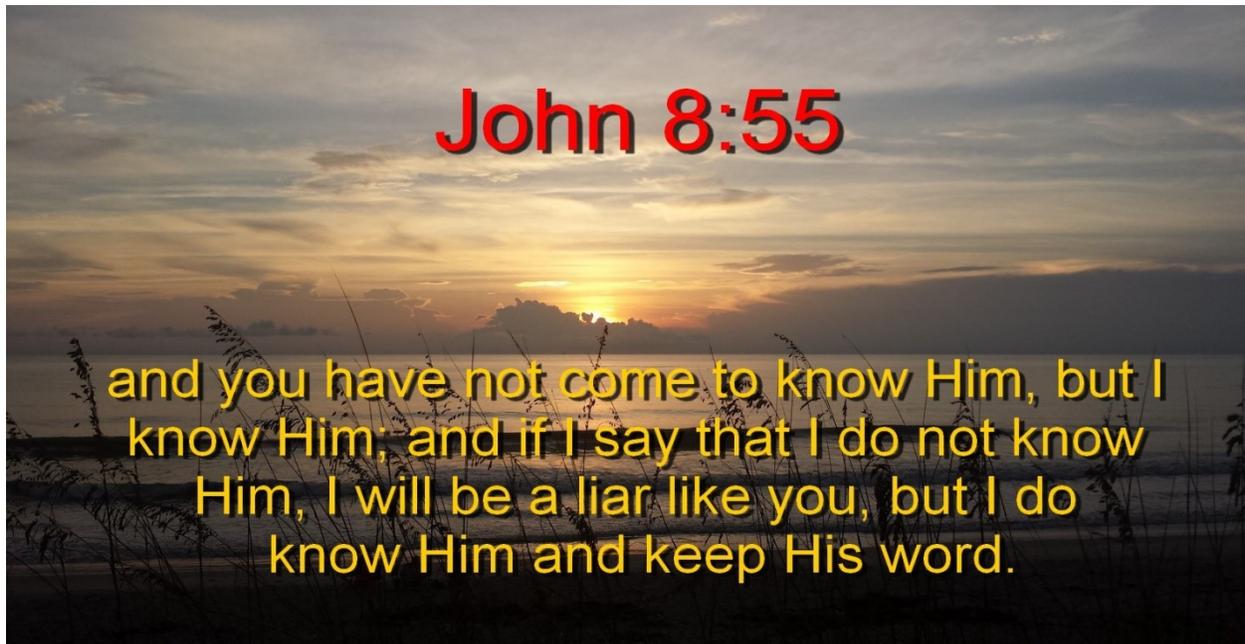
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by remembering that Jesus did not seek His own glory. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by seeking to glorify God?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Three Hundred Seventy Eight

Liar Today



What would make Jesus a liar? Jesus said He would be a liar like the Jews if He said that He did not know God the Father.

Jesus used very direct language at times. He always spoke the truth in love, but He confronted people with the truth and so they hated Him because their deeds were evil.

Jesus continued to contrast the deeds of the Jews with His deeds. He proclaimed that the Jews did not know God the Father Who sent Jesus. Jesus then explained that He would be a liar like them if He said He did not know God the Father. In essence, Jesus called the Jews liars for saying that they knew God the Father.

Jesus also declared again that He knows God the Father and keeps His word. Jesus said that if anyone keeps His word, then they would prove to be His disciple. The Jews did not keep the word of Jesus or His Father.

I Know Him

1. **Offended.** Jesus offended people. He was even called a rock of offense. At times, Jesus called religious people liars, right to their face.

2. **Believed.** Although the Jews truly believed they knew God, in fact they never knew God, but believed the lies of their father, the devil.

3. **He Knew.** Jesus declared that He knew God. Jesus was God and always knew God His Father.

4. **Liars.** Jesus said if He denied knowing God, then He would be a liar like them. Some people just need to hear Jesus calling them liars for saying they knew God, when they did not.

5. **Kept.** Jesus also said that He kept the word of His Father. People say they know God, but do they keep His word? Jesus did, always.

6. **We Know.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we know God and keep His word.

7. **Delight.** We rejoice today because we know God and we delight in His love.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by knowing that Jesus told people the truth, even if it meant calling them liars.**

- **We live more Godly in the family of God by speaking the truth in love; even if it means pointing out the lies people tell about God and their relationship to God.**

- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we speak with one voice, based upon the word of Jesus and His Father, to unbelievers.**

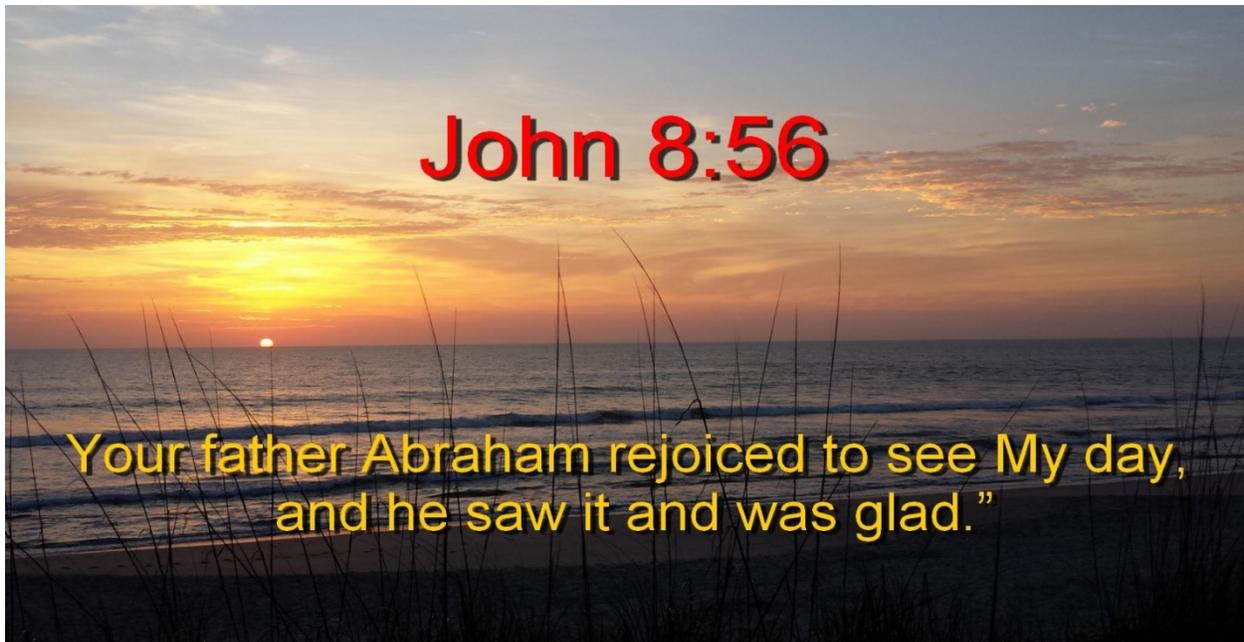
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by confronting unbelievers with the truth about their false faith in God. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by confronting people with the truth about God and knowing God?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Three Hundred Seventy Nine

Abraham Rejoiced Today



What made Abraham rejoice? Abraham, the father of the Jews, rejoiced to see the day of Jesus.

The Jews asked Jesus if He was greater than Abraham. Jesus affirmed that He was God and greater than other humans, because He was both fully God and fully man.

Jesus also disclosed that Abraham not only saw the day of Jesus, but he was also glad. Abraham understood that salvation was by grace through faith. Salvation did not depend upon any form of good works. Abraham believed God and it was counted to him as righteousness.

Jesus knew Abraham and Abraham knew Jesus. The Jews could not comprehend how Jesus could have known Abraham, because Abraham lived roughly two thousand years before Jesus was born of Mary. They did not understand that Jesus was God in the flesh.

He Saw It

1. **Abraham.** The Jews said Abraham was their father and so they were going to heaven.

2. **Greater?** They asked Jesus if He was greater than Abraham and expected a negative answer.

3. **Deity.** Jesus then explained His deity. He was eternal God Who took flesh and lived among men.

4. **Worshipped.** Abraham knew Jesus as eternal God and worshipped Jesus as God.

5. **Glad.** Abraham looked forward to the day Jesus would come in flesh as Savior, and he saw it and was glad.

6. **Know.** Living Godly in the family of God of God means that we know Jesus as eternal God, the God of Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Moses, David, John the Baptist and Peter, James and John.

7. **Rejoiced.** We rejoice today because Abraham rejoiced to see the day of Jesus and he saw it and was glad.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by understanding that Abraham saw the day of Jesus and rejoiced.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God by remembering that Abraham kept the word of Jesus and so proved to be His disciple.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God by worshipping the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob; Jesus is the God of the living, not the dead, for all live to Him.**

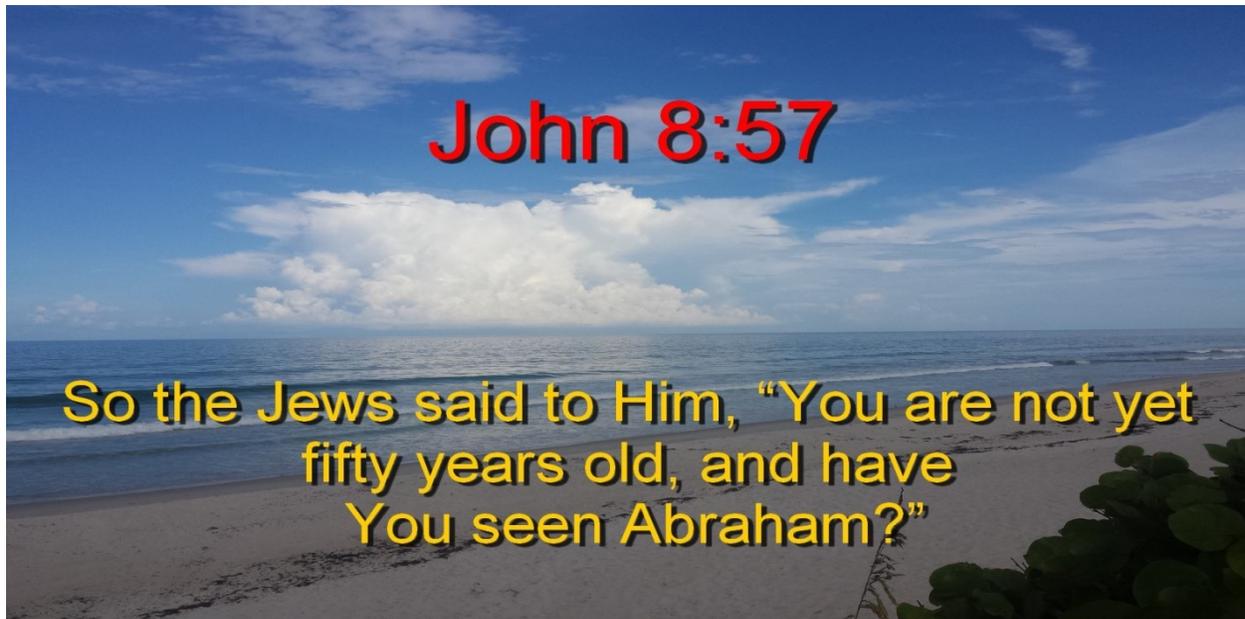
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by recognizing that Jesus is eternal God Who took human flesh. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by honoring Jesus as eternal God?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Three Hundred Eighty

Fifty Years Old Today



Why did the Jews ask Jesus if He had seen Abraham? They asked Jesus how He could have seen Abraham, because Jesus was not even fifty years old.

The Jews failed to comprehend that Jesus was eternal God standing before them in human flesh. He was fully God and fully man. He was the God of Abraham, the Creator of Abraham, the friend of Abraham, and the Savior of Abraham. Jesus will also raise Abraham on the last day.

The Jews could not understand how Jesus had seen Abraham. The Jews would have been even more dumbfounded if they had any inkling that Jesus had seen all things and created all things. Their questions indicated they did not know the God of Abraham. They did not know Jesus. Indeed, they opposed Jesus and dishonored Him. By doing so to Jesus, they also dishonored God the Father Who sent Jesus. The Jews did not understand

that Jesus was exposing their false faith and presenting Himself to them as their Messiah and Savior.

Have You Seen Abraham?

1. **Rejoiced.** Jesus told the Jews that Abraham rejoiced to see His day and Abraham saw it and was glad.

2. **Promised.** The Jews said Jesus had a demon because He promised eternal life to anyone who keeps His word.

3. **Claimed.** The Jews sought to clarify if Jesus claimed to have seen Abraham. The Jews had not understood any claim Jesus was making.

4. **Repeatedly.** Jesus repeatedly stated that He was God the Son, and God the Father sent Him to earth.

5. **Rejected.** The Jews believed lies and rejected the truth because the devil was their father.

6. **God.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we know Jesus saw Abraham, because He was the God of Abraham.

7. **Living.** We rejoice today because Jesus lives and Abraham lives today in Jesus. Jesus is the God of the living, not of the dead.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by expecting people to ask us questions reflecting their unbelief about God.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God by answering their questions about God from the words of God found in the Bible.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God by joining together to worship Jesus, who existed before Abraham, because Jesus created Abraham and all things.**

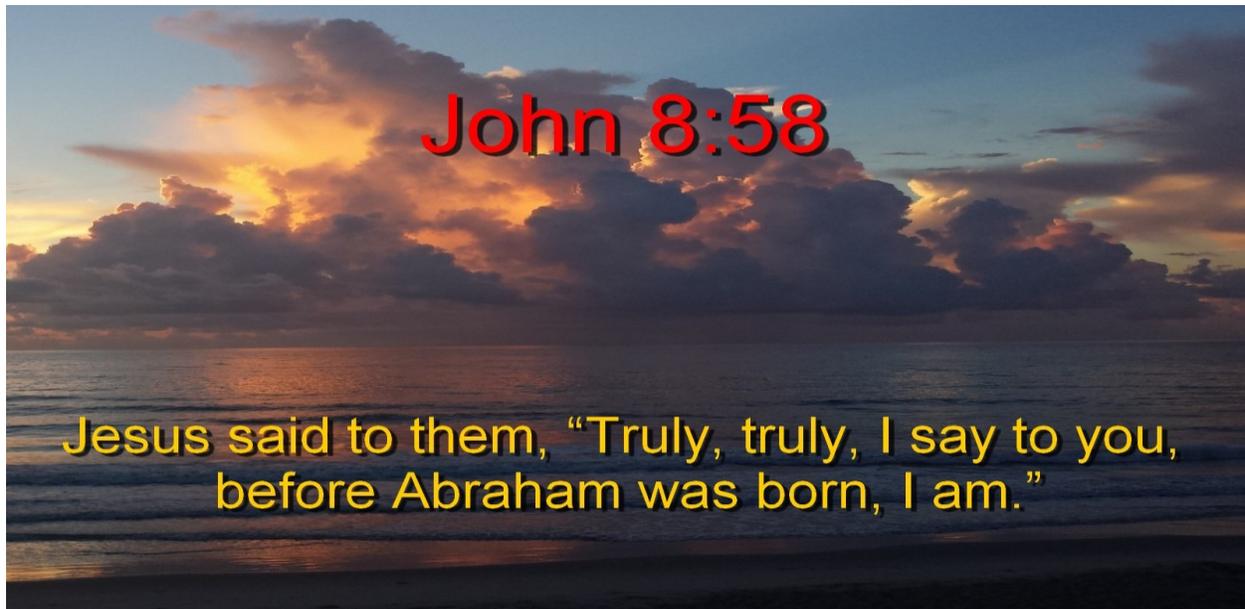
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by worshipping Jesus, Whom Abraham saw while he was alive on earth thousands of years before Jesus conversed with the Jews before Him. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by loving Jesus for His patience with answering questions posed by people who sought to kill Him?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Three Hundred Eighty One

Before Abraham Today



Why did Jesus say that before Abraham was born, I am? Jesus identified Himself as the I AM God of the Old Testament.

At the burning bush, God revealed Himself to Moses as the I AM God. John used the Greek phrase for I AM many times in his Gospel to describe the words of Jesus.

Jesus claimed to be greater than Abraham. Jesus also explained to the Jews that He existed before Abraham was born. The opening words of the Gospel of John indicate that Jesus was the Word, which was in the beginning with God and was God.

Abraham knew Jesus as eternal God, who created heaven and earth. Abraham also believed that Jesus had the power to resurrect his son, Isaac. Abraham received the free gift of eternal life from Jesus.

I AM

1. **Appeared.** At the burning bush, about fifteen hundred years before Jesus took flesh, the "I AM" God appeared to Moses.
2. **Himself.** In John 8:58, Jesus applies the name "I AM" to Himself.
3. **Deity.** The Jews asked if Jesus had seen Abraham. They did not believe anything Jesus had said to them concerning His deity.
4. **Explicit.** Jesus then made His claim that He was God even more explicit. Not only had Jesus seen Abraham, He was the God of Abraham. As man, Jesus was not yet fifty years of age; as God, Jesus is eternal.
5. **Emphatic.** Jesus applied the "I AM" title of God to Himself. Jesus clearly and emphatically claimed to be the God of Abraham, Moses, and all Old Testament believers.
6. **Faith.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we have faith in the "I AM" God, Jesus Christ our Savior.
7. **True.** We rejoice today because Jesus declared He was God, the only true God. He is our God for all eternity.

Summary for Today

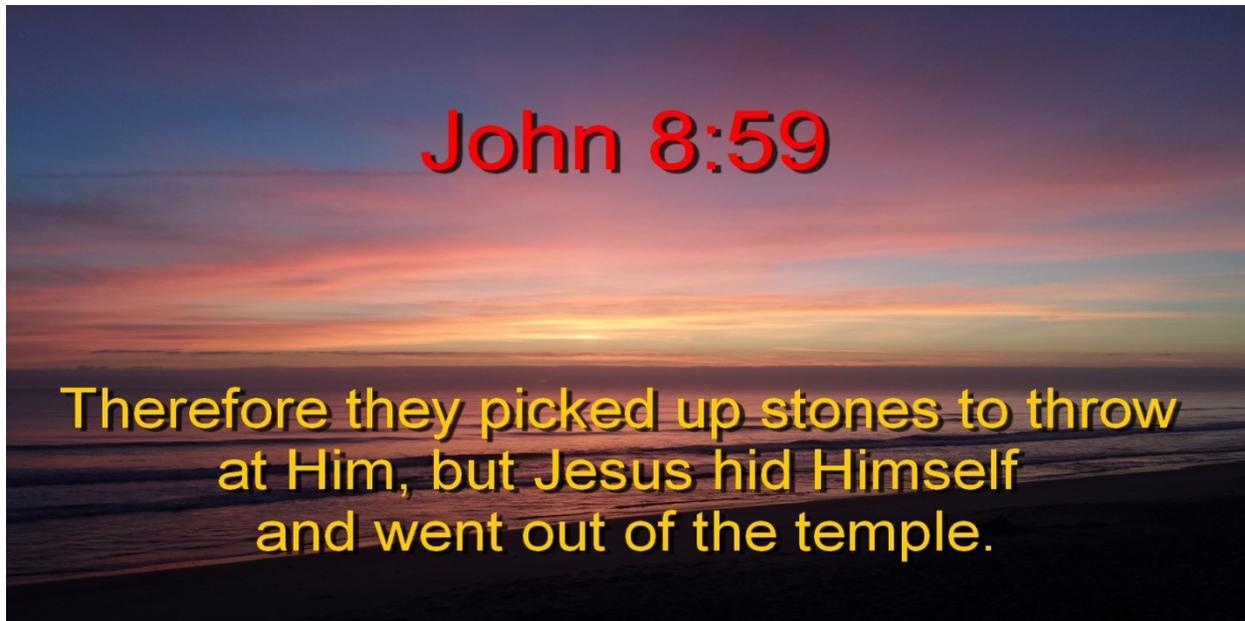
- **We live Godly in the family of God by believing that Jesus is the I AM God of the Old Testament.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God by worshipping Jesus as eternal God Who took flesh to save Abraham and all people who are born of God.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we join together to testify that Jesus existed before Abraham, because Jesus has always been God.**

Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by learning from Jesus that He has always existed. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by counting upon Jesus to handle everything that comes your way today because He has known about it from eternity past?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Three Hundred Eighty Two Picked Up Stones Today



Why did the Jews pick up stones to throw at Jesus? Jesus claimed that He was the I AM God of the Old Testament and the Jews thought He was blaspheming.

The Jews hated Jesus because they wanted to do the desires of their father, the devil. Jesus also taught them the devil was a liar. They lied about Jesus and accused Him of being a Samaritan and having a demon.

Jesus told the Jews the truth and they did not believe Him. When Jesus emphasized the truth that He was the God of Abraham, the Jews reached a boiling point and tried to stone Jesus.

Jesus hid himself and left. Jesus knew His hour had not come to lay down His life on the cross. He also knew He was not destined to be stoned, but crucified in public after trial.

Hid Himself

1. **I AM.** Jesus declared to the Jews that He was the I AM God of Abraham.

2. **Stones.** The Jews picked up stones to throw at Jesus. Why would they want to stone Jesus?

3. **Understood.** The Jews sought to stone Jesus because they understood precisely that Jesus claimed to be God.

4. **Rejected.** The Jews utterly rejected Jesus's claim and so sought to kill Him by stoning.

5. **Crucifixion.** Was Jesus fearful and so ran away? No, He hid Himself so that He died a much worse death by crucifixion at the right time and right place. His time had not yet come.

6. **Time.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we believe Jesus was the I AM God who took flesh and died on the cross for our sins, at just the right time.

7. **Power.** We rejoice today because Jesus never fears and will always be God. By His power and love, He keeps us safe in Him for all eternity.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by recognizing that some people will have a very violent reaction to the truth.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we love Jesus who keeps saints according to His divine power and love.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we love one another with the eternal love of Jesus.**

Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by understanding that some people may have a violent reaction to the truth about Jesus Christ. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by proclaiming Jesus, while keeping in mind that you may have to hide yourself from violent enemies of Christ?

HALLELUJAH !

2

Learning about Godliness and Blindness Today

Jesus met a man born blind (Man Born Blind). His disciples asked who sinned? This man or his parents? Jesus explained they were wrong to jump to conclusions. Jesus said that neither sinned, but that he was blind so that the works of God might be displayed in him. Jesus then healed Man Born Blind.

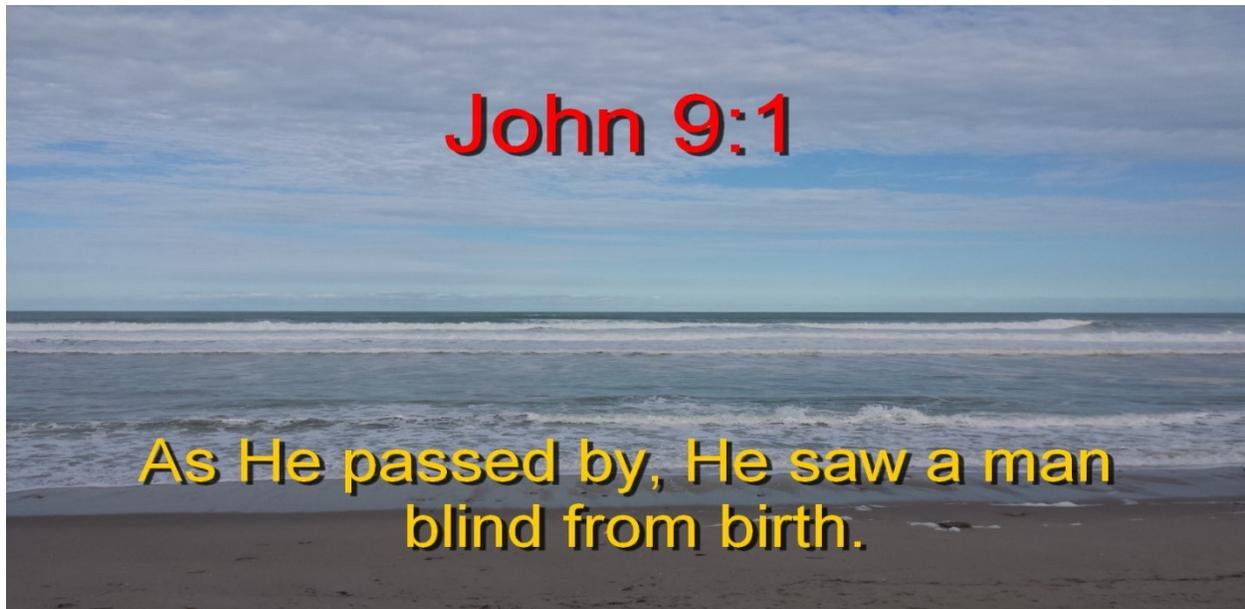
The Pharisees questioned Man Born Blind. He told them how Jesus had made him well. The Pharisees divided over Jesus and the healing. The Jews did not believe that Jesus actually healed a man born blind.

Man Born Blind consistently testified to what Jesus had done for him. He clearly explained that he was blind and now he sees. Man Born Blind even asked the Pharisees if they wished to become disciples of Jesus also. They retorted that they were disciples of Moses. Man Born Blind told them that Jesus healed him, and they did not know where He is from. They put Man Born Blind out of the synagogue.

Jesus found Man Born Blind. He revealed that He was the Son of Man and Man Born Blind believed in Him and worshipped Him. He told the Pharisees that they were blind and they remain in their sins.

HALLELUJAH !

Day Three Hundred Eighty Three Passed By Today



What did Jesus see when He passed by? Jesus saw a man born blind.

As Jesus hid Himself from the angry Jews ready to stone Him, He left the temple. As Jesus passed by, He saw a man blind from birth. Jesus always has time to help people. His compassion has no bounds.

You may recall that Jesus went home to Nazareth with His disciples. After preaching in their synagogue, His own household, His own relatives, and His hometown all rejected Him. He could not do many miracles there because of their unbelief.

Jesus also stopped crowds to help individuals. He raised the dead, stopped bleeding, opened the eyes of the blind, and did other miracles. Jesus felt great compassion for people suffering.

Blind from Birth

1. **Normal.** Jesus walked about like a normal human being. As He walked, He saw normal human things.

2. **Unusual.** At times, Jesus saw unusual things and met unusual people.

3. **Suffering.** Jesus met many people suffering from demons, diseases, and all kinds of problems.

4. **Blind.** Jesus met a man born blind. He never had normal eyesight.

5. **Attention.** Jesus never wasted time and never walked outside the will of God. This blind man will receive special attention from Jesus.

6. **Special.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we will meet all kinds of people as we walk through life. God may place a special person into your life at any time.

7. **Fills.** We rejoice today because Jesus calls each of us by name and never walks by us. He fills our lives with His presence and loving attention.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by counting upon Jesus to notice us and care for us.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God by understanding that Jesus does not pass by believers today, because He abides in us today.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God by loving Jesus because He has such great compassion for all of us.**

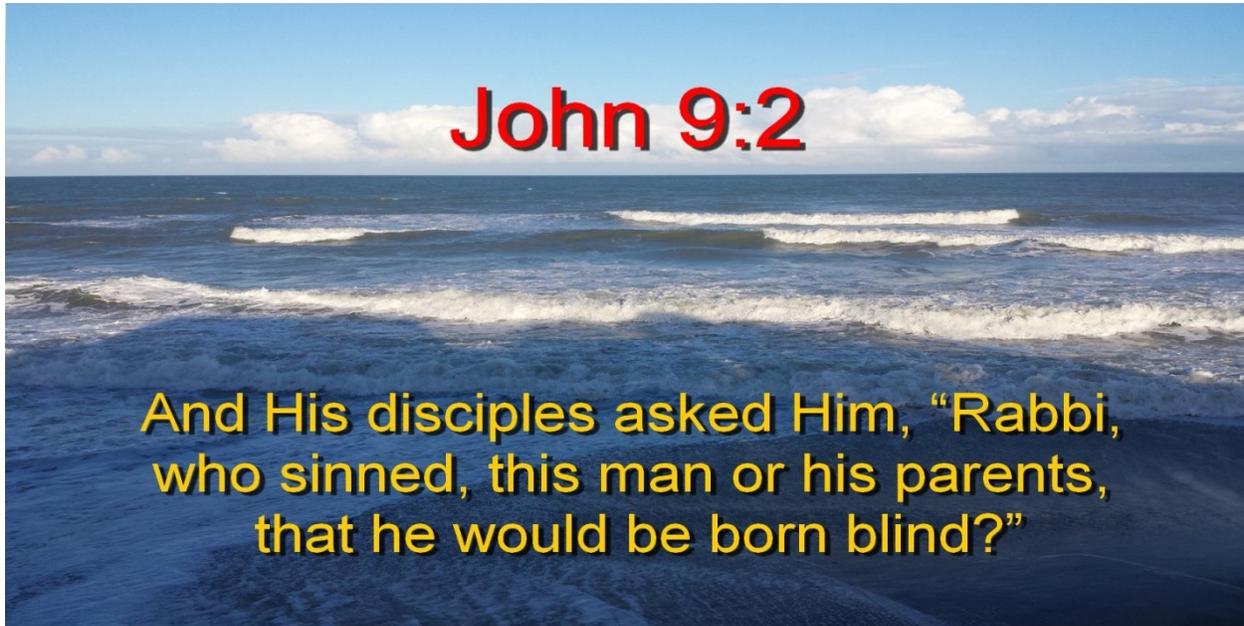
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by counting upon Jesus to pour out His love and compassion upon us each day and help others today. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by praising Jesus for His daily compassion for all of us?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Three Hundred Eighty Four

Who Sinned Today



Why did the disciples ask Jesus who sinned? The disciples asked Jesus who sinned because they saw Man Born Blind.

People often leap to wrong conclusions. In the spiritual world, people must rely upon guidance from God to understand how the spiritual world interacts with the physical world.

The disciples leaped to the wrong conclusion that Man Born Blind suffered because of someone’s sin. They did not know if it was his sin, or his parents’ sin.

The best thing the disciples did here was to ask Jesus their question about sickness and sin. Whenever we have questions about sin and sickness, we should always pray for an answer from the Bible. Jesus wrote the Bible to instruct us in all the ways of Godliness.

Who Sinned?

1. **Evil.** Evil human nature often leaps to evil conclusions.
2. **Conclusion.** The disciples saw the man born blind and leaped to the conclusion that either the parents or the blind man sinned.
3. **Wrong.** At times our own wrong ideas lead us astray.
4. **Illness.** The Scriptures never say that all illness results from some particular sin.
5. **Ignorance.** Jesus patiently listened to His disciples displaying their ignorance and bad theology.
6. **Refrain.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we must refrain from leaping to spiritually wrong conclusions.
7. **Overcome.** We rejoice today because Jesus teaches us the truth which overcomes our ignorance about evil and illness.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by asking Jesus for explanations of things we do not know.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God by searching the Scriptures to see if things we believe are actually true.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God when we encourage one another to search the Scriptures to see if what people are teaching actually comes from the Bible.**

Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by relying upon the words of Jesus to tell us the truth about sickness and sin. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by understanding that Jesus has perfect answers to all of our questions?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Three Hundred Eighty Five

This Man Sinned Today



Why was the man born blind? The man was born blind so that the works of God might be displayed in him.

Jesus told the disciples they were wrong to jump to the conclusion that some sin caused the blindness. Jesus told them that neither the man's sin nor his parents' sin caused him to be born blind.

Jesus explained that the man was born blind so that the works of God might be displayed in him. As Jesus passed by Man Born Blind, he knew that God would display His works in Man Born Blind. Many people were going to see Man Born Blind seeing and walking around.

Jesus would also face opposition for healing the man on the Sabbath. The Pharisees would deeply oppose Jesus and attack Man Born Blind. The works of Jesus always draw opposition from the devil and his children.

Works of God

1. **Answered**. Jesus answered the question about who sinned. The disciples thought that blindness meant that either Man Born Blind or his parents sinned resulting in this blindness.

2. **Neither**. Jesus declared that Man Born Blind was not blind because his parents sinned or he sinned. Neither parent nor son sinned and so caused his blindness.

3. **Sinned**. Jesus taught His disciples that some physical problems were not the result of sin. He did not mean the sin never causes physical problems. He meant that this particular blindness was not a result of sin. We should avoid saying that all physical problems result from someone's sin.

4. **Works**. Jesus said that Man Born Blind was blind so that the works of God might be displayed in him. So, be careful to recognize that some physical problems occur so that the works of God may be displayed in that person and their healing.

5. **God**. Jesus consistently taught that God can heal all diseases and all physical problems. Even so, God does not always exercise His power to heal everyone.

6. **Displayed**. Living Godly in the family of God means that we understand that God had decided to glorify Jesus through the healing of Man Born Blind, while many other blind men were not healed.

7. **Him**. God chooses to heal some people and not others. Jesus knew that God the Father had very special plans for Man Born Blind, for in him the works of God would be displayed to glorify Jesus and His Father.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by understanding that sin does not cause all physical problems.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we understand that God can use physical problems to demonstrate His works and display His love and compassion.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God by reminding one another that Jesus loves to display His works even today in a variety of different ways.**

Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by believing that God will use some physical problems to display His works of power. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by trusting Jesus to do His works in your life?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Three Hundred Eighty Six

We Must Work Today



Why must we work today? We must work today because night is coming when no one can work.

Jesus emphasized that God will display His works in Man Born Blind. Then Jesus explained further that He and His disciples must work the works of God Who Sent Jesus.

Jesus also explained the need to work now. Today it is day, but the night is coming when no one can work. Time remained of the essence. In this context, Jesus was talking about the need to spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ as quickly as possible by working diligently.

Many Jews opposed Jesus and that opposition was growing. They would try to shut down the ministry of Jesus by killing Him. Jesus planned on dying at the right time and place, but He also would leave many disciples behind to carry on His Gospel ministry.

So Long As

1. **Display.** Jesus said the man was born blind so that the works of God might be displayed in him.

2. **Works.** Notice the plural of works. God will display multiple works in the blind man. Physical sight will not be the greatest work of God in the blind man.

3. **Themes.** Jesus emphasized many themes in the Gospel of John. Here we see the themes of works, light, day and coming darkness.

4. **Command.** Jesus commanded us to work now as long as it is day. Night is coming when no one can work.

5. **Gospel.** Jesus meant that today we can spread the Gospel and minister in His name. When night comes, it will be too late for us to do those things.

6. **Now.** Living Godly in the family of God means that that we must work today. The day is precious and we must work now.

7. **Today.** We rejoice today because God displays His works in people today. He intends to use our spiritual gifts to display His works in people today. Happy day!

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by working the works of God today.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God by working before the night comes, when no one can work.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God by encouraging one another to work today.**

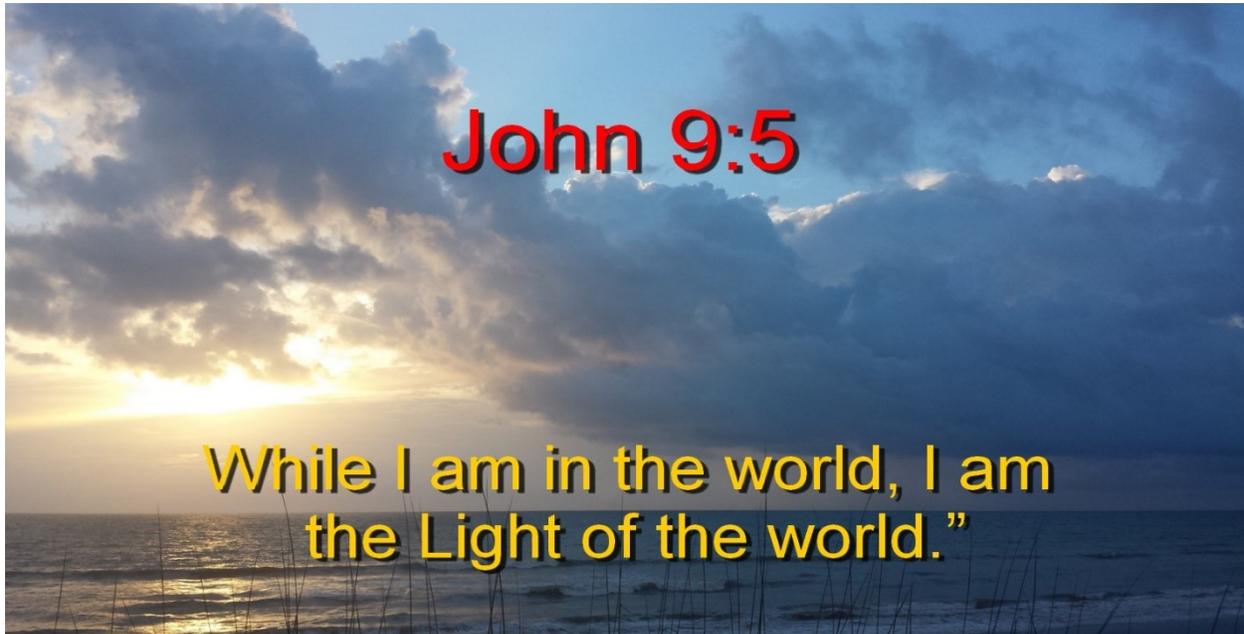
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by working the works of God. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by working today, before the night falls?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Three Hundred Eighty Seven

In the World Today



While Jesus was in the world, Who was He? Jesus was the Light of the world, so long as He was in the world.

John opened his Gospel with the statement that Jesus was the Light of the world. The Light shines in the darkness and the darkness did not comprehend it.

Jesus emphasized that His physical presence among the disciples caused the Light to shine among them. Even so, with all the Light of Jesus shining, the darkness did not comprehend the Light. Many of the people Jesus met heard Jesus, but did not comprehend that He was the Light. They did not know where Jesus was from, or God the Father Who sent Jesus to earth.

I AM the Light

1. **Identified.** Jesus identified Himself as the "I AM" God of the Old Testament. Jesus also described Himself as the Bread of Life. Here, Jesus identified Himself as the Light of the world.

2. **Limited.** Notice how Jesus limited His description of the Light: "While I am in the world, I am the light."

3. **Time.** So Jesus meant that His presence physically in the world is the time for God to display His works through Jesus as the Light of the world.

4. **Works.** In this case, Jesus knew that Jesus as God would display the works of God in Man Born Blind.

5. **Light.** Jesus emphasized that He was God, the Light of the world, because Jesus took flesh and lived among men, displaying the works of God each day.

6. **Display.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we see Jesus displaying the works of God today.

7. **Every Day.** We rejoice today because Jesus displayed the works of God in Man Born Blind. Jesus never changes and He continues to help people every day with His divine power. We can always count upon Him.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by understanding that Jesus was the Light of the world while He was in the world.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we understand that the Light of Jesus continues to shine.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we point people to Jesus, the Light of the world.**

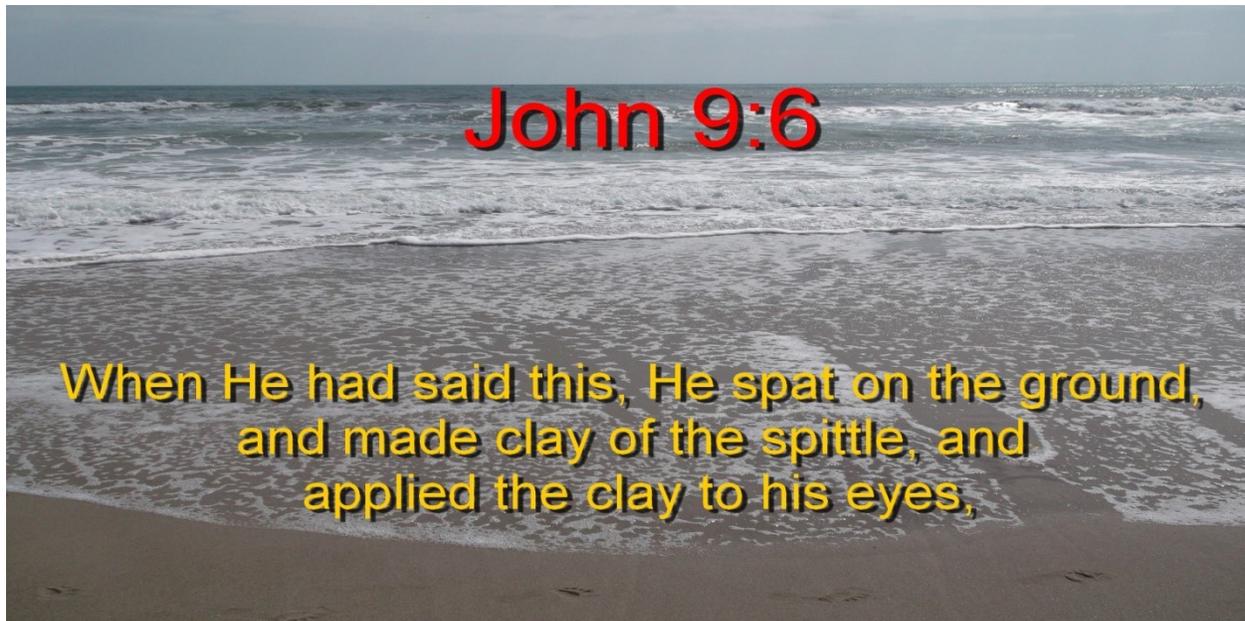
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by pointing people to Jesus, so that His Light may shine upon them, and they comprehend that Jesus is the Light. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by pointing people towards the Light Who is Jesus?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Three Hundred Eighty Eight

Made Clay Today



What did Jesus do with the clay He made? Jesus applied the clay to the eyes of Man Born Blind.

Jesus healed people by touching them, speaking to them, making clay, and doing many other things. Jesus had unlimited power to heal people. People may argue that Jesus had to use clay to heal people, but they forget that Jesus healed the nobleman's son by just speaking the word from a distance.

While Jesus healed people in many different ways, He always sought to show people that He was sent from God the Father to be the Savior of the world. He wanted people to have eternal life. He offered it as a free gift to all who would receive it by grace through faith.

His Eyes

1. **Healed.** Jesus loved people and healed many people. He healed them in many different ways.
2. **Clay.** Jesus spat on the ground, made clay, and applied the clay to the eyes of Man Born Blind.
3. **Before.** Notice that before Jesus applied the clay, He explained that God would display His works in Man Born Blind.
4. **Works.** Jesus intended to draw attention to God and His works. Physical healing was not the only goal here.
5. **Overlooking.** Today, people tend to focus upon physical healing while overlooking the great power of God to save sinners and be their Lord and Savior for eternity.
6. **Today.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we know Jesus heals people today using many different means.
7. **Cleansing.** We rejoice today because Jesus displayed His healing power in our lives by cleansing us with His blood to wash away our sins.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by depending upon Jesus to take care of our physical bodies.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we understand that Jesus healed many people in different ways using different methods.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God by seeing the compassion of Jesus for people who have physical problems.**

Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by watching Jesus help people with their spiritual and physical problems. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by seeing the great compassion of Jesus at work in people, as He still does the works of God among us?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Three Hundred Eighty Nine

Wash Today



Why did Jesus tell Man Born Blind to go wash in the pool of Siloam? Jesus told Man Born Blind to wash in the pool of Siloam so that he would come back seeing.

Jesus used clay to heal the eyes of Man Born Blind. Yet, the healing was not complete until the man washed away the clay. It had done its purpose and now water would finish the process of healing.

Jesus linked the Light shining so long as He was in the world. As the Light shined in the darkness, many people were healed of disease, the blind received their sight, the dead were raised, and the poor had the Gospel of Jesus Christ preached to them, just as the prophet revealed centuries before.

Jesus commanded Man Born Blind to do just two things. Go and wash. Go, wash in the pool of Siloam. Jesus had already applied clay to his

eyes, but a final act of obedience and faith would complete the healing. Believing is seeing.

Seeing

1. **Proclaimed.** Jesus set the stage for the miracle of healing Man Born Blind. Jesus proclaimed He was the Light of the world.

2. **Go.** Jesus commanded Man Born Blind to do two things. First, Man Born Blind must go. Traveling blind poses some issues.

3. **Wash.** Jesus also commanded Man Born Blind to wash. Jesus gave very specific commands for healing.

4. **Seeing.** Man Born Blind went and washed and came back seeing. What a great day. The work of healing had been displayed in him.

5. **Savior.** Do you recall the first day that you saw Jesus as your Savior? By faith, you knew He died for you.

6. **Obey.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we obey Jesus, knowing His commands bring His blessings into our lives.

7. **Spiritual.** We rejoice today because we see Jesus. He removed our spiritual blindness and now we see Jesus our Lord and Savior.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by going in faith to the places where Jesus sends us.**

- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we understand that people at Siloam watched a blind man come to the pool and the man born blind washed and saw for the first time in His life.**

- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God by remembering we were all people born blind until Jesus washed away our sins with His blood.**

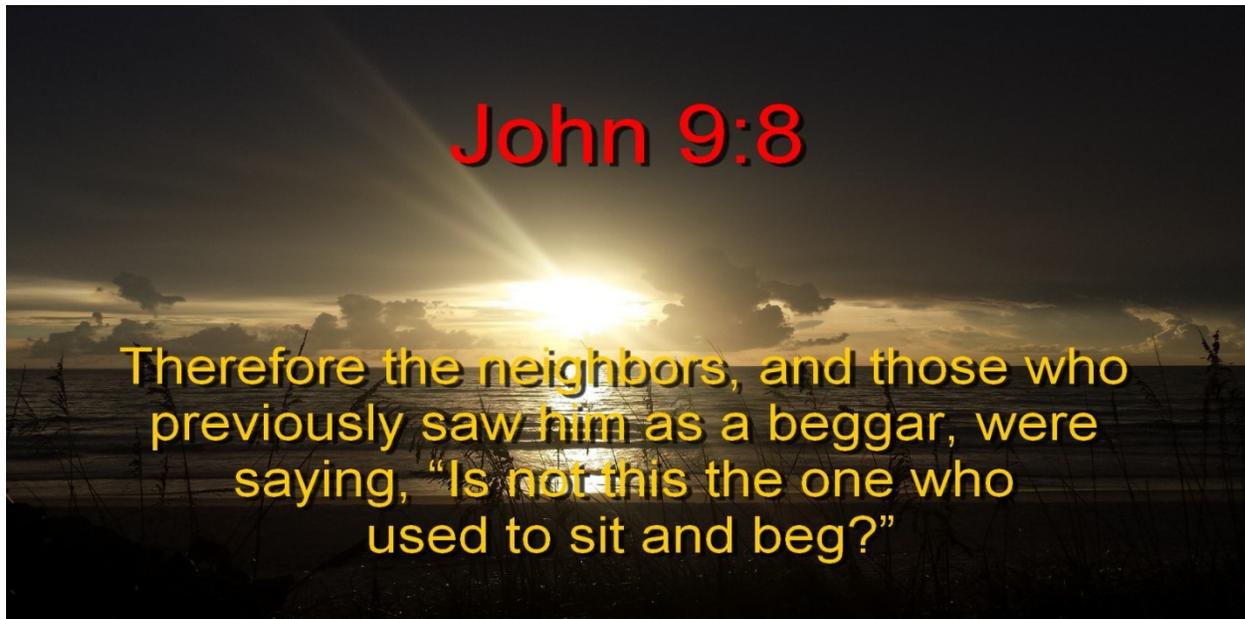
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by going where Jesus sends us and they doing there what He commanded us to do. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by following the simple commands of Jesus?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Three Hundred Ninety

A Beggar Today



What did the neighbors say when they saw Man Born Blind walking and seeing? The neighbors and others who had seen Man Born Blind questioned whether he was the same man they used to see sitting and begging.

Jesus passed by Man Born Blind and had compassion upon him. Through the healing of one man, the works of God would be displayed through Jesus for all to see. Man Born Blind would become a living testament to the power and love of Jesus Christ Who changed Man Born Blind forever.

Jesus worked a quiet miracle, but its effect touched the neighbors of Man Born Blind and many others who knew what had happened. They did not all know immediately that Jesus had done the miracle, because Jesus sent Man Born Blind to wash in the pool of Siloam.

The Neighbors

1. **Neighbors**. Jesus made clay and ordered Man Born Blind to go wash in the pool of Siloam. Man Born Blind came back seeing.

2. **Previously**. Other people previously had seen Man Born Blind begging.

3. **Beggar**. Man Born Blind begged for money and food, before Jesus passed by and healed him.

4. **Saying**. Jesus worked the works of God in Man Born Blind. People saw him seeing and began talking.

5. **Not**. People who had seen Man Born Blind begging now saw him seeing and they questioned if he was the beggar they had seen. Their question implied that he was that man, but they had some doubt.

6. **Sit**. Living Godly in the family of God means that Man Born Blind had a reputation for sitting in a place where people exiting the temple could see him and pass by him, but one day Jesus gave him sight.

7. **Beg**. We rejoice today because Jesus took a beggar and changed him forever. The Light had come upon Man Born Blind, so that the works of God could be worked in him for all to see.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by expecting people to notice the works of God.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we understand that we should live each day as a testimony to the power of Jesus Christ in our lives for all to see.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we proclaim that now we see, because Jesus changed us forever.**

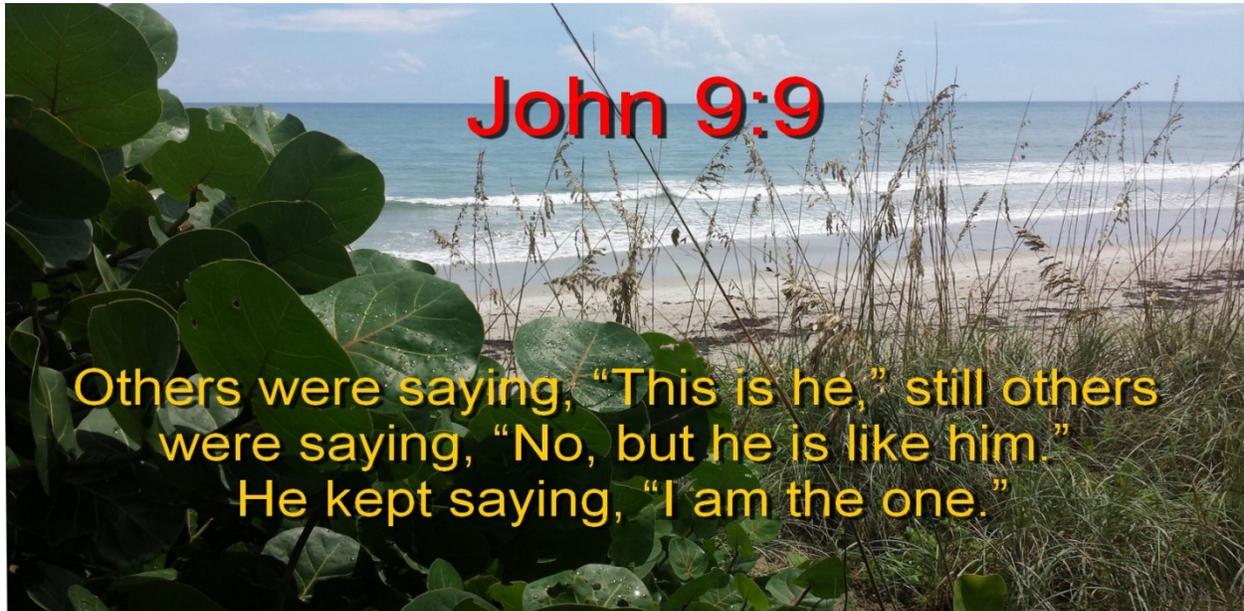
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by living as a holy testimony to the power of Jesus at work in our lives. Will you live Godly in the family of God today so that your neighbors and other people will see Jesus in you?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Three Hundred Ninety One

This Is He Today



After Jesus gave sight to Man Born Blind, what were some people saying? Some people were saying that this is he and others were saying No, but he is like him.

The neighbors and other people seem to be divided about Man Born Blind. Jesus had performed a wonderful miracle of giving sight to Man Born Blind. He made clay and then directed him to wash in the pool of Siloam. He went, washed, and saw for the first time in his life.

The reactions of people to the miracles of Jesus often tell us about the witnesses to the miracles. In this case, people who saw Man Born Blind before and after the miracle had divided opinions. Jesus often divided people with his miracles.

I Am the One

1. **Neighbors.** Jesus healed Man Born Blind. His neighbors questioned if he was the same man who used to sit and beg.
2. **Others.** Other people said he was the man. Yet others said he was like the man.
3. **Reactions.** People have very different reactions to seeing the same thing.
4. **Healed.** Here we have the doubters, the deniers, and the affirmers. Jesus healed Man Born Blind, but people did not agree about the miracle.
5. **Truth.** Man Born Blind declared he was the man. Some people refused to see the truth standing and seeing right before them.
6. **Reject.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we expect some people to reject Jesus and His works of power.
7. **Mighty.** We rejoice today because we declare the mighty power of God. We can all say, "I am the person" Jesus helped.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by expecting that some people will doubt and deny that the miracles of Jesus ever happened.**

- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we believe the Bible and its accounts of the miracles of Jesus.**

- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God by joining together to worship Jesus as one undivided family of believers.**

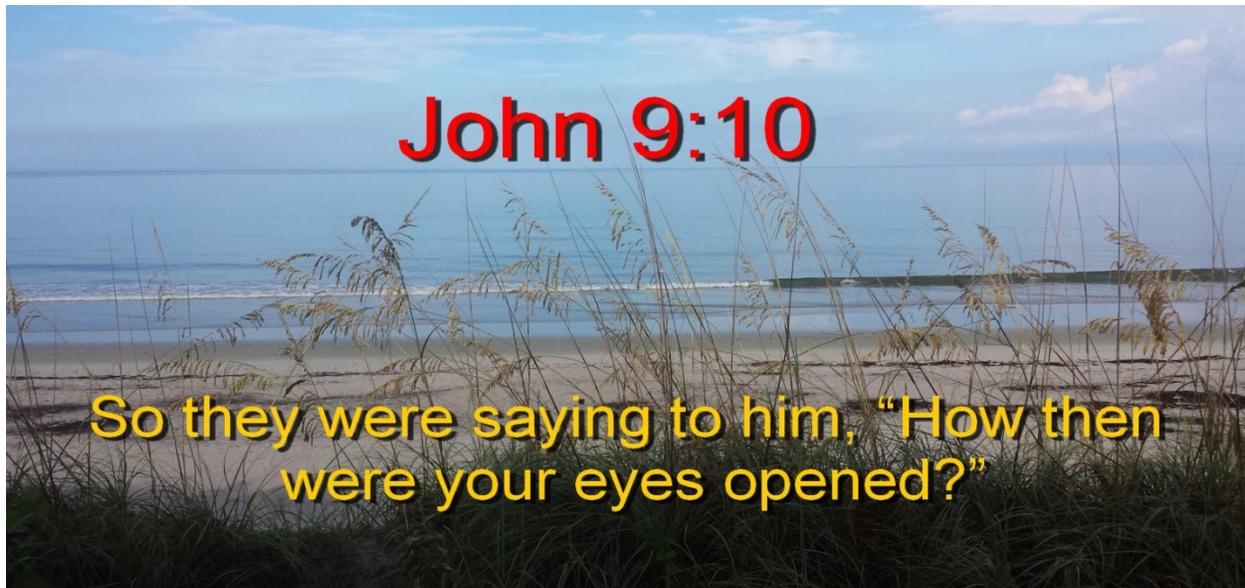
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by expecting that Jesus will divide people according to their doubts and faith. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by encouraging people to believe Jesus and the miracles He performed?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Three Hundred Ninety Two

They Were Saying Today



What were people asking Man Born Blind? People were asking Man Born Blind how his eyes were opened.

People heard Man Born Blind declare that he was the one to whom Jesus had given sight. Man Born Blind gave clear and convincing testimony that Jesus had performed a miracle in him resulting in his sight. Man Born Blind had never seen anything before Jesus gave him sight.

Man Born Blind had an opportunity to speak up for Jesus. Man Born Blind took that opportunity to relate what Jesus had done for him. Remember that Man Born Blind did not see Jesus, but he did obey Jesus and went to the pool of Siloam, and then saw. Apparently, Jesus was not with him at the pool of Siloam. Even so, Man Born Blind was unmistakable proof that Jesus had worked another great miracle.

Eyes Opened

1. **Reactions.** Jesus opened the eyes of Man Born Blind. His neighbors and others had different reactions.

2. **Testified.** Man Born Blind testified he was born blind, but he sees now.

3. **How?** People asked him how were his eyes opened. They went straight to Man Born Blind for the crucial answer.

4. **Asked.** At times in our lives, people will ask us about great things in our lives.

5. **Gift.** At those times, we can share with them the great works of Jesus in our lives and how they can receive the free gift of salvation by faith alone.

6. **Share.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we praise God for opportunities to share the Gospel of Jesus Christ with people who see the great works of God in our lives.

7. **Notice.** We rejoice today because Jesus does great things in our lives and people will notice.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by speaking of the great things that Jesus has done in our lives.**

- **We live more Godly in the family of God expecting people who knew us before salvation to ask us what happened.**

- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as one group proclaiming the excellencies of Jesus Who called us into His marvelous grace.**

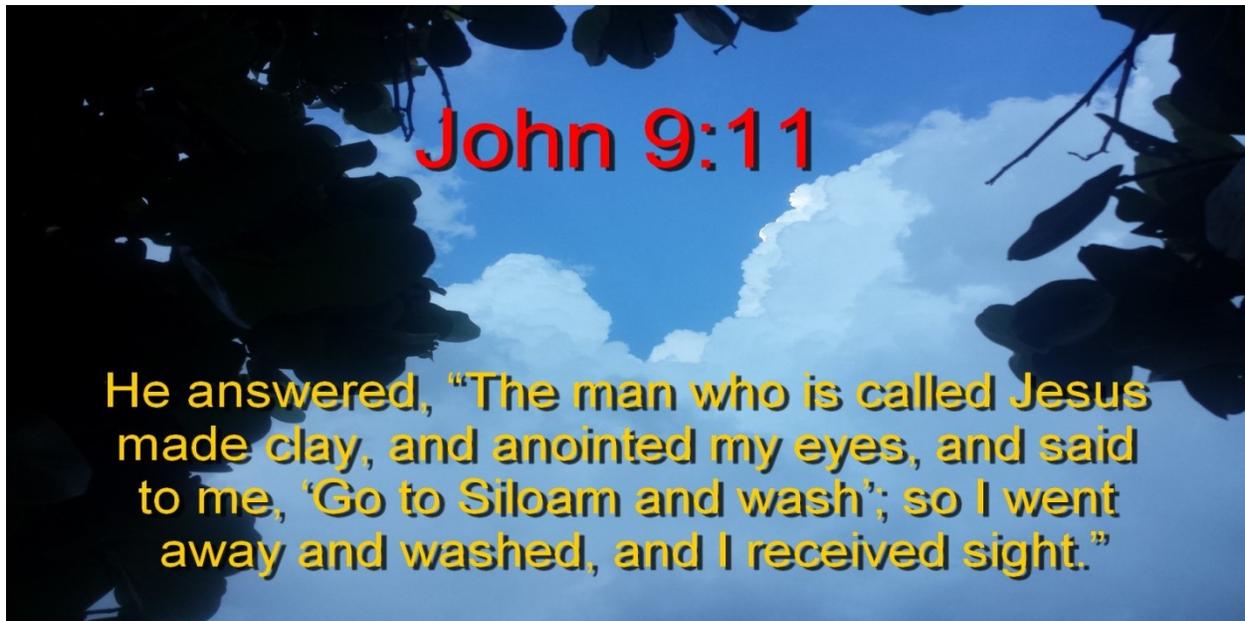
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by speaking up for Jesus as He provides questions for us to answer. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by proclaiming to others what Jesus has done for you?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Three Hundred Ninety Three

The Man Today



What did Man Born Blind say when the Jews asked him how he regained his sight? Man Born Blind answered that the man called Jesus made clay and anointed his eyes, and then told him to go and wash in Siloam.

Man Born Blind followed the instructions of Jesus and went and washed. He gained his sight. Man Born Blind testified truthfully about what happened. He made it very plain that Jesus had given him sight.

Man Born Blind symbolizes all of us in some ways. We were all born blind, without the Light and wandering in darkness before salvation. Then Jesus opened our eyes for the first time and we received our spiritual sight. Jesus had given us not only sight, but eternal life.

Called Jesus

1. **Answered.** Man Born Blind answered the question of how his eyes were opened.
2. **Clearly.** Man Born Blind testified clearly and succinctly about Jesus and His works.
3. **Specified.** Man Born Blind even specified the words of Jesus to go to Siloam and wash.
4. **Obedience.** Man Born Blind also testified to his obedience to the commands of Jesus: Go, Wash.
5. **Testimony.** Man Born Blind testified with his eyes wide open. He was living testimony to the loving power of Jesus.
6. **Change.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we are living testimonies to the loving power of Jesus to change us into His new creation.
7. **New.** We rejoice today because Jesus not only can heal our bodies, but He also makes us new creatures in Him, forgiven and beloved for all eternity.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by answering truthfully all questions.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we share with others the great things that Jesus has done for us.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we praise Jesus for giving us sight so that we might be living testimonies of His grace, mercy and loving power.**

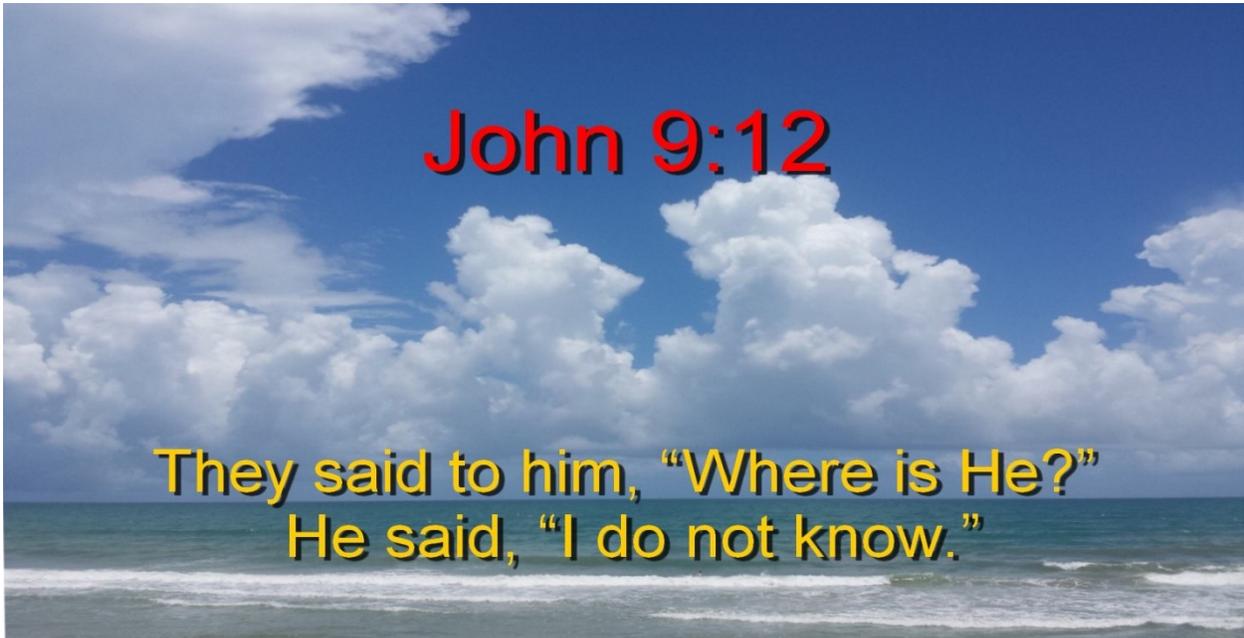
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God giving glory to God for the works He does in our lives. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by obeying Jesus when He tells you where to go next?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Three Hundred Ninety Four

Where Is He Today



When asked where Jesus was, what did Man Born Blind answer? Man Born Blind said he did not know.

Jesus sent Man Born Blind to the pool of Siloam. Jesus did not go with the man, but the power of Jesus went with Man Born Blind. When he washed in the pool, he gained his sight.

The Jews were seeking to kill Jesus. They were trying to seize Him and kill Him. They sought to find Jesus for very evil motives. Man Born Blind told the truth because he had never seen Jesus and did not gain his sight until he left Jesus and went to the pool of Siloam.

I Do Not Know

1. **Questions.** The neighbors of Man Born Blind and others had questions about His eyes being opened.
2. **Where?** They wanted to know: Where was Jesus?
3. **Miracles.** Jesus did not seek glory from men. He did not depend upon people praising Him for His miracles.
4. **Schedule.** Jesus always followed His Father's schedule. Jesus accomplished all the works His Father gave Him to do.
5. **Testified.** Man Born Blind testified and said he did not know where Jesus was.
6. **Follow.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we follow Jesus; at times we cannot see Him, but He never leaves us.
7. **See.** We rejoice today because we love Jesus, although we have never seen Him. He opened our spiritual eyes and hearts, so that we see Him clearly now.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by answering the questions that people ask about Jesus.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we understand that some people ask questions with very evil motives.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God by using wisdom from God when we talk to people about Jesus.**

Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by answering questions with wisdom from God. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by telling the truth and saying you do not know when you do not know?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Three Hundred Ninety Five To The Pharisees Today



Where did the Jews take Man Born Blind? The Jews took Man Born Blind to the Pharisees.

The Pharisees followed the traditions of men which invalidated the commandments of God. Jesus castigated them for such evil works. When the Pharisees wanted to see Man Born Blind, they were not looking to prove the miracle Jesus had done, but for ways to deny that Jesus had done any miracle.

The Pharisees had a major problem. Man Born Blind had been telling people that Jesus had given him sight. He was truly born blind, but Jesus had anointed his eyes and told him to go and wash in the pool of Siloam. He went, washed, and gained His sight. He did precisely what Jesus commanded, but Jesus was not with Him. Imagine your eyes were open for the first time. Imagine the great joy.

The Pharisees

1. **Pharisees.** They brought Man Born Blind to the Pharisees.
2. **Opposed.** The Pharisees studied the Old Testament, but Jesus called them murderers, hypocrites, blind guides, liars, and evil men opposed to God. They loved the traditions of men and invalidated the commandments of God.
3. **Questioned.** In the case of Man Born Blind, the Pharisees questioned him.
4. **Biased.** The Pharisees were very biased against Jesus and conspired to kill Jesus.
5. **Rejected.** The people expected the Pharisees to resolve the issues related to Man Born Blind. The Jewish leaders already hated and rejected Jesus.
6. **Expect.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we expect many religious leaders to be opposed to Jesus and His works of powers.
7. **Deliver.** We rejoice today because Jesus always had the perfect answer to all questions. He advocates for us in heaven even now. Jesus came back to help Man Born Blind, and He will come back to deliver us from the wrath to come.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by expecting that some religious leaders oppose Jesus even today.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we expect that we will be brought to speak for Jesus among people who deny Jesus.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we praise Jesus for giving us the courage to tell the truth about Jesus even when questioned by religious adversaries.**

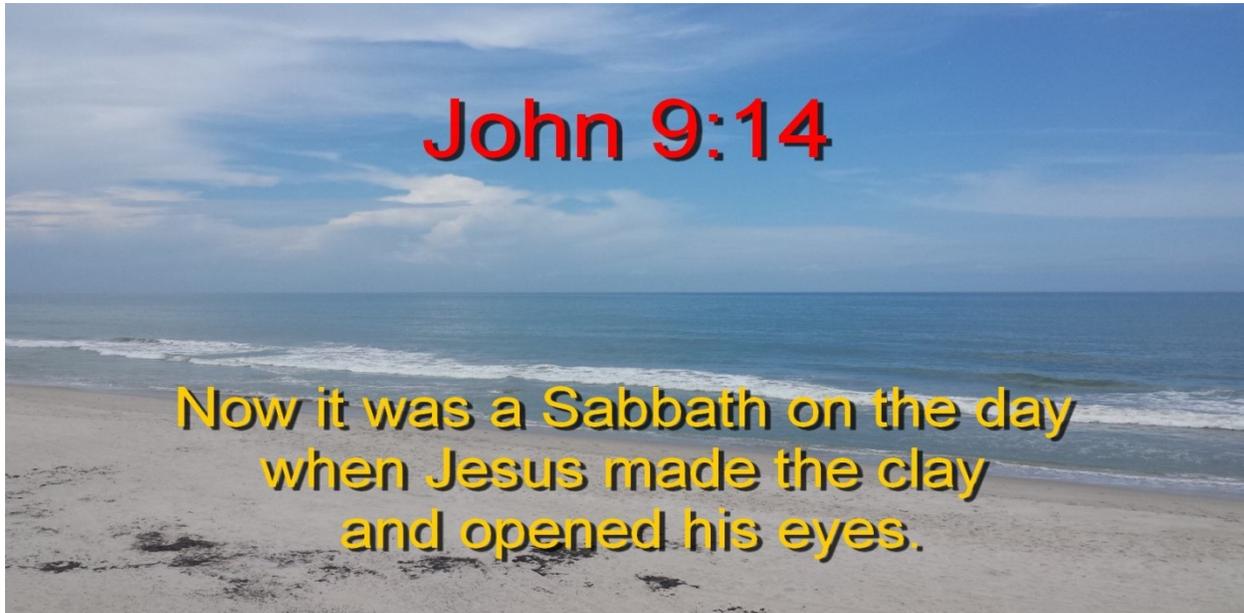
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by expecting that we may be brought before religious authorities to explain things. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by testifying about the power of Jesus Christ in your life?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Three Hundred Ninety Six

Sabbath Today



What difference does it make that Jesus healed Man Born Blind on the Sabbath? The Pharisees noticed that Jesus healed Man Born Blind on the Sabbath and they thought God rested on the Sabbath and did no work on the Sabbath.

The Pharisees did not know God and so could not understand the Law. They thought they could establish their own righteousness by keeping the Law. They never kept the Law, although they imposed great burdens upon the people to keep their interpretations of the Law.

The Pharisees had created traditions about the Law. Their traditions actually contradicted the Law and the Bible. The Pharisees interpreted the Law to mean Jesus could not heal on the Sabbath. Jesus did not live by the traditions of men, but by the Word of God, His word.

Made the Clay

1. **Opened.** Jesus opened the eyes of Man Born Blind on the Sabbath.
2. **Clay.** Jesus also made clay on the Sabbath.
3. **Man-Made.** The Mosaic Law established a day of rest. The Jews added many man-made traditions that interfered with God's law.
4. **Healed.** John notes that Jesus healed Man Born Blind on the Sabbath.
5. **Traditions.** The religious leaders loved their traditions. They hated Jesus because He kept the Law of Moses, but rejected their man-made traditions.
6. **Praise.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we follow Jesus and praise Him for healing Man Born Blind on the Sabbath.
7. **Fulfilled.** We rejoice today because Jesus fulfilled every requirement of the Law for us. Jesus is the end of the Law for righteousness to everyone who believes.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by following the Scriptures, not traditions and interpretations of the Scriptures.**

- **We live more Godly in the family of God by believing the Bible is true even if people tend to twist it to their own destruction.**

- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God by removing the Pharisees among us who value traditions of men above the Scriptures.**

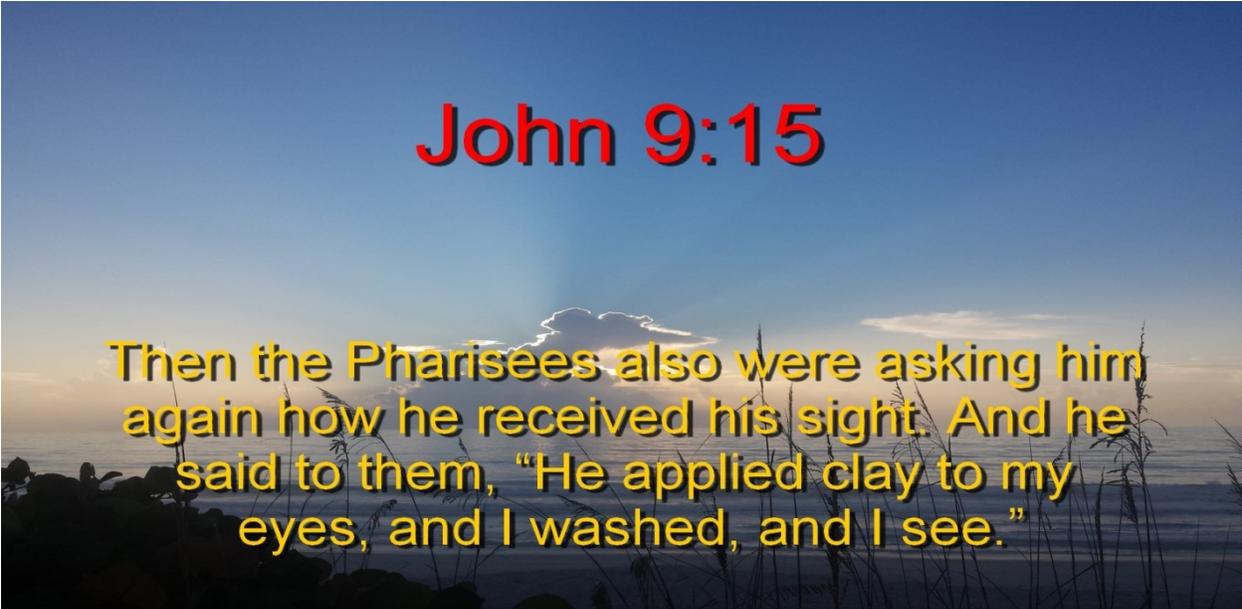
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by standing upon the Bible and its truth. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by ignoring the traditions of men that invalidate the Bible?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Three Hundred Ninety Seven

Clay to My Eyes Today



John 9:15

Then the Pharisees also were asking him again how he received his sight. And he said to them, "He applied clay to my eyes, and I washed, and I see."

How did Man Born Blind receive his sight? Man Born Blind testified that Jesus applied clay to his eyes, he washed, and then he saw.

Man Born Blind made a great witness for Jesus. He chose his words with care. They were clear and to the point. He also looked at the Pharisees. He was living, seeing proof of the power and love of Jesus.

The Pharisees were trapped between a rock and a hard place. They wanted to kill Jesus and looked for any pretense to do so. They tried to seize Him, but He eluded their grasp. On the one hand, Jesus had undoubtedly given sight to Man Born Blind. On the other hand, the Pharisees did not want to acknowledge Jesus as the Son of God. Their only way out of their problem, they thought, was to twist the Law to blame Jesus for healing Man Born Blind on the Sabbath.

Asking Him Again

1. **Different.** Lawyers sometimes ask the witness the same question in different ways. They look for any differences between the answers. Usually, they only ask the other questions if they did not like the first answer.

2. **Questions.** In this case, the Pharisees came asking questions because they did not like the answers of Man Born Blind. He said Jesus opened his eyes.

3. **Truth.** Man Born Blind told the truth. Witnesses telling the truth do not need to worry about what story they told last time.

4. **Precise.** Man Born Blind reiterated: "Jesus made clay, I washed, and I see." Short, precise, truthful testimony.

5. **Hated.** As we will see, the Pharisees hated Jesus and everyone who believed Jesus.

6. **Jesus.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we tell the truth about the great things Jesus does in our lives.

7. **Works.** We rejoice today because we love to tell the truth about Jesus. Declaring His mighty works makes us feel good today.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God means we tell the truth, repeatedly, about the great things Jesus has done in our lives.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we count upon Jesus to give us courage to tell the truth always.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God by encouraging one another to speak the truth in love, but always tell the truth.**

Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by telling the truth. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by telling people the truth about the great things Jesus has done for you?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Three Hundred Ninety Eight

Not from God Today

John 9:16

Therefore some of the Pharisees were saying, "This man is not from God, because He does not keep the Sabbath." But others were saying, "How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?" And there was a division among them.

Why were the Pharisees divided about Man Born Blind? Some Pharisees were saying one thing about Jesus and other Pharisees were saying the opposite.

Some Pharisees said that Jesus was not from God because He did not keep the Sabbath. Other Pharisees were saying that a sinner could not perform such signs. They were divided over Jesus.

Jesus consistently divides people. Some people see the works of Jesus and recognize that He came from heaven. God sent Him to do the works of God. Other people see the works of Jesus and discount them because of their traditions. According to their traditional interpretations of the Law, God could not work on the Sabbath. They did not know God or His ways. They did not understand the Law, but enforced their traditions built upon twisting Scripture.

Division

1. **Divided.** The Pharisees divided over Jesus.
2. **Sabbath.** One group said Jesus broke the Sabbath by healing on the Sabbath.
3. **Recognized.** Another group recognized the signs as proof that Jesus was not a sinner.
4. **Ignored.** The Pharisees clung to their man-made traditions and ignored the Scriptures. They did not look in their Scriptures to see if Jesus broke the Sabbath.
5. **Testimony.** The Pharisees were not persuaded by the testimony of Jesus, the Father, or John the Baptist. For some Pharisees, the signs caught their attention (John 5:36).
6. **Healed.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we know Jesus healed on the Sabbath without breaking the Law of the Sabbath.
7. **Proved.** We rejoice today because Jesus was God in the flesh and everything He said and did proved that He was God in the flesh, living among men, without sin.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by expecting that the opponents of Jesus will have divisions among themselves, even when they have common goals.**

- **We live more Godly in the family of God by meeting divisions with unity in Christ.**

- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we unite together to tell the truth about Jesus and His great power at work in our lives.**

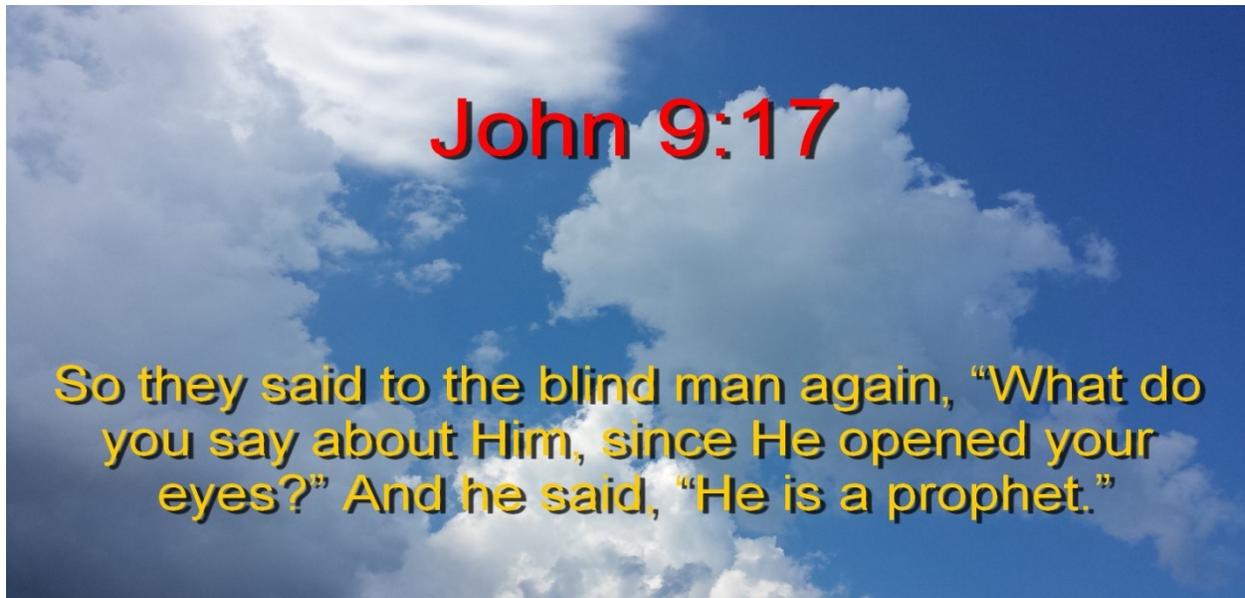
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by believing that Jesus works great works in our lives. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by trusting Jesus to oppose religious leaders who stand upon traditions which oppose the Bible and the works of Jesus?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Three Hundred Ninety Nine

About Jesus Today



Why did the Pharisees repeatedly ask Man Born Blind about Jesus? They wanted to know again what Man Born Blind said about Jesus Who opened His eyes.

Man Born Blind testified that Jesus was a prophet. Jesus was truly a Prophet, Priest, and King and the Messiah. Jesus did the works of God and revealed the words and acts of God.

Man Born Blind kept on telling the truth about Jesus. His answers never changed and his testimony was very clear. He knew that the Pharisees were asking the same questions repeatedly. He gave the same answers.

Man Born Blind not only testified with his voice, but he also testified with his eyes wide open. He saw everyone for the first time. His sight testified to the blindness of the Pharisees.

A Prophet

1. **Truthful.** The Pharisees continued to question Man Born Blind. He truthfully testified that Jesus opened his eyes.

2. **Difficult.** The Pharisees divided over Jesus. His miracle was difficult to deny, especially with Man Born Blind testifying in person.

3. **Asked.** The Pharisees then asked Man Born Blind what he said about Jesus.

4. **Prophet.** Like the woman at the well, he said Jesus was a prophet.

5. **Miracle.** Man Born Blind knew that Jesus worked a miracle by opening his eyes. He saw, but apparently he had not seen Jesus yet.

6. **God.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we say Jesus is a prophet and God in the flesh.

7. **Grace.** We rejoice today because Jesus loves to open the eyes of sinners. By grace through faith we have been saved.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by testifying about Jesus to people who have no real interest in believing in Jesus.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we give our testimony about Jesus before people who dislike Jesus.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we join together to testify about Jesus to people who claim to be very religious, but never knew God.**

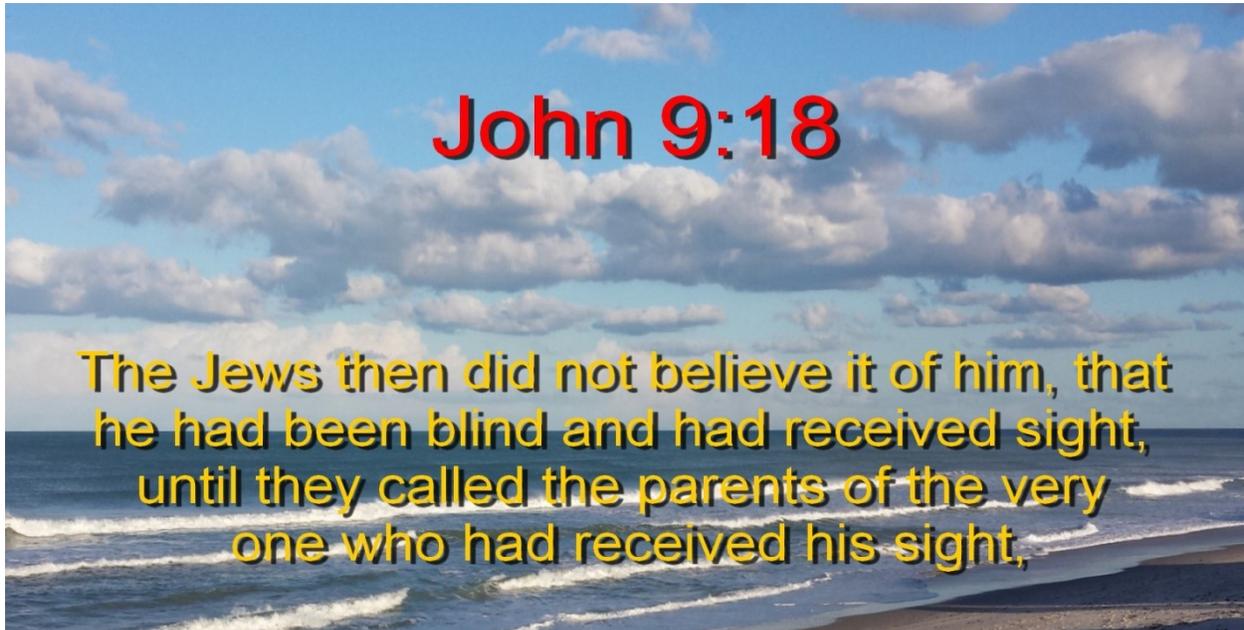
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God testifying to people opposed to Jesus about Who Jesus really is. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by telling people about Jesus, the Prophet and Savior?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Four Hundred

Not Believe Today



Did the Jews believe that Man Born Blind had truly been born blind? No, they did not believe that he had been born blind.

When confronted with the personal testimony of Man Born Blind, they rejected that testimony because they would rather believe a lie rather than the truth. They wanted to do the deeds of their father, the devil. He is a liar and the father of lies. Therefore, they wanted to believe the lie that Man Born Blind was not actually born blind. Otherwise, they would have believed the truth, that Jesus worked the works of God by giving sight to Man Born Blind.

The Pharisees called in the parents of Man Born Blind. They wanted to hear it from them if that was their son and if his story of blindness and healing were truth. The Pharisees were keenly interested in discrediting Jesus and Man Born Blind.

Did Not Believe

1. **Faith**. Faith sends us to heaven. Not blind faith, but faith in Jesus and His Gospel sends us to heaven.

2. **Jews**. The Jews did not believe the testimony of Man Born Blind who identified Jesus as a prophet and the Person Who opened his eyes.

3. **Unbelief**. The Jews were not looking for the truth, but grinding the axe of unbelief.

4. **Parents**. The Jews called the parents of Man Born Blind, the very one who received his sight.

5. **Knew**. Notice the Jews had no problem identifying the parents. Implicitly the Jews recognized the relationship between Man Born Blind and his parents, who knew about his birth and blindness.

6. **Believe**. Living Godly in the family of God means that we believe Jesus works miracles and saves people from their sins.

7. **Powers**. We rejoice today with people who believe Jesus and see His works of powers.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by believing the testimony of people about Jesus when they testify to the great works God has done in their lives.**

- **We live more Godly in the family of God by understanding that people will not believe the truth because they did not believe Jesus or Man Born Blind.**

- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God by rejoicing in the truth of Jesus and His great works.**

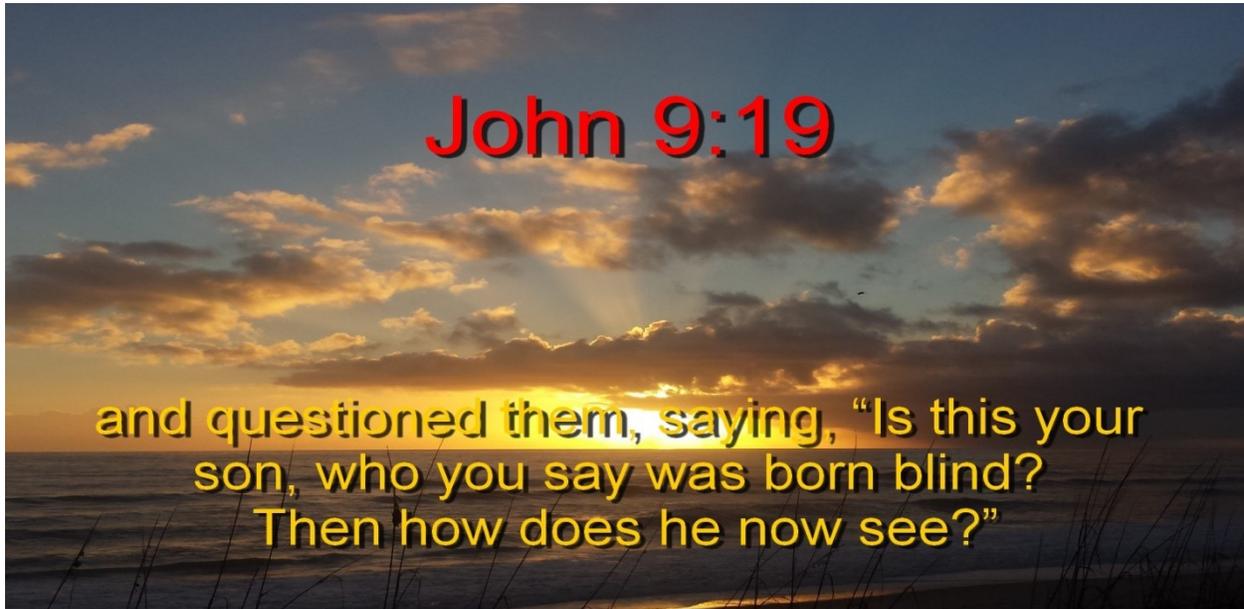
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by worshiping Jesus for bringing truth into our lives. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by rejoicing in the truth that Jesus has come into your life and opened your eyes?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Four Hundred One

Questioned Today



What did the Pharisees ask the parents of Man Born Blind? The Pharisees asked the parents of Man Born Blind if they were his parents and how he now sees.

First, the Pharisees asked the parents to identify their son. The Pharisees had no real interest in proving the miracle of Jesus. They sought to discredit the miracle in any way possible.

Second, the Pharisees also wanted to punish anyone who supported Jesus or His works. The parents were in a very difficult position.

Third, the Pharisees wanted the parents to explain how their son gained his sight. The parents apparently were not present when Jesus made the clay and so had no knowledge of what happened.

The Pharisees were not impartial in examining the parents. They wanted to kill Jesus and sought a legal basis to do so. Of course, their

understanding of the Law conflicted with the Law itself. Jesus would never have been convicted of anything under the Law, because He always kept the Law.

Your Son

1. **Questioned.** The Pharisees questioned the parents of Man Born Blind.

2. **Son.** The first question laid the foundation for the relationship between the parents and the son. Is this your son? That simple question served to identify the son and the parents.

3. **Say.** Notice the doubt in the question with the words “you say.” The Pharisees were not admitting the truth of anything, but examining the testimony of the parents.

4. **Born.** The parents could provide perfect proof that the man was their son and that he was born blind. Of course, the Pharisees were not looking for the truth.

5. **Blind.** The key issue was if the man was actually born blind. The parents would be just the witnesses to testify that their son had been born blind.

6. **How.** Living Godly in the family of God means that parents may be called upon to explain great things that God has done for their children. In this case, the Pharisees asked how their son now sees.

7. **See.** We rejoice today because Jesus caused Man Born Blind to see. Only because Jesus worked the works of God in Man Born Blind did he see.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by expecting that our faith will affect the lives of people we love in ways we may not expect.**

- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we understand that unbelievers will ask other people about us and the works of Jesus in our lives.**

- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God by encouraging one another to expect that unbelievers will persecute our families.**

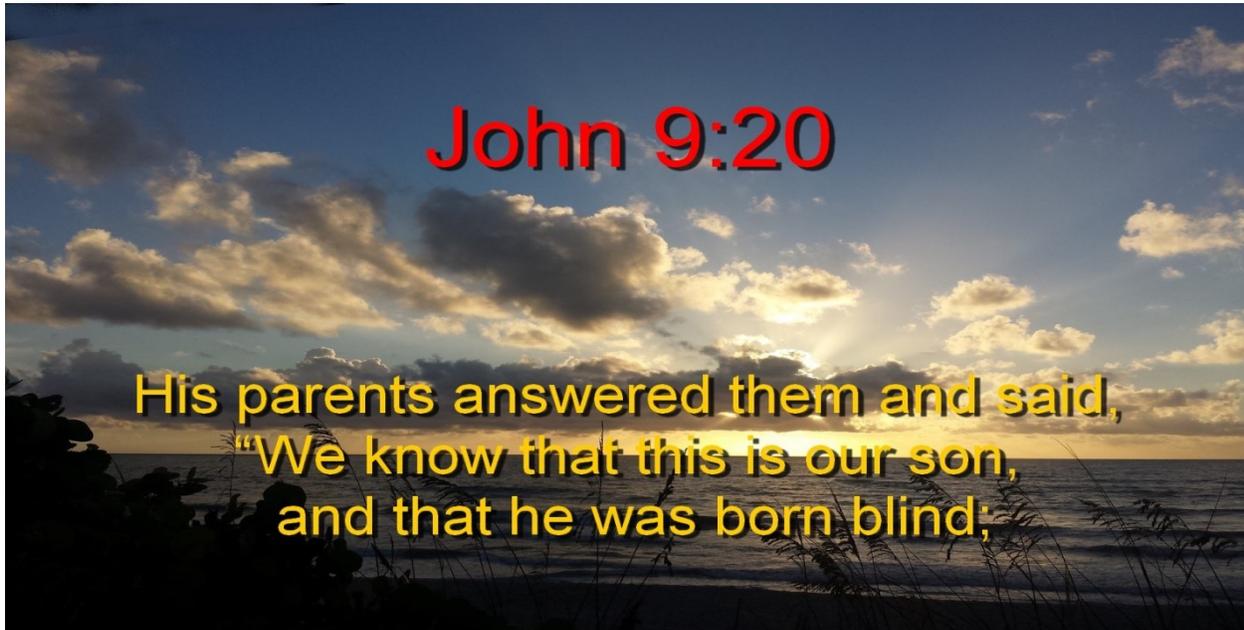
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by expecting that unbelievers will ask other people about Jesus and our faith in Him. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by relying upon Jesus to help people deal with questions from unbelievers?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Four Hundred Two

We Know Today



What answers did the parents of Man Born Blind provide to the Pharisees? The parents answered that Man Born Blind was their son.

The parents also testified that he was born blind. The parents told the truth and answered the first questions of the Pharisees.

When God works great miracles, opponents rise up to discredit the works of God. They also attack the people who received the work of God. The opponents may be very evil religious leaders. The opponents also attack the witnesses of the miracles.

The Pharisees were attacking the parents of Man Born Blind. Their inquiries were not directed at finding the truth, but at establishing their lies.

Our Son

1. **Parents.** The Jews questioned the parents of Man Born Blind. They sought to undermine Jesus and the miracle.
2. **Answer.** The parents answered that Man Born Blind was their son and he was born blind.
3. **Known.** With this testimony, the Jews must have known that Jesus opened the eyes of Man Born Blind.
4. **Evidence.** Despite their best efforts to deny Jesus and His powers, the evidence uniformly supported Jesus as God in the flesh, bestowing sight by His power.
5. **Hated.** The Jews hated Jesus without cause. Wherever He went, good things happened.
6. **Reasons.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we know people will seek many reasons to reject Jesus and deny His divine powers.
7. **Sinners.** We rejoice today because Jesus gave His life for sinners like us. He loved us, even as we put Him to death. He rose from the dead and will return soon, bringing our rewards with Him.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by understanding that the opponents of Jesus seek to establish lies about believers.**

- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we expect unbelievers to oppose the works of God and do their best to minimize them or discredit them altogether.**

- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we support and encourage the people receiving great gifts from God, because opponents will arise to attack them and their families.**

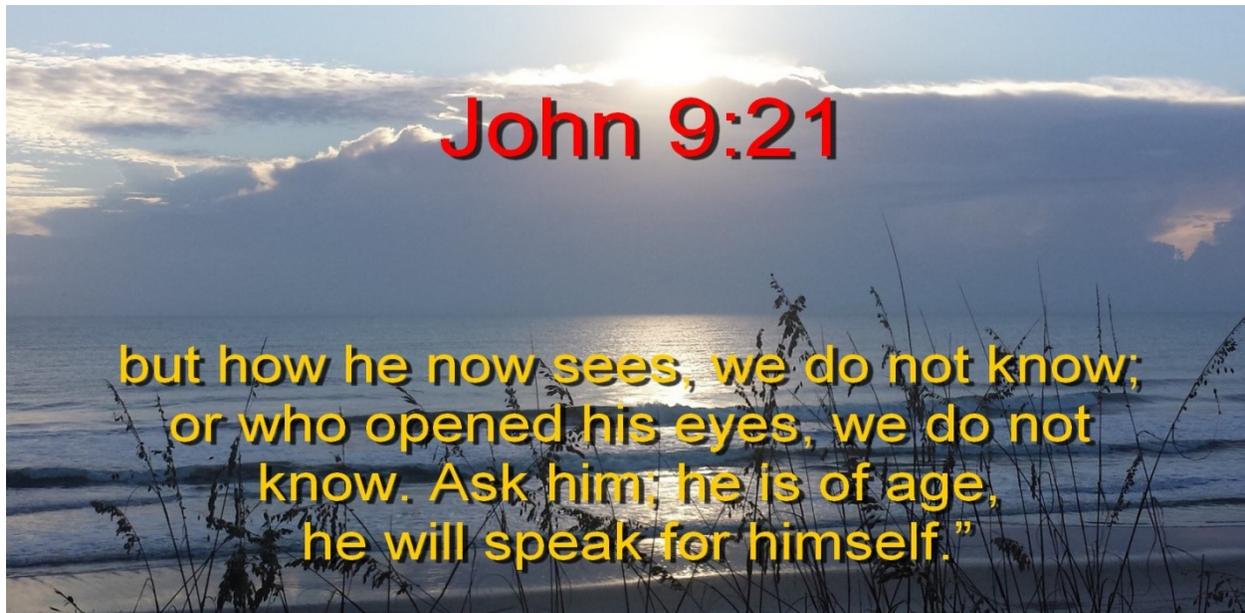
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by supporting and encouraging people who have received great gifts from God. People will arise and attack them in many different ways. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by standing with people who have received great blessings from God?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Four Hundred Three

Sees Today



What did the parents tell the Pharisees about Who opened the eyes of Man Born Blind? They said ask him.

The parents of Man Born Blind gave great testimony. They told the truth about their son. They limited their testimony to what they knew. They did not pretend to know things that they did not know.

The parents also told the Pharisees that they did not know how Man Born Blind now sees. They were not there when Jesus met Man Born Blind and had no way of knowing. They also said that their son now sees.

The parents also stated that Man Born Blind was of age. In other words, he was old enough to speak for himself. The Pharisees could ask him directly. The parents even directed the Pharisees to ask him directly about how he now sees. They assured the Pharisees that he could speak for himself. The Pharisees had already heard from Man Born Blind and did not like his answers.

Ask Him

1. **Undermine.** The Jews questioned the parents of Man Born Blind. They sought to undermine Jesus and His miracles.

2. **Identified.** His parents identified Man Born Blind as their son who was born blind.

3. **Denied.** The parents denied knowing how he now sees or Who opened his eyes.

4. **Healing.** Judging from their answers, they either were not present for the healing or they refused to say what they witnessed.

5. **Pressure.** As we will see, the Jews pressured people to stay silent about what they knew about Jesus.

6. **Openly.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we tell freely and openly what we know about Jesus.

7. **Gift.** We rejoice today because of Jesus in our lives. We live because He did something far greater than curing physical blindness; He gave us the free gift of eternal life purchased with His blood on the cross.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by answering questions by telling the truth without pretending to know things we do not know.**

- **We live more Godly in the family of God by directing questions to people who have the knowledge to answer them.**

- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we encourage believers to expect questions from people who want to undermine the work of God in their lives.**

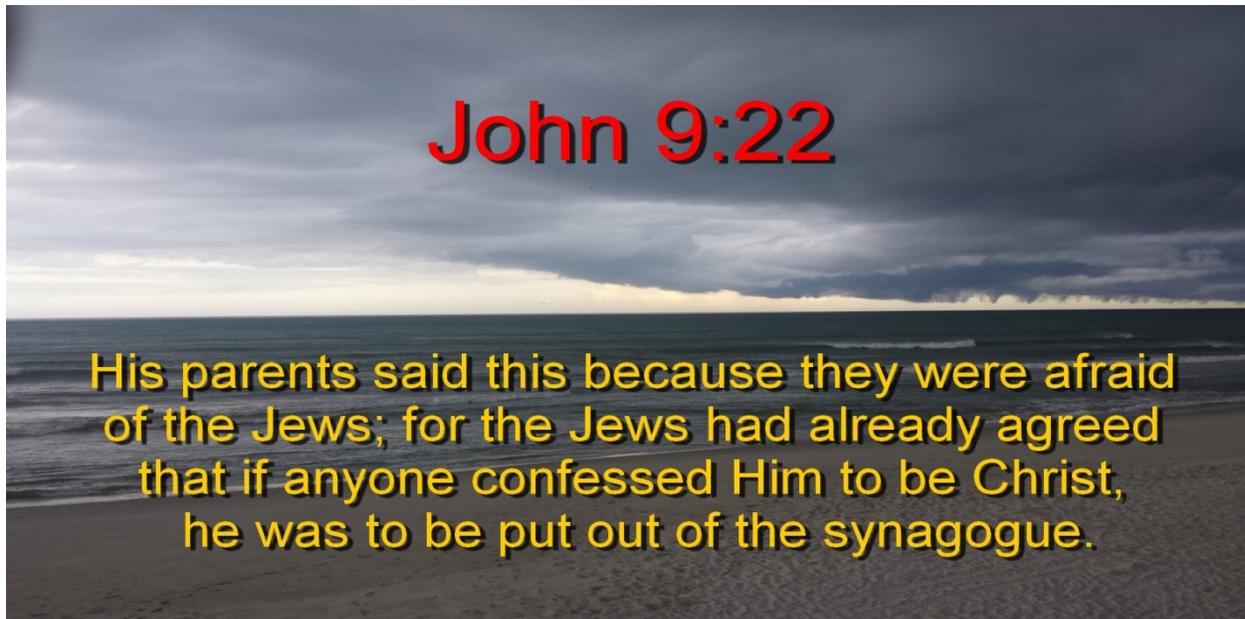
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by understanding that unbelievers will seek to undermine the work of God in our lives. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by standing with people who face persecution because of God's work in their lives?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Four Hundred Four

Afraid of the Jews Today



Why did the parents say 'Ask him'? The parents told the Pharisees to ask their son, Man Born Blind, for themselves to learn how he gained his sight.

The Pharisees had already heard that Man Born Blind did not know who healed him. They then learned that the parents confirmed he had been born blind and that he was their son.

The Pharisees were looking to make an example of Man Born Blind and his parents. They opposed Jesus and intended to put out of the synagogue anyone who confessed Jesus as the Christ. So, when Man Born Blind testified the he had received sight, he knew that the Pharisees would seek to discredit Jesus. But Man Born Blind told the truth that he had not seen Jesus, but merely that He made clay and told him to go and wash.

Put Out

1. **Prejudice.** The Jews judged Jesus with complete prejudice against Him. They ignored the testimony of eyewitnesses and twisted facts to suit themselves.

2. **Fear.** The parents of Man Born Blind operated from fear of the Jews. They hedged their answers because of fear.

3. **Decided.** The Jews had already decided that Jesus was not the Christ, no matter what evidence was presented.

4. **Suffering.** If anyone confessed Jesus as the Christ, they would be put out of the synagogue--suffering religious, social and economic harm.

5. **Oppose.** People still oppose Jesus today. Some people still live in fear and do not confess Jesus before men.

6. **Christ.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we do not fear what people may do to us if we confess Jesus as the Christ, the Savior of the world.

7. **Confess.** We rejoice today because Jesus truly is the Messiah and He will judge every person who did not confess Him as Christ. If we confess Him before men, He will confess us before His Father.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by expecting that people will take retaliatory action against people who confess Jesus as Christ and Savior.**

- **We live more Godly in the family of God by understanding that Jesus supports His own and opposes those people who oppose Him.**

- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God by standing together with other believers in the family of God who have been put out of churches, homes, and other groups because of their faith in Jesus Christ as Savior.**

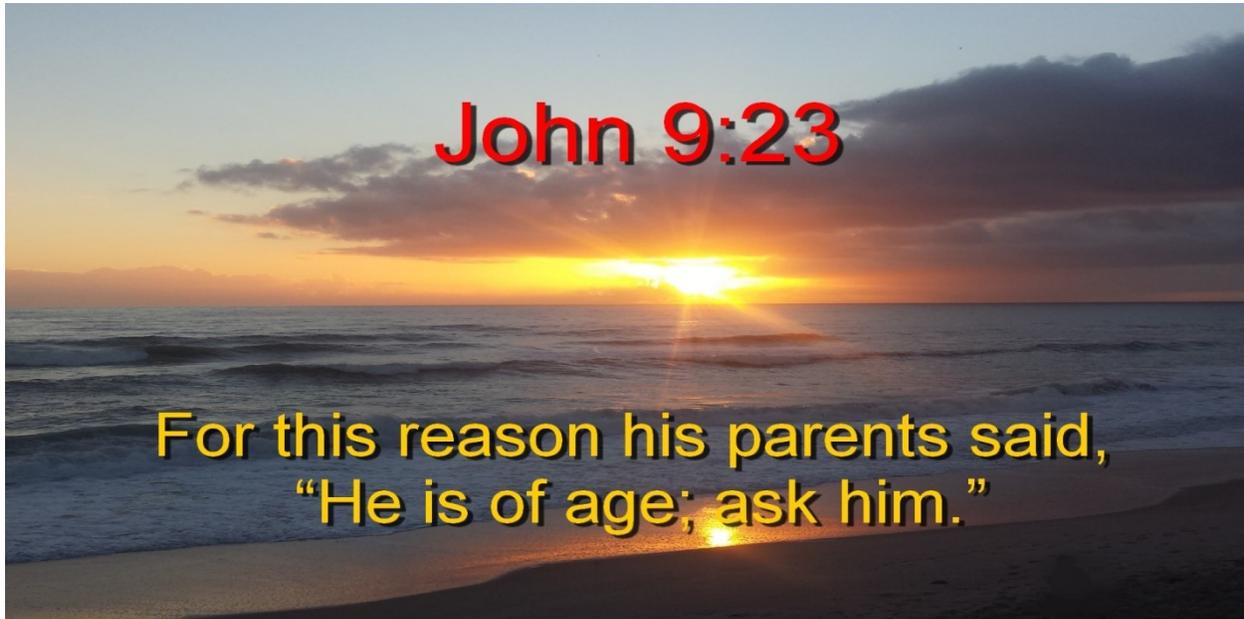
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by standing in strength with other believers rejected by religious groups who do not have like precious faith in Jesus as Savior. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by standing with outcast believers who have testified about the great works of Jesus in their lives?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Four Hundred Five

This Reason Today



Why did the parents say to ask Man Born Blind? The parents of Man Born Blind feared being put out of the synagogue for confessing Jesus as the Christ.

Fear compels people to do many things. Fear of being put out of the synagogue compelled the parents of Man Born Blind to avoid confessing that Jesus had given sight to their son.

The parents chose to stay in the synagogue rather than support their son. They should be the happiest parents in town because their son gained his sight. He had lived his entire life in blindness until Jesus gave him sight. Yet, fear controlled them and they said nothing about Jesus.

Times arise in our lives where our love for Jesus will be tested in many ways. Will we choose the security of staying with people we know or will we choose to declare our faith in Jesus? Will fear compel us to stay silent when we should speak up for Jesus?

Of Age

1. **Understand.** If you ever think that God does not understand the evil pressures put upon you by other people, think again.
2. **Pressure.** God knows and cares about everything in your life, including pressure to deny Jesus.
3. **Excommunication.** The Jews pressured people by the threat of excommunication from their synagogue for confessing Jesus as the Christ.
4. **Fear.** The parents of Man Born Blind feared that pressure and did not confess Jesus.
5. **Control.** In our lives, evil people should not control our confession of Christ.
6. **Confess.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we freely confess Christ, not bowing to pressure to remain silent.
7. **God Cares.** We rejoice today because we know God cares about every pressure put upon us. He never allows more pressure than we can handle.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by overcoming our fears.**

- **We live more Godly in the family of God by proclaiming Jesus even if it may cause us to lose family, friends and business.**

- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God by following Jesus as He leads us each day without fear controlling us.**

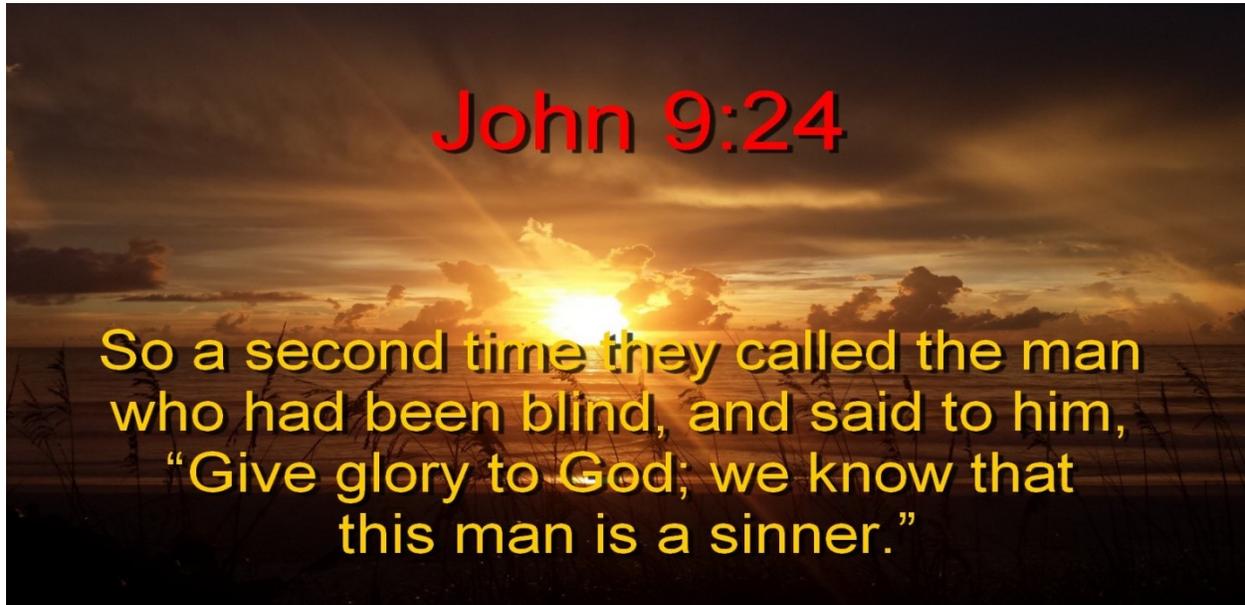
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by overcoming the fear of rejection and being cast out. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by letting your love for Jesus cast out your fears?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Four Hundred Six

Second Time Today



Why did the Pharisees question Man Born Blind the second time? The Pharisees questioned Man Born Blind the second time because his parents told them to ask their son, Man Born Blind.

The Pharisees referred to Jesus as a sinner. In this case the sinners were calling God a sinner. Nothing could be farther from the truth. The Pharisees were sinners and their spiritual blindness remained while Man Born Blind saw for the first time.

The Pharisees called for Man Born Blind to give glory to God. The problem was the Pharisees thought they were giving glory to God, but they were actually doing the desires of the father, the devil.

Man Born Blind had not seen Jesus. The Pharisees had condemned Jesus without a fair hearing. They had questioned Man Born Blind and he consistently told them the truth. They even called Jesus a sinner.

Give Glory to God

1. **Answers.** The Jews questioned Man Born Blind, but they did not like his answers.

2. **Hedged.** They then questioned the parents of Man Born Blind. The parents hedged their answers for fear of the Jews, who threatened to excommunicate from the synagogue anyone who confessed Jesus as Christ.

3. **Blasphemy.** The Jews' first statement to Man Born Blind constituted blasphemy on its face. They called Jesus, God in the flesh, a sinner.

4. **Ignored.** You may recall they convicted Jesus of being a sinner because He healed Man Born Blind on the Sabbath. They ignored Scripture, and founded their judgment upon their own traditions and interpretations.

5. **Admitted.** They also made crucial admissions about Jesus, unwittingly. They admitted Jesus healed Man Born Blind and that Jesus had done something no one had done before. Jesus had unique power as God, but they called Him a sinner.

6. **Judgments.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we know Jesus never sinned, although the religious leaders called Him a sinner. We must use only the Scriptures as our authority for rendering judgments.

7. **Persecute.** We rejoice today because Jesus as God performed many miracles. The world hated Jesus, and it hates us too. Jesus said we should rejoice when people persecute us for His name's sake.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by expecting people will question us again if we give them answers they do not like the first time.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we testify of Jesus and do not change our testimony to suit people opposed to Jesus.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we expect religious people to oppose Jesus under the pretense of giving glory to God.**

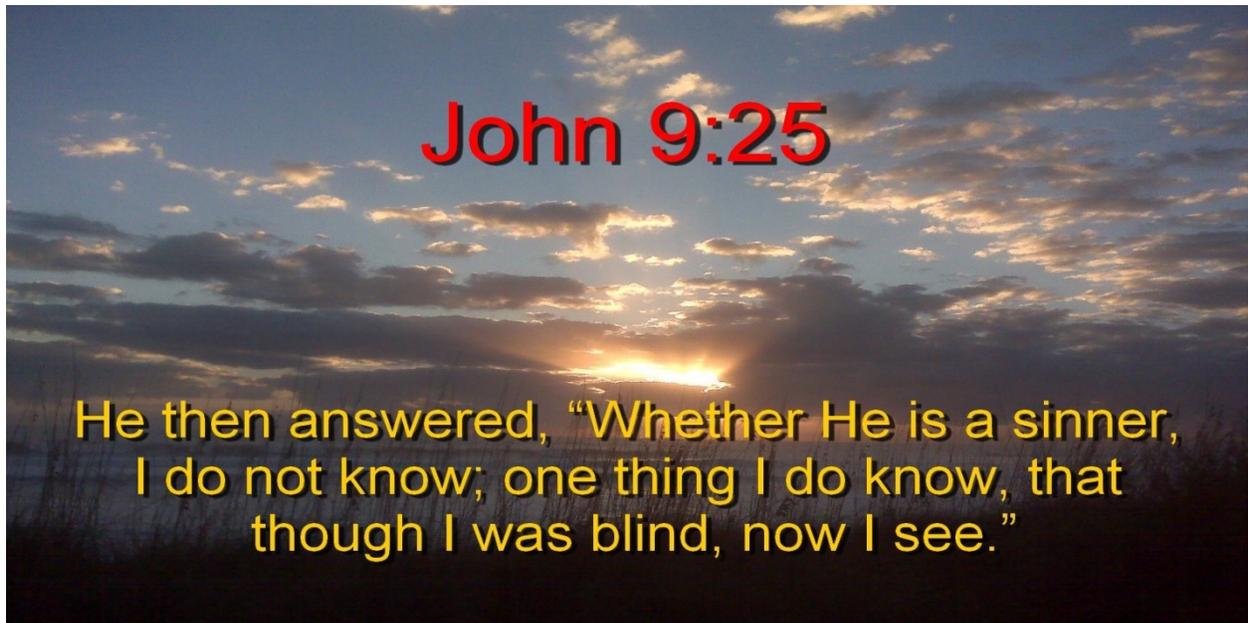
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by giving glory to God through testimony about the great things He has done for us. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by giving glory to God?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Four Hundred Seven

A Sinner Today



What was the one thing that Man Born Blind knew? He knew that though he was blind, he now saw.

The Pharisees could not hide the one fact everyone could see. Man Born Blind could now see and Jesus had performed a great miracle. The spiritual blindness of the Pharisees remained long after Man Born Blind regained his sight.

Only Jesus can remove spiritual blindness. He opens the eyes of every person who calls upon Him in faith. The Pharisees were unable to see that Jesus was truly the Son of God.

Man Born Blind testified that he did not know if Jesus was a sinner. He contradicted the Pharisees who said Jesus was a sinner. Man Born Blind also testified very clearly that he was living proof to the power of Jesus to heal people born blind.

One Thing

1. **Perfect.** Man Born Blind continued his perfect, truthful testimony about Jesus.

2. **Testified.** Man Born Blind testified he did not know if Jesus was a sinner.

3. **Contradicted.** Notice that Man Born Blind contradicted the assertion of the Jews questioning him that Jesus was a sinner.

4. **Focused.** Man Born Blind then focused his testimony on one thing: he knows he was blind, but now sees.

5. **Reaffirmed.** Man Born Blind contradicted the Jews and reaffirmed his testimony that he was blind, but now sees. He implies a miracle happened.

6. **Opportunities.** Living Godly in the family of God means that God provides opportunities for believers to give perfect testimony about Jesus and His loving works.

7. **Faith.** We rejoice today because Jesus helps people today in many ways. One thing we know: we were spiritually blind, but Jesus made us see by faith alone.

Summary for Today

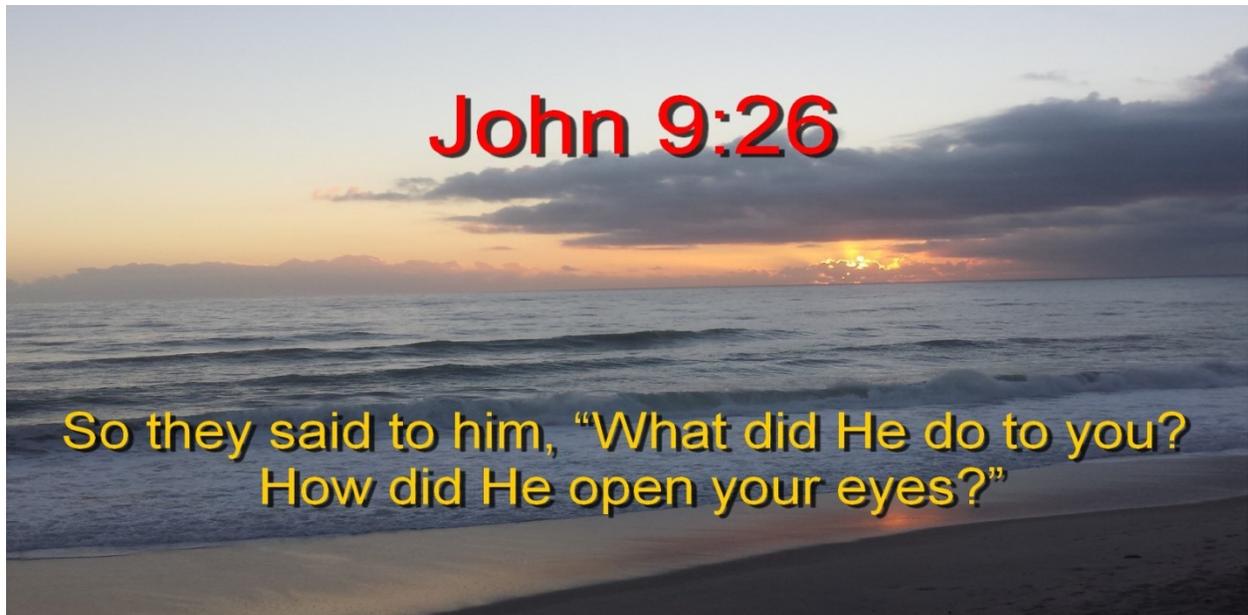
- **We live Godly in the family of God by telling the truth about what Jesus has done for us.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God by testifying of the one thing we all know—we were blind, but now we see.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God by sharing our personal testimony of how Jesus gave us spiritual sight for the first time.**

Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by letting people know that once we were blind, but now we see. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by letting people know that Jesus gave you sight for the first time?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Four Hundred Eight To You Today



Why were the Pharisees asking questions about what Jesus did and how he did it to Man Born Blind? The Pharisees wanted to discredit Jesus and sought further facts to use against Jesus.

The Pharisees asked two open-ended questions. First, they asked what did Jesus do. Second, they asked how did Jesus open your eyes.

The Pharisees were seeking grounds to impeach the testimony of Man Born Blind. They wanted to put him out of the synagogue because he was living proof that Jesus was the Christ. Man Born Blind gave indisputable testimony that Jesus was God in the flesh, working the works of God in men.

Man Born Blind knew what Jesus did and how He did it. He had already told the Pharisees the answers to their questions.

Open Your Eyes

1. **They**. The Pharisees continued their second round of questioning Man Born Blind.

2. **What**. The Pharisees wanted to know what Jesus did to Man Born Blind so that he saw.

3. **He**. The Pharisees claimed that Jesus was a sinner, but they stumbled over Man Born Blind because he kept testifying that he now saw because of what Jesus did. Man Born Blind did not see Jesus, but he understood that the Pharisees opposed Jesus.

4. **Do**. Jesus had done something to Man Born Blind and many people knew about the miracle. More people were going to see and hear from Man Born Blind. He told people about how he gained his sight.

5. **How**. The Pharisees also asked Man Born Blind how Jesus opened his eyes. Notice that their question includes the implicit recognition that Jesus had truly worked a miracle.

6. **Open**. Living Godly in the family of God means that Jesus worked the works God in Man Born Blind. Jesus opened the eyes of Man Born Blind by making clay, anointing his eyes, and sending him to the pool of Siloam to wash.

7. **Eyes**. We rejoice today because Jesus not only opened the eyes of Man Born Blind, but He also opened the spiritual eyes of every one of His children.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by patiently listening to the questions unbelievers ask us about Jesus.**

- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we use those questions to testify about Jesus and His great works in our lives.**

- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God by giving the glory to God by relating what Jesus has done for us.**

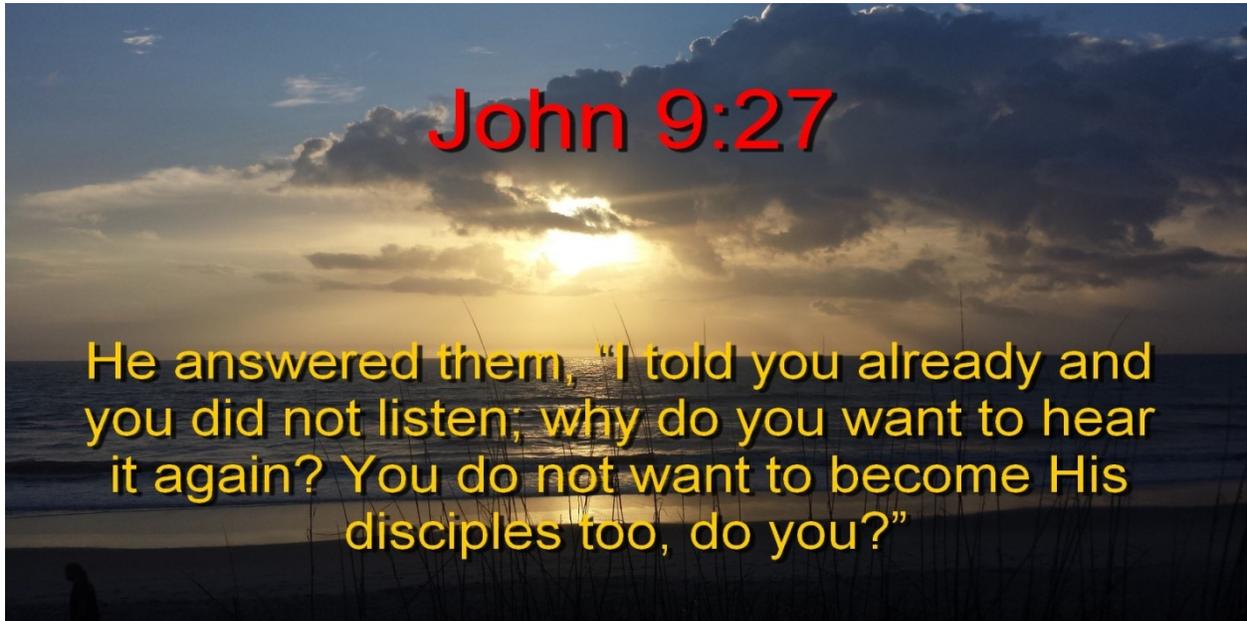
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by understanding that we are all trophies of God's grace and love in our lives. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by answering questions about Jesus so that He receives all the glory?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Four Hundred Nine

Told Already Today



Why did Man Born Blind ask the Pharisees if they wanted to become the disciples of Jesus too? Man Born Blind cleverly turned the questions of the Pharisees back upon them.

They were so eager to hear about how Jesus helped Man Born Blind that they did not recognize that they were also drawing attention to the power of Jesus to heal people. They wanted to discredit Jesus and silence His disciples.

Man Born Blind had become a disciple of Jesus. Man Born Blind asked they too wanted to become disciples of Jesus. That word "too" implies that Man Born Blind had already become a disciple of Jesus.

Man Born Blind also reminded the Pharisees that he had already told them about all of these things. He was not going to recant his testimony.

Disciples Too

1. **Challenged.** Man Born Blind boldly challenged the Jews interrogating him.
2. **Seized.** Man Born Blind pointed out that he had already answered their question. He seized the opportunity to ask his own question to them.
3. **Why?** Man Born Blind asked them why do they want to hear his answer again.
4. **Turned.** Man Born Blind had turned the tables on the Jews questioning him.
5. **Conclusion.** Man Born Blind pressed the issue to conclusion: did they want to become disciples of Jesus?
6. **Ask.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we ask our own questions of people asking us questions about Jesus.
7. **Answers.** We rejoice today because while we may ask questions, Jesus always has the perfect answers.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by expecting that Jesus will help us give perfect responses to questions about Him.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God by asking questions to people who question us.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we all learn from Jesus how to talk with unbelievers.**

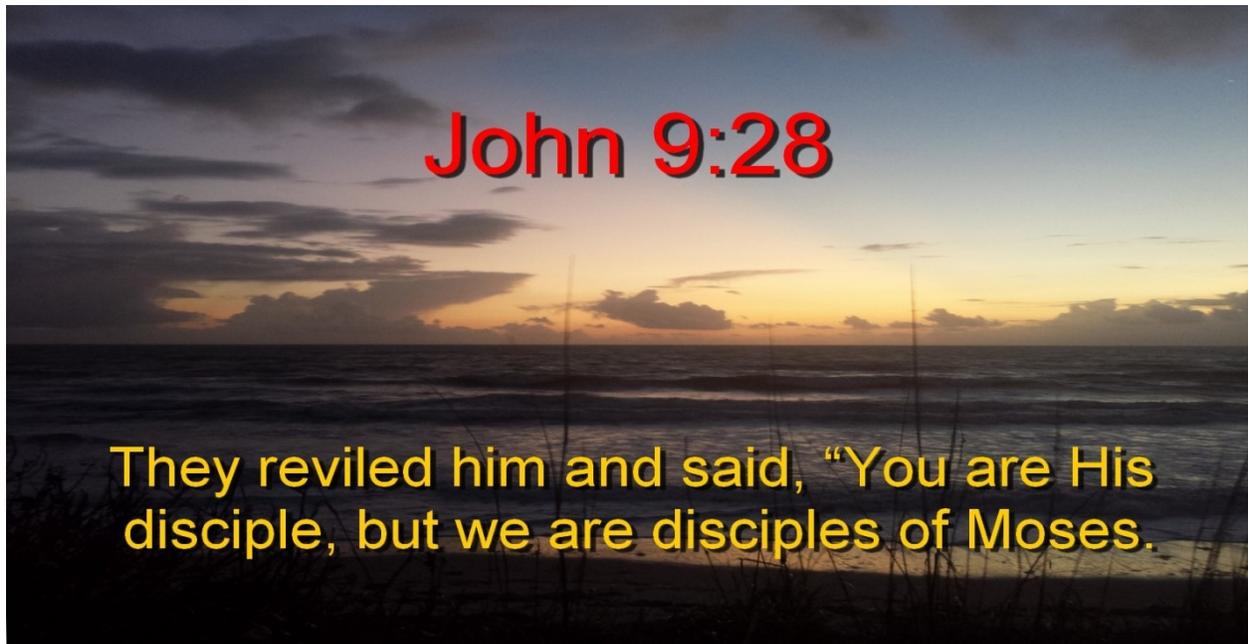
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by asking the right questions at the right time. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by asking powerful questions at just the right time?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Four Hundred Ten

Reviled Him Today



Why did the Pharisees revile Man Born Blind? The Pharisees reviled Man Born Blind because they were very displeased with his answers to their questions.

The Pharisees recognized that Man Born Blind had become the disciple of Jesus, without ever seeing Him. Man Born Blind knew Jesus by the works of God Jesus performed in him.

The Pharisees claimed they were the disciples of Moses. They did not do the deeds of Moses nor followed the Law given through Moses. They thought they were serving God, but instead they were serving their father, the devil. Unbelievers often claim to follow the Bible or Moses or Abraham or some other figure. Yet, they never knew God because if they had known God, then they would have known Jesus, the Son of God.

His Disciple

1. **Disciple.** The Jews questioning Man Born Blind paid him a great compliment: they called him a disciple of Jesus.

2. **Reviled.** Before they unwittingly complemented Man Born Blind, they reviled him. With angry and insulting words, they attacked Man Born Blind.

3. **Moses.** The Jews declared themselves to be disciples of Moses. Despite their claim, they never understood Moses.

4. **Man.** Notice they did not claim they were disciples of God, but rather of the man, Moses.

5. **God.** When people condemn Jesus and His disciples, and claim they follow Moses or some other man, then you know they never knew God as Savior.

6. **Smile.** Living Godly in the family of God means that you should smile when people recognize you as a disciple of Jesus.

7. **Recognize.** We rejoice today when enemies of Christ recognize us as disciples of Jesus.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by rejoicing when people recognize us as disciples of Jesus.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God by living as a disciple of Jesus each day for all to see.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God by seeing each other as disciples of Jesus.**

Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by rejoicing when people call us a disciple of Jesus. Will you live Godly in the family of God today so that people will recognize you as a disciple of Jesus?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Four Hundred Eleven

We Know Today



What did the Pharisees claim to know about Moses? They claimed to know that God had spoken to Moses.

In contrast, the Pharisees claimed that they did not know where Jesus was from. You may recall that many people were saying that they knew Jesus was from Nazareth. Therefore, in their minds, Jesus could not be the Messiah or the prophet because when Messiah came, no one would know where He was from. So, when the Pharisees said they did not know where Jesus came from, they were admitting they were fulfilling prophecy unwittingly.

The Pharisees did not know where Jesus was from. They claimed Jesus was a sinner. Jesus claimed that He was from heaven, and God sent Him to work the works of God among men. The Pharisees at times claimed great ignorance about Jesus, but then, when it suited them, they claimed certainty about Jesus.

We Do Not Know

1. **Liars.** Liars frequently impale themselves upon the truth. In this case, the Jews acknowledged that God spoke to Moses.
2. **Admitted.** Far more significantly they admitted they did not know where Jesus was from.
3. **Where?** You may recall that some people had already said that when the Christ appears, no one knows where He is from.
4. **Truth.** Unwittingly, the Jews impaled themselves upon the truth that they did not know where Jesus was from, but they were sure He did not come from heaven.
5. **Refused.** The Jews refused to believe the witnesses and the evidence before them. Everyone agreed that Jesus healed Man Born Blind.
6. **Why.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we know where Jesus is from and why He came here. Jesus came to save us from the death penalty for sinning and to adopt us into the family of God.
7. **Help.** We rejoice today because Jesus came for us, because no one else could help us.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by understanding that the opponents of Jesus often say contradictory things.**

- **We live more Godly in the family of God by expecting that unbelievers will claim they know God and have some familiarity with the Bible, but they do not know God nor understand the Bible.**

- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God by glorifying God for opening our eyes so that we can understand the Bible.**

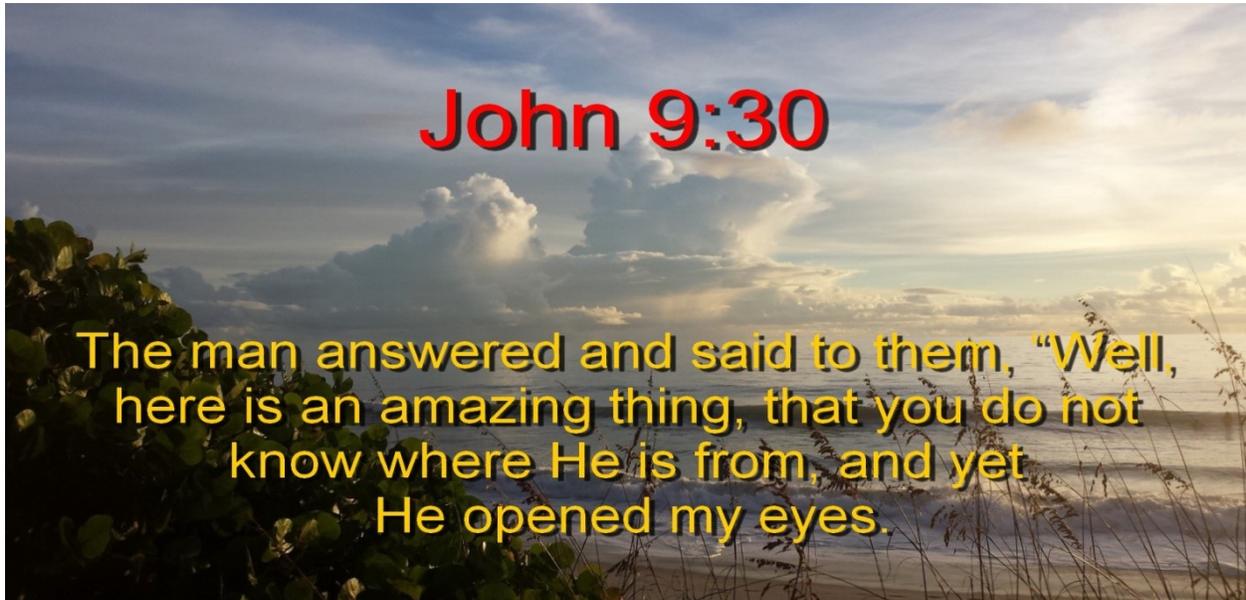
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by praising God that we understand the Bible. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by expecting that the opponents of Jesus will claim to follow the Bible, but they do not understand the Bible?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Four Hundred Twelve

Amazing Thing Today



What was the amazing thing? Man Born Blind mentioned an amazing thing in that they did not know where He is from, but He opened the eyes of Man Born Blind.

Man Born Blind offered a powerful answer to the Pharisees. He exposed the internal contradictions with the words of the Pharisees. On the one hand, they claimed that they did not know where Jesus was from. On the other hand, they understood that He opened the eyes of Man Born Blind. Obviously the Pharisees inadvertently admitted that they did not know that Jesus was from heaven, but Jesus had worked the works of God in Man Born Blind.

Man Born Blind exposed the Pharisees for being two-faced. They claimed ignorance on the one hand and blindness on the other hand. Man Born Blind saw for the first time, but the spiritual blindness of the Pharisees persisted.

Amazing Thing

1. **Interrogation.** The Jews continued their interrogation of Man Born Blind.
2. **Inconsistency.** Man Born Blind exposed the inconsistency in the Jews' thinking about Jesus.
3. **Admitted.** The Jews admitted that Jesus had performed a great miracle of healing Man Born Blind.
4. **Confirmed.** The Jews admitted that both Man Born Blind and his parents confirmed that he was born blind, but now he sees.
5. **Miracle.** Born Blind Mind rightly pinpointed how amazing it was that the Jews knew Jesus performed the miracle, but claimed to have no idea where He came from.
6. **Unbelievers.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we know unbelievers will amaze us with their confused ideas about Jesus.
7. **Confused.** We rejoice today because Jesus clears up confused thinking when He comes into our lives, because He is the way, the truth, and the life.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by understanding that people who oppose Jesus do so with lies, not truth.**

- **We live more Godly in the family of God because we know that Jesus really did many miracles, but faith alone saves us.**

- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God by enjoying the truth that Jesus healed many people because He had such great compassion for them.**

Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by expecting that unbelievers will linger in blindness while believers see the truth. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by rejoicing in the truth of seeing Jesus?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Four Hundred Thirteen

Hear Sinners Today



What did the Pharisees know about sinners? The Pharisees knew that God does not hear sinners.

The Pharisees did not include themselves in that group of sinners. They thought that God heard them. They thought they were God-fearing. They were mistaken on all accounts. God did not hear them because they were sinners. They were not God-fearing and never knew God. They never did the will of God. God never heard them.

People like the Pharisees may know and read the Bible. Yet, they never were born again and never knew God. People who are God-fearing and do the will of God, God hears them. The Pharisees did not see themselves as sinners, but as the guide to the blind. Yet, when Jesus healed Man Born Blind, He showed them that they were still blind because they did not believe Him and receive Him as Savior and Messiah.

God-Fearing

1. **Testimony.** Man Born Blind continued his testimony about Jesus.
2. **Theology.** Man Born Blind brought theology into his answer. God does not hear sinners. God does hear God-fearing people who do His will.
3. **Apply.** Man Born Blind knew God opened his eyes. He wanted the Jews to apply their own theology and realize Jesus was not a sinner.
4. **Ignorance.** The Jews already admitted that they did not know where Jesus was from. Man Born Blind called their ignorance amazing.
5. **Proved.** Man Born Blind proved that God heard Jesus and Jesus did the will of God.
6. **Hears.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we fear God, we do the will of God, and we know that He hears us.
7. **Loves.** We rejoice today because Jesus hears us and loves to help us. As eternal God, Jesus always keeps us in His love.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by recognizing that Jesus forgave us because He died for our sins.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we grasp that God hears us because Jesus brought us to His Father.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we believe that God hears us because Jesus brought us near to God.**

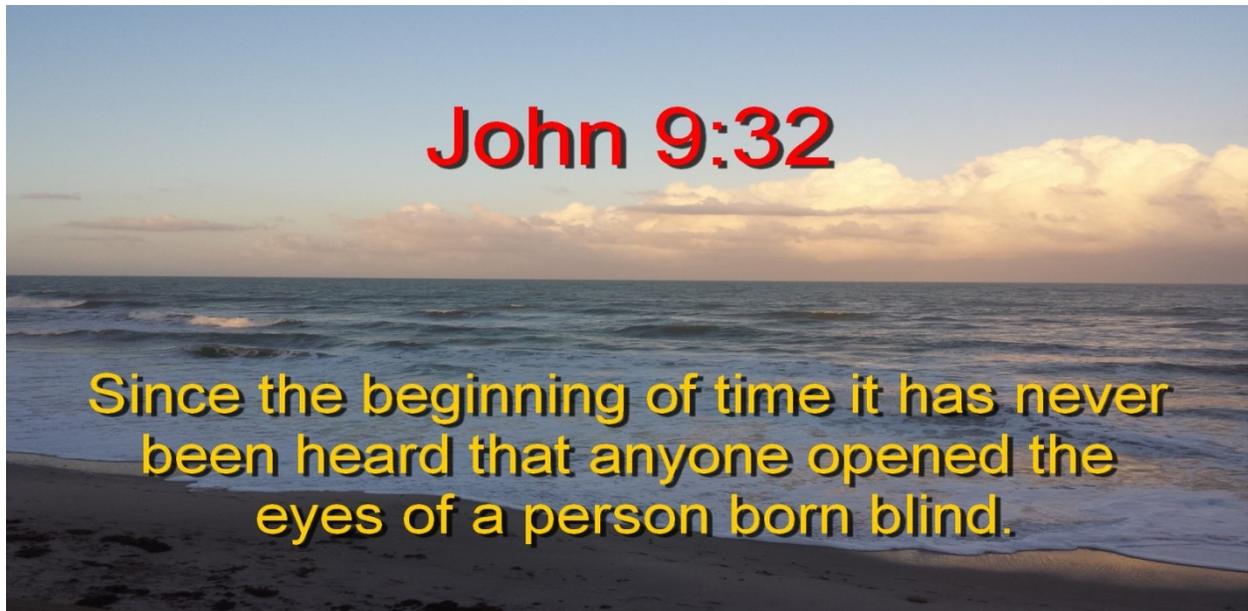
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by counting upon God to hear us because of Jesus. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by urging people to call upon God by faith in Jesus for salvation?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Four Hundred Fourteen

Beginning of Time Today



Has anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind? No, since the beginning of time no one has heard about a man born blind receiving his sight.

When Jesus gave sight as a free gift to Man Born Blind, people noticed that no one, from the beginning of time, had opened the eyes of a person born blind. Jesus performed a unique miracle. People noticed that Man Born Blind was now seeing. They had not seen anything like that before.

Man Born Blind, the Woman at the Well, and Pallet Man all stand out as great examples of faith in Jesus. Just one person touched by the power of Jesus can have such effects for good upon many people as they share their personal testimony with many other people.

Never Been Heard

1. **Critique.** Man Born Blind continued his critique of the Jews' attitude toward Jesus.
2. **Corroborated.** Man Born Blind had established he had been born blind, and multiple witnesses corroborated his testimony.
3. **Testified.** Man Born Blind also testified that Jesus opened his eyes.
4. **Amazed.** The Jews did not know where Jesus was from, amazing Man Born Blind.
5. **Miracle.** Man Born Blind emphasized that Jesus worked a miracle, and a powerful miracle never done before.
6. **Powerful.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we know Jesus works powerful, unique miracles.
7. **Salvation.** We rejoice today because Jesus does things for us which no one else can do, especially in saving us by faith alone.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by listening to people share their personal testimonies about the great things Jesus did for them.**

- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we understand that one person can have a great spiritual effect upon many people as they testify to the works of Jesus.**

- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we share our accounts of what Jesus has done for us to encourage one another.**

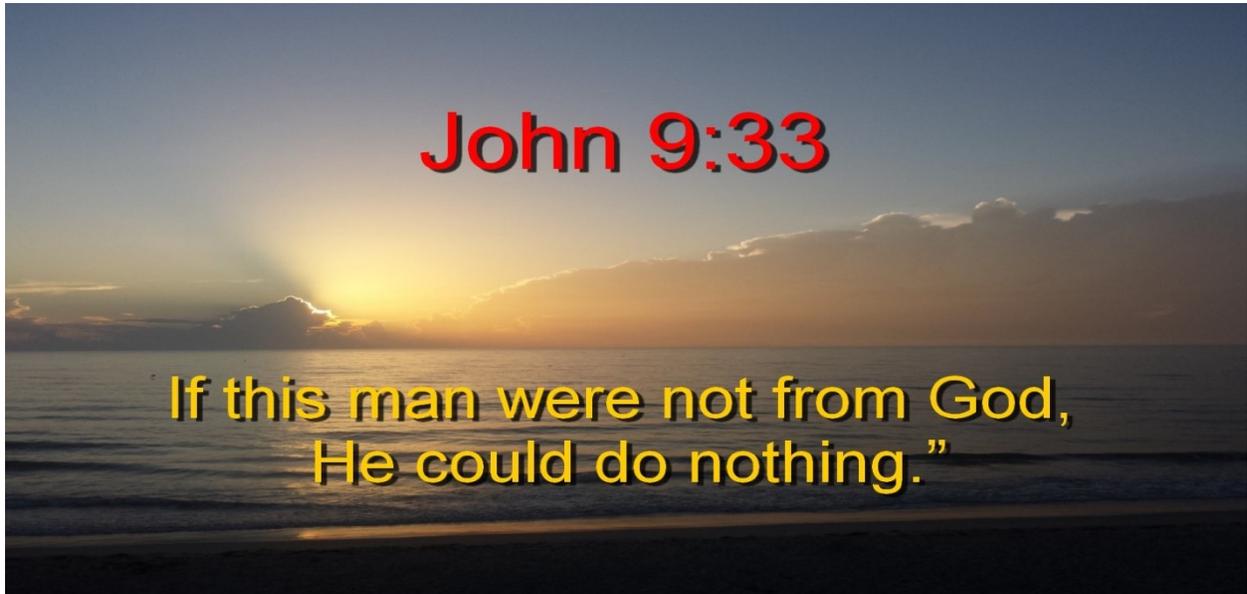
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by telling people about the things Jesus did which had never been done before. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by sharing with people that Jesus does things that have never happened since the beginning of time?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Four Hundred Fifteen

Not from God Today



Was Jesus from God? Man Born Blind testified that Jesus could not do anything unless He was from God.

Man Born Blind saw the truth. Jesus opened not only his physical eyes, but also his spiritual eyes. Man Born Blind testified to the truth that Jesus had opened his eyes because Jesus was from God.

Man Born Blind struck right to the heart of the Pharisees. They opposed Jesus and did not believe He was from God. When confronted with living proof that Jesus gave sight to Man Born Blind, they still refused to believe that God was with Jesus. They also refused to believe that the miracles of Jesus showed that God sent Jesus to do the works of God the Father.

Do Nothing

1. **Response.** Man Born Blind gave a powerful response to the Jews interrogating him.

2. **Miracle.** He testified that Jesus opened his eyes, and such a miracle had never been heard of before.

3. **Concluded.** Man Born Blind concluded his testimony with a piercing statement: if Jesus was not from God, He could do nothing.

4. **Professed.** The Jews had already declared they did not know where Jesus was from, amazing Man Born Blind with their professed ignorance.

5. **Proved.** Man Born Blind boldly testified to the power of Jesus, and proved Jesus was from God, doing the works of God.

6. **Boldly.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we must testify boldly with the power of God about Jesus our Savior and the great things He does in our lives.

7. **Sent.** We rejoice today because Jesus did all things well--He could do nothing if He was not sent by God the Father.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by recognizing that Jesus could not do the works He did except that God was with Him.**

- **We live more Godly in the family of God by understanding that Jesus worked the works of God because God sent Him to do those works.**

- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God by praising God for the works of Jesus which demonstrated that God had sent Him.**

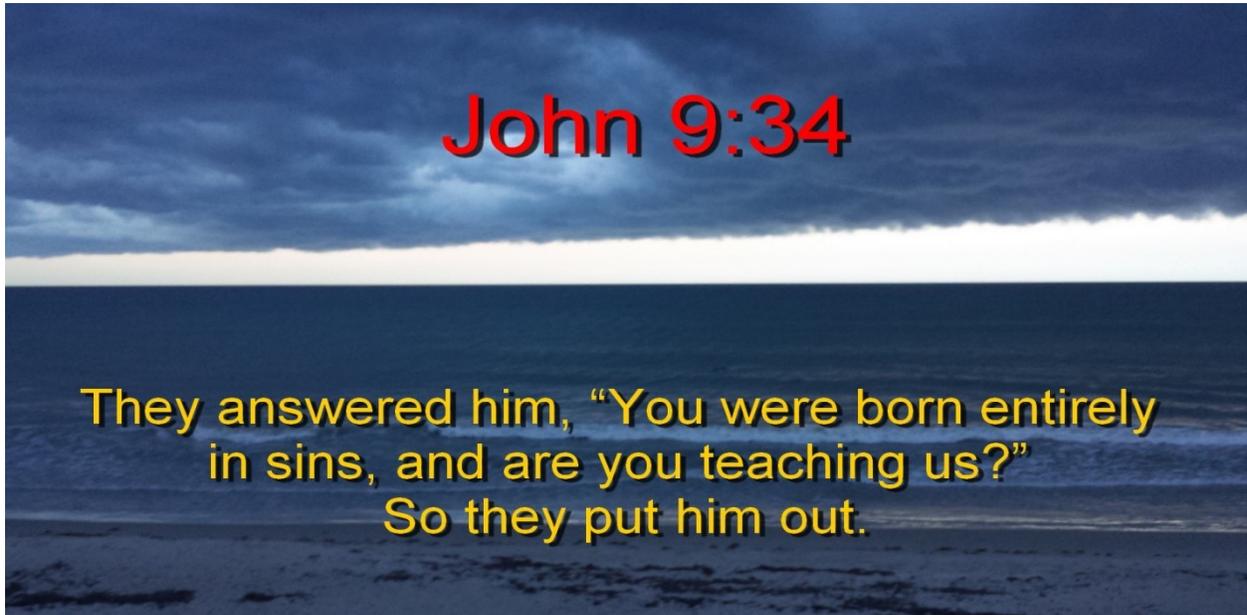
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by worshiping Jesus because He could do nothing except God was with Him. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by loving Jesus more, because we know Jesus was God and God was with Him?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Four Hundred Sixteen

In Sins Today



Why did the Pharisees ask Man Born Blind if he was teaching them? The Pharisees asked Man Born Blind if he was teaching them because he told them about Jesus and His great power. He also pointed out to the Pharisees that they did not know where Jesus was from, but He certainly gave sight to Man Born Blind and everyone saw it.

Man Born Blind not only gave clear testimony, but his words aroused the opposition of the Pharisees. They tried to debase Man Born Blind by saying he was born entirely in sins because he was born blind. They did not know that Jesus had explained that he was born blind so that the works of God may be done in him.

Man Born Blind stands a strong sign to the Pharisees all other people that Jesus worked the works of God. Jesus also proved He came from God the Father in heaven. Jesus brought light and sight to the blind. The blindness of the Pharisees remained.

Teaching Us

1. **Born**. The Pharisees concluded that Man Born Blind was born in sin because he was blind. Yet, Jesus explained that sin did not cause the blindness. Instead, God would work His works in Man Born Blind.

2. **Entirely**. The Pharisees also described Man Born Blind as born entirely in sins. When people jump to theological conclusions, they look very silly when God explains the actual truth.

3. **Sins**. The Pharisees concluded that all blindness results from sin. Jesus will show them how wrong they were. Not all sickness comes from sin.

4. **Teaching**. The Pharisees also asked Man Born Blind if he was teaching them. They did not mean it as a compliment.

5. **Us**. The Pharisees always had an us and them mentality. In their minds, they were holy and pure and everyone else were sinners. Jesus will show them that they are blind sinners without God in the world.

6. **Put**. The Pharisees put Man Born Blind out. They heard him credit Jesus with the great healing. They could not stand for Jesus to receive the credit and they sought to silence Man Born Blind.

7. **Out**. The Pharisees put Man Born Blind out of the synagogue. The synagogue was important for doing business and being accepted. Man Born Blind previously depended upon other people to do things requiring sight. Now the blind had put the seeing man out of the synagogue.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by expecting that unbelievers will call us sinners.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God by recognizing that not all physical problems result from sin.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God by praising God that He works His works in our physical bodies and in our spirits.**

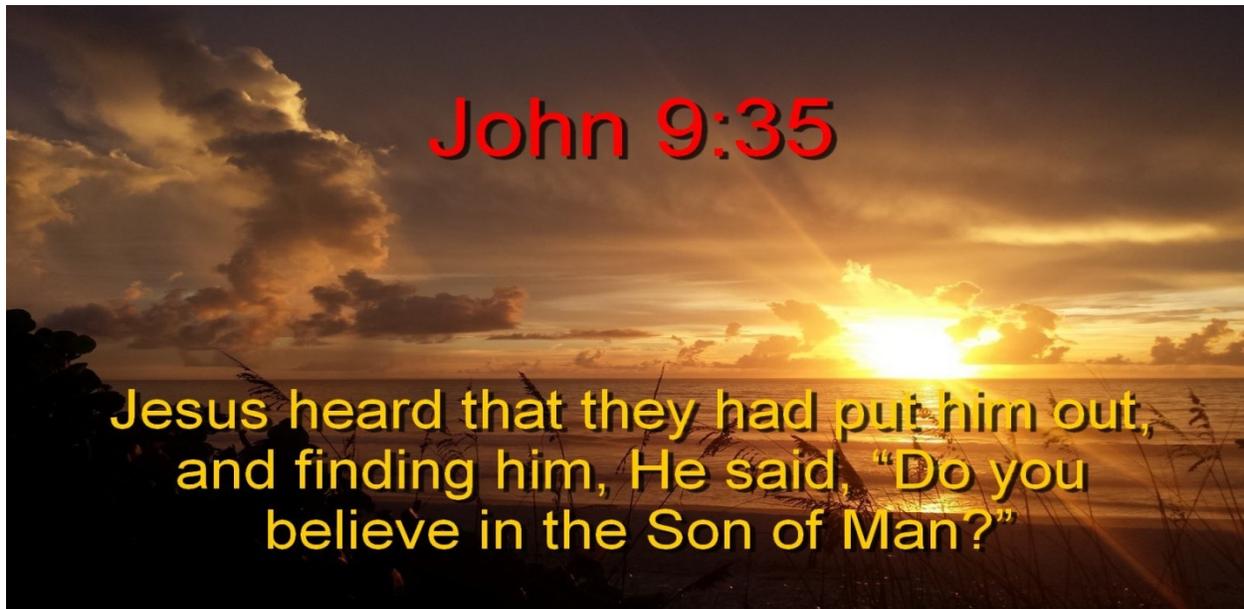
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by not ascribing all physical problems to sin. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by watching Jesus do great works today?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Four Hundred Seventeen

Jesus Heard Today



What did Jesus hear about Man Born Blind? Jesus heard that the Jews had put him out of the synagogue.

Man Born Blind gained his sight and was put out of the synagogue. He would no longer be joined to his family and friends in the synagogue. He would be looked down upon by other people in the synagogue.

In the eyes of Jesus Man Born Blind would always be a man that God chose to do His works in Him. When God came into the life of Man Born Blind, the Pharisees put him out of the synagogue.

The synagogue remained a place of darkness, because they did not accept Jesus as Savior. The Jews had some divisions among them about Jesus, but even so Man Born Blind was put out. Jesus found Man Born Blind and asked him about His faith in the Son of Man. Jesus always finds His own.

Put Him Out

1. **Eyes.** Man Born Blind testified about how Jesus opened his eyes.
2. **Opened.** He testified that no one had ever opened the eyes of a person born blind.
3. **From God.** He also testified that if Jesus were not from God, Jesus could do nothing.
4. **Sin.** The Jews answered that Man Born Blind was born entirely in sins. They fell for the same false teaching plaguing the disciples in linking all sickness with sin.
5. **Teaching.** The Jews then asked if Man Born Blind was teaching them. Then they put him out of the synagogue because of his testimony and teaching about Jesus.
6. **Unbelievers.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we know that our testimony about Jesus will inflame unbelievers and they will reject us as they rejected Him.
7. **Loving.** We rejoice today because Jesus has opened our eyes so that we gaze at Jesus as He looks at us with His loving eyes.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by counting upon Jesus to find us always.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God knowing that as people put us out, Jesus takes us in.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God by welcoming people into our fellowship who have been put out of other places because of their saving faith in Jesus.**

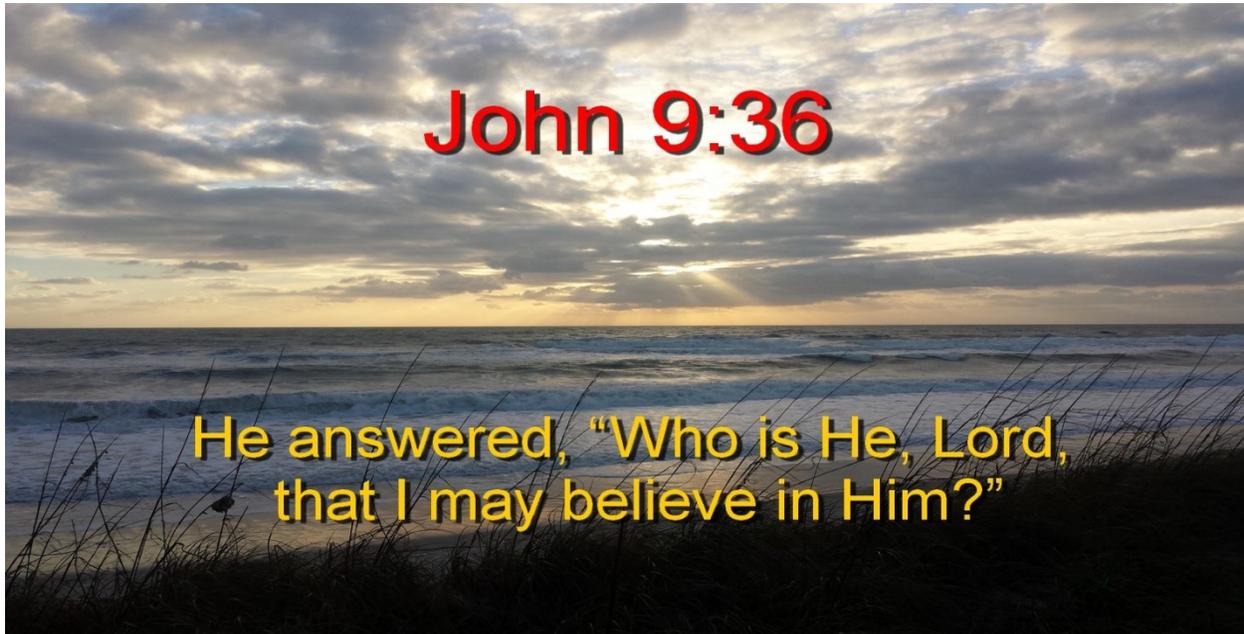
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by taking in people who have been put out because of their testimony for Jesus. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by welcoming persecuted people?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Four Hundred Eighteen

Who Is He Today



What did Man Born Blind ask Jesus? Man Born Blind asked Jesus who is the Son of Man.

Man Born Blind wanted to believe in the Son of Man. He had not seen the Son of Man, but now Jesus had explained to him that the Son of Man had given him sight.

Jesus often spoke of Himself as the Son of Man. This title from the Old Testament identified Jesus as the Messiah and Savior. By using the Son of Man title, Jesus also identified Himself as the ruler of the eternal kingdom given to Him by the Ancient of Days.

Jesus worked the works of God in Man Born Blind. In turn, Man Born Blind wanted to believe in the Son of Man who had given him sight. He knew that the Pharisees did not give him sight. They put him out of the synagogue because of his truthful testimony about Jesus.

Believe in Him

1. **Found.** Jesus found Man Born Blind after the Jews put him out of the synagogue after he testified how Jesus opened his eyes.

2. **Title.** Jesus asked Man Born Blind if he believed in the Son of Man. Jesus used that Messianic title from the Old Testament.

3. **Son of Man.** Man Born Blind asked Jesus Who was the Son of Man, so that Man Born Blind would believe in Him.

4. **Lord.** Notice that Man Born Blind addressed Jesus as Lord, a title of respect.

5. **Savior.** Jesus always wanted people to believe He was the Savior, not just a healer.

6. **Grateful.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we should be very grateful that Jesus not only heals sinners, but He also saves sinners, like us, from eternal punishment.

7. **Saves.** We rejoice today because Jesus finds people cast out by religious leaders and saves them from the eternal death penalty.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by believing in the Son of Man.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we worship the Son of Man for His great works.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God by enjoying the great compassion of the Son of Man in our lives every day.**

Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by watching the Son of Man pour out His love in our lives today. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by believing in the Son of Man?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Four Hundred Nineteen

Seen Him Today



How did Jesus identify Himself as the Son of Man? Jesus told Man Born Blind that he had seen the Son of Man and that the Son of Man was speaking with him.

Jesus declared that He was the Son of Man to Man Born Blind. As the Son of Man, Jesus was both fully God and fully man. The Gospel of John provides special insight to Jesus as God in the flesh. We see His glory in the Gospel of John.

Jesus spent special time with Nicodemus, the Woman at the Well, Pallet Man, and Man Born Blind. Jesus also spent time training His disciples. Jesus showed that the Son of Man had great compassion. He also spent time talking with people about Who He was and why He came.

Talking with You

1. **After.** Jesus found Man Born Blind after the Jews put him out of the synagogue.

2. **Invited.** Jesus first asked him if he believed in the Son of Man. Jesus invited Man Born Blind to believe He is the Son of Man and the Savior of the world.

3. **Intention.** Jesus never healed people one day with the intention that they go to hell later.

4. **Help.** The compassion of Jesus moved Him to help many people and entire crowds.

5. **Compassion.** Jesus felt compassion upon Man Born Blind and healed him, but Jesus also demonstrated His compassion by finding Man Born Blind after he was put out of the synagogue and offering him salvation by faith alone.

6. **Find.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we count upon Jesus to always be with us and to find other people in need of healing and salvation.

7. **Brings.** We rejoice today because Jesus always brings His compassion into every area of our lives.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by learning from the Son of Man.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God by spending time listening to the Son of Man.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God by worshiping the Son of Man for His goodness to us.**

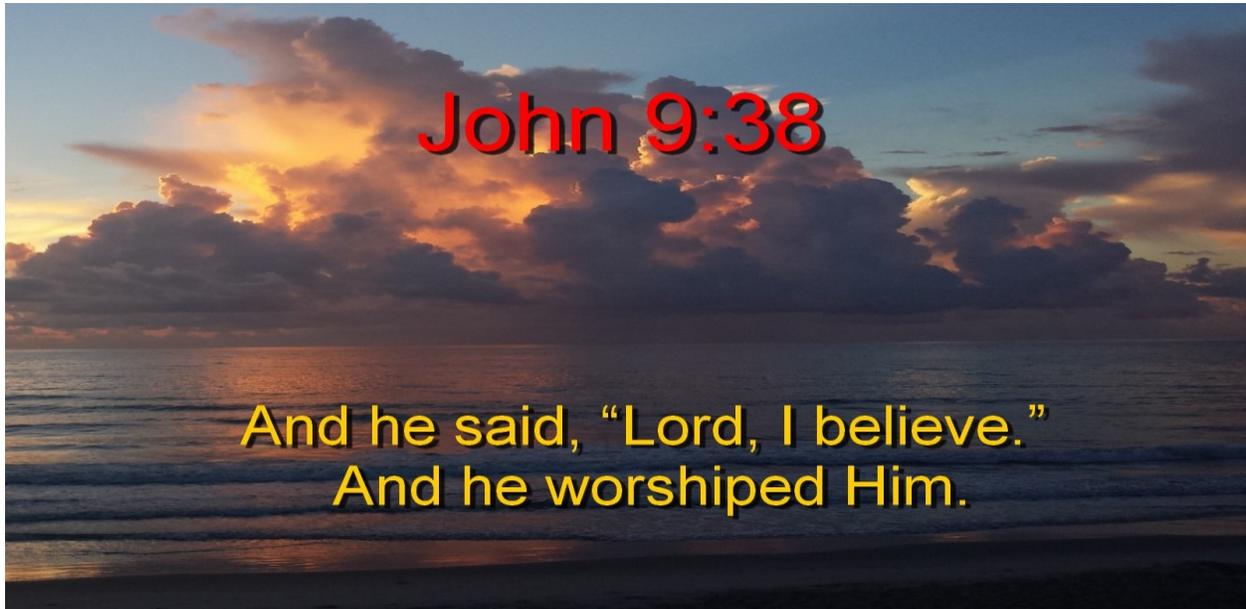
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by talking with the Son of Man. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by learning from the Son of Man how to spend time talking with people?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Four Hundred Twenty

I Believe Today



Why did Man Born Blind worship Jesus? Because Man Born Blind believed that Jesus was the Son of Man, sent from God.

Man Born Blind worshiped Jesus. He believed that Jesus was truly God in the flesh. As the Son of Man, Jesus had great compassion upon Man Born Blind. Jesus also worked the works of God in Man Born Blind.

The worship of Man Born Blind followed his faith. Worship pours forth from grateful hearts. Man Born Blind saw for the first time in his entire life.

Man Born Blind demonstrates that Jesus did great works, but the religious leaders not only rejected Jesus, but they also rejected people Jesus healed.

He Worshiped

1. **Faith.** Jesus found Man Born Blind and asked him about faith.
2. **Believed.** Man Born Blind responded and said, "Lord, I believe." Man Born Blind believed that Jesus was the Messiah, Savior of the world.
3. **Found.** Jesus found Man Born Blind to bring Him to saving faith.
4. **Open Heart.** Jesus not only wanted to open his physical eyes, but also his heart to receive Him as Savior.
5. **Worship.** Man Born Blind worshiped Jesus. Jesus accepted that worship because He was God.
6. **God.** Living Godly in the family of God of God means that we have saving faith in Jesus and worship Jesus.
7. **Safe.** We rejoice today because Jesus loves us, found us and keeps us always safe in Him.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by trusting Jesus to open our eyes and accept our worship.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God by believing in Jesus and worshiping Him for the great works He does in our lives.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God because we all have felt the loving power of Jesus in our lives and He deserves our worship in spirit and in truth.**

Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by worshiping Jesus for the great things He does in our lives. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by worshiping Jesus because you believe in Him?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Four Hundred Twenty One

For Judgment Today



Why did Jesus come into the world? Jesus came into the world so that those who do not see may see, and that those who see may become blind.

Many people think that you should not judge. Jesus said we should not judge, lest we also would be judged. As Jesus developed that doctrine of judgment, He also spoke about other judgments.

Jesus did not come to judge the world, but people who do not believe in the Son of Man have been judged already. Jesus also spoke about future judgment. God the Father delivered all judgment to Jesus, so that people would honor Jesus as they honor God the Father.

May See

1. **Judgment.** Jesus came into the world for judgment. He meant a specific kind of judgment.

2. **Expose.** Jesus meant He came to heal blindness and expose blindness.

3. **Opened.** Jesus opened the eyes of Man Born Blind and gave him eternal life.

4. **Leaders.** The religious leaders claimed Man Born Blind was a disciple of Jesus and put him out of the synagogue for that confession.

5. **Blind.** Jesus exposed the religious leaders as blind men because they could not see that Jesus was the Messiah, God in the flesh.

6. **See.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we were blind and Jesus opened our eyes to see Him as our Savior.

7. **Savior.** We rejoice today because Jesus loves to expose spiritual blindness. He offers to open the eyes of the blind so that they can see Jesus as Savior.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by remembering that Jesus came into the world for judgment.**

- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we understand that some people who say they see are completely blind spiritually.**

- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God by worshiping Jesus for opening our eyes so that we are no longer blind, but now see.**

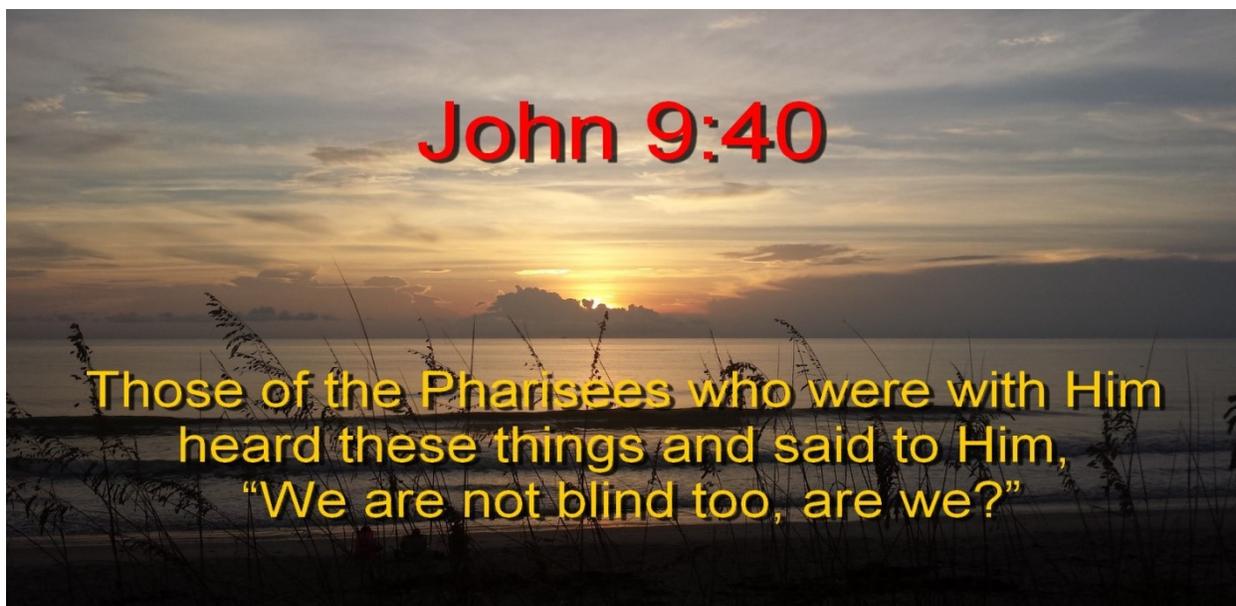
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by seeing Jesus with spiritual eyes He gave to us. Will you live Godly in the family of God today and see the blind people around you?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Four Hundred Twenty Two

Heard These Things Today



What did the Pharisees ask Jesus about blindness? The Pharisees asked Jesus if they were blind too. They expected no as the answer.

Some of the Pharisees were with Jesus. They did not think of themselves as sinners. They also did not see themselves as blind.

Jesus came for judgment. He meant that people like the Pharisees who think they see continue in their blindness. They are blind because they do not see Jesus with open spiritual eyes. They have the worst kind of blindness. They are blind to seeing Jesus as the Son of God, sent from heaven to do the works of God.

The Pharisees had some idea that Jesus was calling them blind. He came to judge their blindness. They had seen Jesus heal and heard Him teach. People were amazed at both His signs and His words.

Blind Too?

1. **Explained.** Jesus explained that He came for judgment. Those who do not see may see and those who see may become blind.

2. **Spiritual.** Having heard those words from Jesus, the Pharisees understood that Jesus spoke to them about spiritual blindness.

3. **Blind?** They asked Jesus, "We are not blind too, are we?" They expected Jesus to say they were not blind.

4. **Pharisees.** Jesus opened the eyes of Man Born Blind and the Pharisees standing before Jesus put Man Born Blind out of the synagogue.

5. **Rejected.** The Pharisees also knew that Jesus opened the eyes of Man Born Blind and saw Jesus standing before them. The Pharisees were blind. They claimed to see, but rejected Jesus and His miracles and His salvation.

6. **Opens.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we know many blind people think they see, until Jesus opens their eyes. Then they know they were blind before Jesus saved them.

7. **Worship.** We rejoice today because we were once blind, but now we see because Jesus opened our eyes. We see Jesus and worship Him.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by expecting that blind people will ask us if they see.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we understand that spiritual blindness is the worst kind of blindness.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God by rejoicing that Jesus opened our eyes at the moment of salvation and we see Him as Savior.**

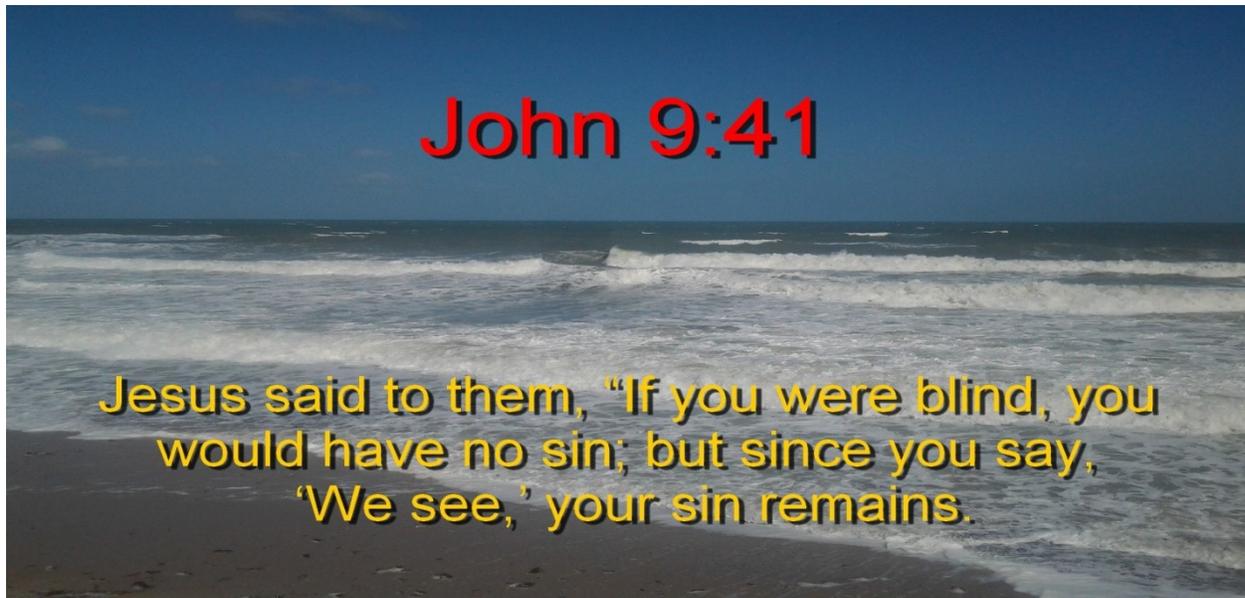
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by talking to blind people about gaining their sight for the first time in their lives. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by offering the free gift of spiritual sight to blind people?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Four Hundred Twenty Three

No Sin Today



How do you know if someone is blind? They say that they see.

Jesus meant that the Pharisees were still blind because they said that they see. They did not think of themselves as sinners. Jesus called them blind.

Jesus also implied that part of seeing means that you become aware of your spiritual blindness. Just as the Pharisees did not acknowledge their own blindness, so also Jesus explained that they remained blind.

Jesus taught that some blind people think they see. They even think that they have always seen just fine. Jesus meant that people like the Pharisees who denied Him as Savior were in fact blind. That blindness meant that they were still in their sins, because they rejected Jesus. Only Jesus can take away spiritual blindness. Only Jesus can take away sin.

Your Sin Remains

1. **Pharisees.** The Pharisees asked Jesus if they were blind.
2. **Sin.** Jesus answered by quoting them: "We see." Because the Pharisees rejected Jesus, His miracles and His salvation, Jesus told them that their sin remains.
3. **Words.** Those words from Jesus, "Your sin remains," should greatly disturb every Pharisee.
4. **Judged.** Jesus showed that the Pharisees had been judged already, because they had not believed in the name of the Son of God.
5. **Recognition.** Salvation starts with the recognition of sin. Only when you know that you are blind and sick will you need and accept Jesus, Physician and Savior.
6. **Cross.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we were blind and Jesus healed us. Our sin does not remain, because Jesus took it away on the cross.
7. **See.** We rejoice today because Jesus opened our eyes; yet, many religious people around us proclaim that they see, when in fact they are blind and their sin remains. We love Jesus for taking our sins away.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by learning that some blind people think they see.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God by explaining to blind people that only Jesus can help them see.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God by worshiping Jesus because we were all blind until Jesus gave us sight and eternal life in Him.**

Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by understanding spiritual blindness. Will you live Godly in the family of God today and thank God that you see only because of Jesus?

HALLELUJAH!

3

Learning about Godliness and the Good Shepherd Today

As Jesus explained to the Pharisees that they were still blind and their sin remained, Jesus declared that He was the Good Shepherd. He stated that the sheep do not hear the voice of strangers. The sheep hear the voice of the Good Shepherd and follow Him, and He calls them by name. A stranger the sheep will not follow, but will flee from him, because they do not know his voice.

Jesus then declared that He was the door to the sheep. He charged that all who came before Him were thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not hear them. Jesus said He is the door. Everyone who enters through Him will be saved and will go in and out and find pasture. The thief only comes to kill and destroy. Jesus came that they might have life and have it abundantly.

Jesus proclaimed that He is the Good Shepherd. He lays down His soul for the sheep. In contrast, the hired hand flees from the wolf. The Father loves Jesus because He lays down His soul for the sheep so that He may take it again. He lays it down on His own initiative; no one takes it from Him.

The Jews divided over the words of Jesus. He repeatedly told them plainly that He was the Messiah, but they did not believe Him. He also told them they cannot hear His voice because they are not of His sheep. No one is able to snatch the sheep out of His hand or the Father's hand. He said that He and His Father are One.

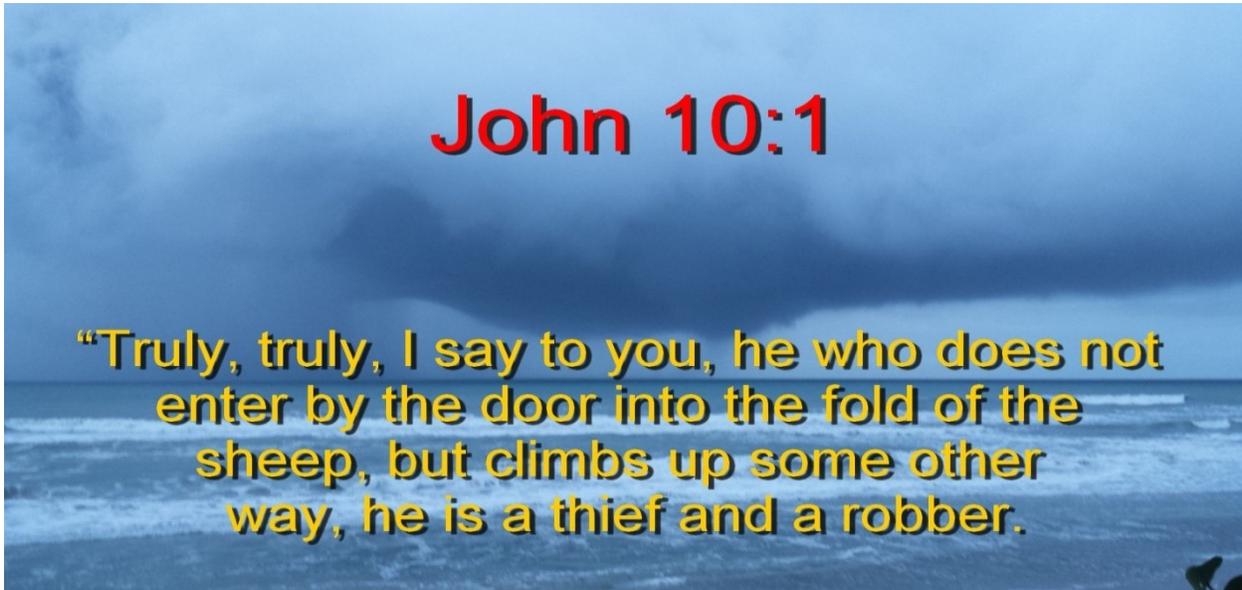
The Jews picked up stones to stone Him. They charged that He, being a man, made Himself out to be God. Then Jesus quoted Psalm 82 to them

and showed that Elohim called some men Elohim and so they should drop their stones. Jesus declared that His Father sanctified Him and sent Him into the world. Jesus showed that He was God in the flesh, and they were wrong to think that you were either God or man, but not both. Jesus was the God-Man, fully God and fully man at the same time. Jesus eluded their grasp and went away to the place where John was first baptizing.

HALLELUJAH !

Day Four Hundred Twenty Four

The Fold Today



Who climbs up some other way into the sheepfold? The thief and the robber do not enter by the door of the fold.

Jesus had been talking with the Pharisees about spiritual blindness. Jesus then used a new symbol to describe Himself and the Pharisees. He described sheep and a sheepfold.

Jesus explained that everyone who does not enter the sheepfold through its door is a thief and a robber. Jesus meant that the Pharisees were robbers and thieves because they did not enter the sheepfold through its door. Only Jesus entered through the door to the sheepfold.

Jesus meant that the Pharisees were not only blind, but they were dangers to the sheep. They were spiritual thieves and robbers. They took sheep away from the safety of the sheepfold.

Thief and Robber

1. **Pharisees.** Jesus continued talking to the Pharisees who put Man Born Blind out of the synagogue.

2. **Illustrated.** Jesus explained that the Pharisees remained in their sins and that they were actually thieves and robbers.

3. **Deceived.** Jesus began with the phrase "Truly, truly." He emphasized that the Pharisees should pay close attention because they had deceived themselves and opposed Jesus as Savior.

4. **Sheepfold.** Jesus pointed out that everyone who does not enter by the door into the sheepfold seeks evil. Jesus implied that the Pharisees climbed up some other way.

5. **Thieves and Robbers.** The sheep here are Born Blind Man and other sheep like him. The Pharisees were thieves and robbers, entering the sheepfold to do evil to the sheep.

6. **Protects.** Living Godly in the family of God means that Jesus protects us from thieves and robbers.

7. **Sheep.** We rejoice today because Jesus loves His sheep and laid down His life for the sheep (us).

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by understanding that some religious leaders are actually thieves and robbers.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God by letting the thieves and robbers know that they are blind and opposed to Jesus.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God by rejoicing that Jesus keeps us safely in the sheepfold.**

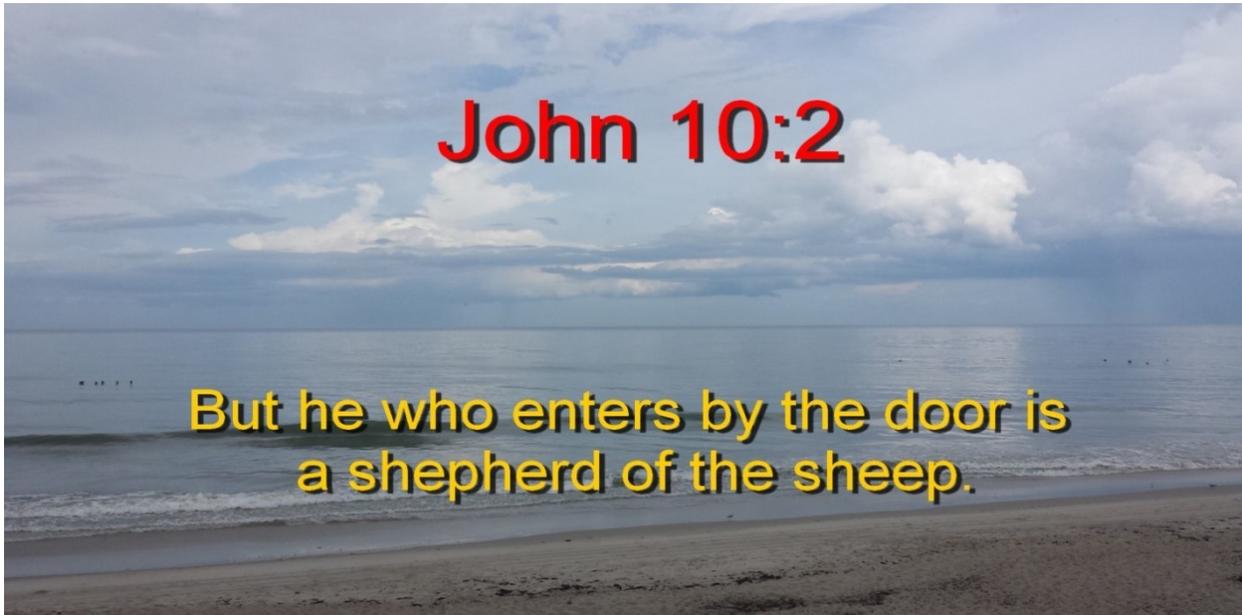
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by identifying thieves and robbers seeking to prey upon the sheep. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by following Jesus Who protects us from thieves and robbers?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Four Hundred Twenty Five

The Door Today



Who enters by the door? The shepherd of the sheep enters by the door.

Jesus described the Pharisees as thieves and robbers. Jesus meant that the Pharisees posed a clear and present danger to the sheep. The Pharisees were not only blind, but they also preyed upon the sheep for their own pleasures.

In contrast to the thieves and robbers, Jesus was the shepherd of the sheep. As a shepherd, Jesus was concerned about the welfare of the sheep. Shepherds guard the sheep from thieves and robbers.

Jesus used this illustration to teach blind people. Jesus forcibly showed everyone listening to Him that the Pharisees were thieves and robbers, preying upon people. They were opposed to Jesus, the Shepherd of the sheep. As a good shepherd, Jesus will always take care of the sheep.

Shepherd of the Sheep

1. **Robbers and Thieves.** Jesus told the Pharisees that they were robbers and thieves.
2. **Contrast.** In contrast, Jesus described Himself as the Shepherd of the sheep.
3. **Entry.** Jesus explained that only the Shepherd enters through the door to the sheep fold.
4. **Illustration.** Jesus used simple illustrations to communicate deep spiritual truths.
5. **Shepherd.** Jesus is the Shepherd and we are the sheep. Many evil, religious people (like the Pharisees) break into the sheepfold to harm the sheep.
6. **Protects.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we take the warnings of Jesus seriously. As the Good Shepherd, He protects us from religious thieves and robbers.
7. **Flock.** We rejoice today because we follow Jesus. He tends His flock with loving care.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by meditating upon Jesus as the Shepherd of the sheep.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we explain to people that thieves and robbers prey upon sheep.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God by worshiping Jesus, the Shepherd of the sheep.**

Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by warning people of the thieves and robbers seeking to prey upon them. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by exulting in the greatness of Jesus, the Shepherd of the sheep?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Four Hundred Twenty Six

Doorkeeper Opens Today



For Whom does the Doorkeeper open the door? The Doorkeeper opens the door for the Shepherd.

The sheep have a special relationship with the Shepherd. The sheep hear the voice of the Shepherd. He calls His own sheep by name and He leads them out.

Jesus, the Shepherd, knows the names of every believer. He leads every believer. Jesus has a personal relationship with every saint and every saint has a personal relationship with Jesus as Savior.

Jesus maintains the relationship with each saint. Just as a shepherd leads the sheep, so also Jesus leads the saints. He listens to them and they listen to His voice.

Leads Them

1. **No Fear.** Because Jesus leads His sheep, we have nothing to fear. He goes before us.

2. **Shepherd.** The doorkeeper opens only for the shepherd. The thieves and robbers climb up some other way because they know the doorkeeper will not open for them.

3. **Sheep.** The sheep hear the voice of Jesus. They know His voice and they know He leads them to pasture.

4. **Name.** Jesus calls His own sheep by name. Jesus knows your name and leads you personally.

5. **Each.** Jesus cares for each sheep. He knows how you are doing inside and out. He has His eye on you.

6. **We Follow.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we follow Jesus and we listen to Him as He calls us by name.

7. **He Leads.** We rejoice today because Jesus leads and we follow Him. He knows us by name and gives each of us His personal, loving attention.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by listening to the voice of the Shepherd, Jesus Christ.**

- **We live more Godly in the family of God by following the Shepherd, Jesus Christ, wherever He leads us.**

- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we worship Jesus as we listen to His voice while He leads us each day.**

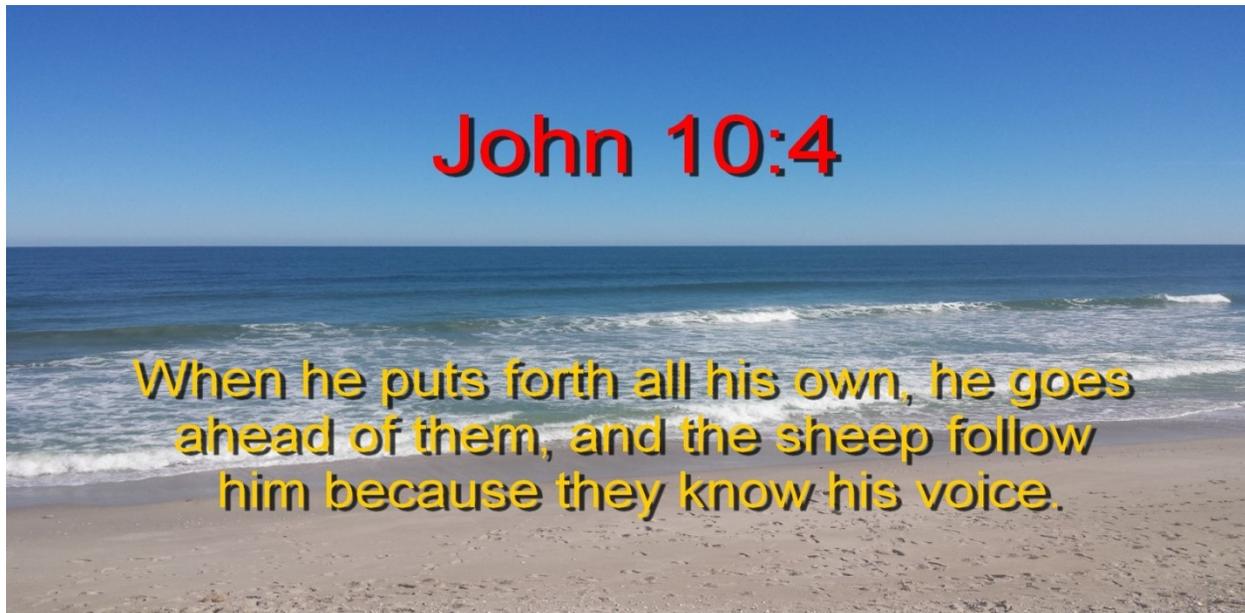
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by listening to Jesus and following Him. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by following Jesus by listening to His voice?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Four Hundred Twenty Seven

His Own Today



Why do the sheep follow Jesus? They follow Jesus because they know His voice.

Jesus puts forth His own sheep. He goes ahead of them. Jesus leads the sheep beside quiet waters. He prepares a place for them. Jesus leads the sheep to pasture and then keeps them safe in the sheepfold.

The sheep follow Jesus because they know His voice. The Pharisees do the works of their father, the devil. Jesus does the work of God the Father by leading the sheep which the Father has given to Him.

Jesus has a special relationship with the sheep. He loves them and protects them. He leads them and feeds them. He knows them by name and they know His voice.

His Voice

1. **Pasture.** Jesus puts forth His own sheep. They must leave the sheepfold to find pasture.

2. **Leads.** Jesus goes ahead of the sheep. He leads them personally.

3. **Voice.** Jesus calls the sheep by name. The sheep follow Him because they know His voice.

4. **Hear.** When you think about Jesus, do you see Him leading you, do you hear Him calling your name, and do you follow Him because you know His voice?

5. **Personal.** Jesus forms deep personal relationships with the flock, one sheep at a time.

6. **Simple.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we know Jesus goes ahead of us and we simply follow Him.

7. **Calls.** We rejoice today because Jesus shepherds us. He calls us by name and never forgets our name.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by knowing that Jesus puts forth His own.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God by following Jesus as He leads us forth.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we join together in following Jesus and not straying from His voice.**

Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by following Jesus as we listen to His voice lead us forth. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by following the voice of Jesus forward?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Four Hundred Twenty Eight

Stranger Today



Why do the sheep flee from strangers? The sheep flee because they do not know the voice of strangers.

The sheep know the voice of Jesus. He calls them by name and they follow Him. The sheep will not follow strangers because they do not know the voice of strangers.

Jesus meant that the sheep hear His voice and follow Him. The sheep do not follow the Pharisees because they are strangers to the sheep. The sheep do not know the voice of strangers and so do not follow strangers.

Jesus wanted the Pharisees to know they were strangers to the sheep. The sheep are the people of God. Although the Pharisees thought of themselves as people of God, they were not. They were in the family of the devil and did the works of the devil. Jesus did the works of God His Father and the sheep knew the voice of Jesus and followed Him.

Not Follow

1. **Divide.** Sheep divide the world into two things: shepherds and strangers. The sheep will not follow strangers.

2. **Shepherds.** The sheep flee from strangers and follow the shepherd.

3. **Strangers.** The sheep do not know the voice of strangers. Therefore, they flee from strangers.

4. **Pharisees.** The Pharisees were strangers and the sheep did not listen to them.

5. **Flee.** Some people today act like Pharisees. They may claim to be shepherds, but the sheep will not follow them.

6. **Jesus.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we hear the distinct voice of Jesus; we flee from voices of strangers.

7. **Voice.** We rejoice today because Jesus talks to us and we hear the voice of our Savior calling us by name.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by not following the voice of strangers.**

- **We live more Godly in the family of God by distinguishing the voice of strangers from the voice of Jesus.**

- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God by joining together to follow Jesus as His sheep as we listen to His voice because He is our Shepherd.**

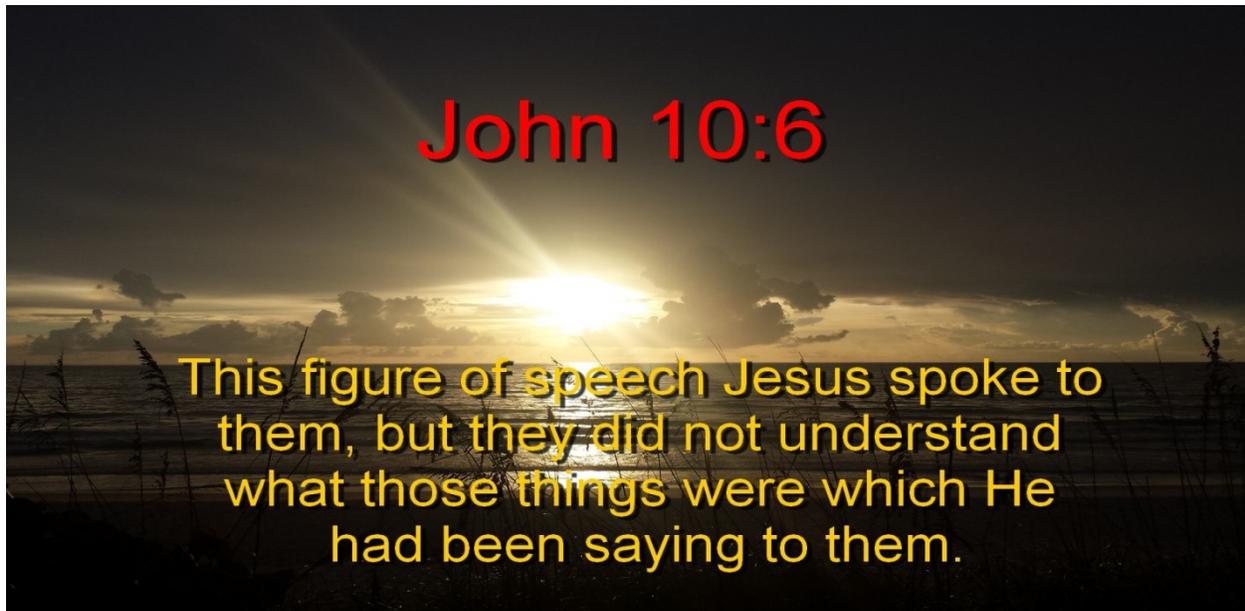
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by ignoring the voice of strangers and listening only to the voice of Jesus. Will you live Godly in the family of God today staying away from strangers seeking to lead you astray?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Four Hundred Twenty Nine

Figure of Speech



Did Jesus speak to the Pharisees using a figure of speech? Yes, Jesus used a figure of speech with the Pharisees.

Jesus used the illustration of the Shepherd and the sheep. The sheep do not follow the thieves and robbers. They follow the voice of the Shepherd Who knows the name of each sheep.

Jesus applied the illustration to the Pharisees because they thought they saw. Jesus warned them that their blindness remained. They did not turn to Jesus for salvation, but repudiated Him, His followers, and His teaching. They also rejected His Father.

The Pharisees did not understand the illustration. They could not understand such things because they were unwilling to do the will of God the Father. Therefore, the spiritual things Jesus spoke about were beyond their understanding as unbelievers.

They Did Not Understand

1. **Imagery.** Jesus illustrated spiritual truth using the imagery of shepherds, sheep, thieves and robbers.

2. **Spiritual.** Only believers can understand such spiritual truths because they are spiritually appraised.

3. **Consider.** Unbelievers consider such truths foolishness. They do not and cannot understand them.

4. **Isaiah.** Jesus cited Isaiah the prophet concerning His use of parables. Hearing they would not hear and they would not turn to God in repentance, so that God would heal them.

5. **Understand.** For believers, we understand the spiritual truths taught by Jesus through the anointing which teaches us all things and through the ministry of the Holy Spirit.

6. **Follow.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we hear the words of Jesus and we understand the truths He teaches us as we follow Him.

7. **Learn.** We rejoice today because Jesus has opened our hearts to hear His voice and learn the truth from Him.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by understanding that Jesus used figures of speech to communicate deep truths.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God by understanding that unbelievers did not understand the spiritual truths Jesus spoke to them.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God by rejoicing that Jesus has opened our hearts to understand His teachings.**

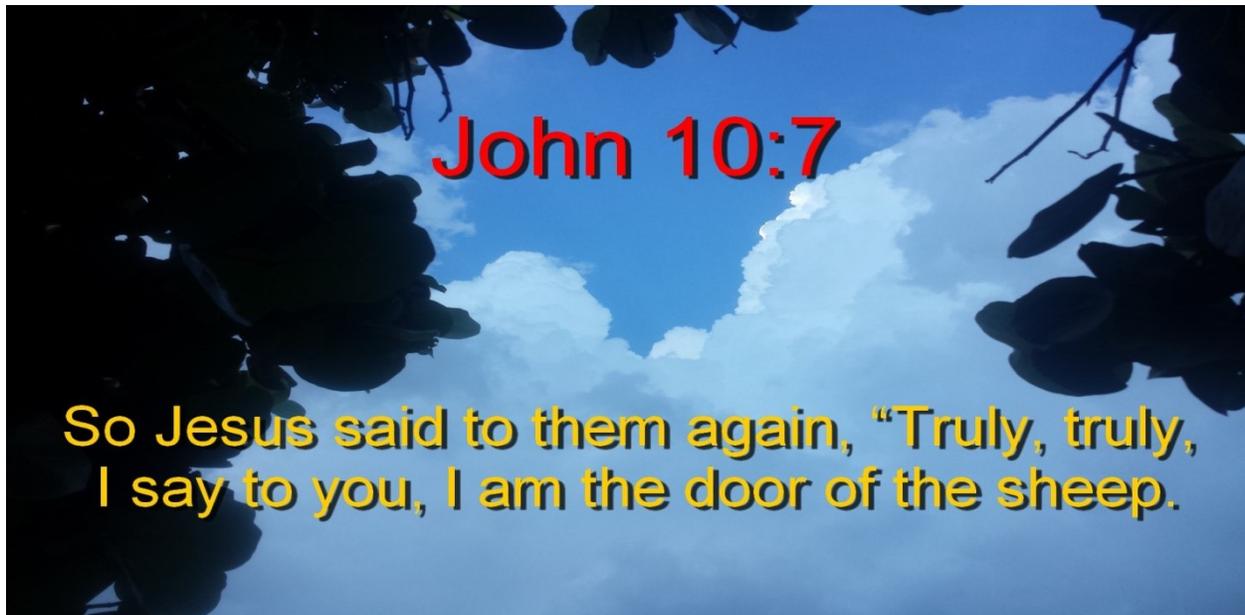
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by remembering that unbelievers do not understand the figures of speech that Jesus used. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by rejoicing that Jesus has opened our hearts to understand His words?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Four Hundred Thirty

I Am Today



Who was the door of the sheep? Jesus described Himself as the door of the sheep.

As Jesus illustrated spiritual truth to the Pharisees, Jesus used different symbols to describe Himself and His relationship to believers. The Pharisees did not know God and so could not understand the spiritual message of Jesus.

Jesus called Himself the door to the sheep. We use doors to go in and out. The Pharisees, like all robbers and thieves, do not use the door, but climb up some other way to enter the sheepfold. Even so, the sheep do not follow them because they only follow the voice of the Shepherd, Jesus Christ.

Jesus also described the Doorkeeper, Who opens the door to the sheepfold. God the Father gives people to Jesus and opens their hearts so

that they will recognize Jesus as the Son of God. In turn Jesus reveals God the Father to them.

The Door

1. **I AM.** Jesus used the phrase "I Am" in many places in the Gospel of John. You may recall that Jesus identified Himself as the "I AM" God of the Old Testament.

2. **Understood.** Jesus also understood that the Pharisees did not understand His words.

3. **Illustration.** Jesus then used a different illustration. He called Himself the door of the sheep.

4. **Salvation.** Jesus knew His audience and their hearts. Jesus taught truth that, if received with faith, would bring salvation.

5. **Explained.** Jesus explained exactly what He meant by calling Himself the door of the sheep. You may recall that Jesus said thieves and robbers do not enter through the door of the sheep.

6. **Door.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we know Jesus is the door of the sheep.

7. **Protects.** We rejoice today because Jesus is the door and He protects the sheep from thieves and robbers.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by remembering that Jesus is the door.**

- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we praise God for Jesus being the door to the sheepfold.**

- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we join together in worship of Jesus, the door of the sheepfold.**

Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by thinking about Jesus as the door. Will you live Godly in the family of God today knowing that you entered the sheepfold through Jesus, the Door?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Four Hundred Thirty One

Came Before Today



Who came before Jesus? All who came before Jesus were thieves and robbers.

Jesus explained that everyone who came before Jesus were thieves and robbers. Jesus warned the Pharisees that they were thieves and robbers who climbed up to enter the sheepfold by not going through the door. The sheep did not hear the thieves and robbers who came before Jesus.

The Pharisees were spiritually blind but thought they saw everything. Jesus warned them and everyone listening that He was the Shepherd. The sheep heard His voice because He was the Shepherd.

God the Father sent Jesus to be the Shepherd. God the Father gave sheep to Jesus, so that Jesus would be their Shepherd. They would hear the voice of Jesus and follow Him and no one else. Jesus would lead them forth and take care of the sheep like a good shepherd.

Not Hear Them

1. **Door.** Jesus called Himself the door of the sheep. Thieves and robbers do not enter through the door.

2. **Only.** Jesus called every one who came before Him thieves and robbers. Jesus emphasized He was the only Door and the only Shepherd.

3. **Shepherd.** The sheep did not hear the thieves and robbers. Jesus taught that the sheep know the voice of the Shepherd and will not follow thieves and robbers.

4. **Confronted.** Jesus confronted the religious leaders with very strong language. He called them thieves and robbers.

5. **Imposters.** Jesus warned that evil imposters would also come after He ascended to heaven.

6. **Hated.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we do not listen to all the thieves and robbers. They came before Jesus, but they hated Jesus.

7. **Jesus' Voice.** We rejoice today because Jesus is the door. Thieves and robbers do not enter by the door into the fold of the sheep. We hear the voice of Jesus.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by understanding that many thieves and robbers came before Jesus.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God by remembering that many thieves and robbers still attack the sheep today.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we stay close to Jesus, our Shepherd, and listen to His voice.**

Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by recognizing the thieves and robbers. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by helping sheep to stay away from thieves and robbers?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Four Hundred Thirty Two

The Door Today



Why did Jesus call Himself the Door? Jesus called Himself the door to illustrate that anyone who enters through Him will be saved.

Jesus called Himself the door so that people would be saved, and go in and out and find pasture. Only Jesus is the door, and only through Him can people be saved. Once they are saved, Jesus leads them in and out to find pasture.

Jesus used various illustrations to teach spiritual truth. Jesus described Himself as the door to emphasize that He alone is the only way in to the sheepfold. Jesus always emphasized that no other way leads to salvation. Only through Jesus can people be saved. Only through Jesus can people find spiritual rest, food, and comfort. Only Jesus provides the salvation and eternal life.

Be Saved

1. **Salvation.** Jesus saved people from their sins. He offered salvation based upon faith alone.
2. **Door.** Jesus reiterated that He was the door to the sheep.
3. **Promise.** Jesus then made wonderful promises. If anyone enters through the door, then good things happen.
4. **Enter.** Jesus promised first that anyone entering will be saved.
5. **Pasture.** Jesus likewise promised that the believer will go in and out. The believer will also find pasture.
6. **Family.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we have entered through Jesus, the door.
7. **Find.** We rejoice today because we go in and out, with Jesus, and we find pasture.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by going in and out through Jesus.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we trust Jesus to lead us to pasture.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we rejoice in the loving care Jesus provides to us as the Door.**

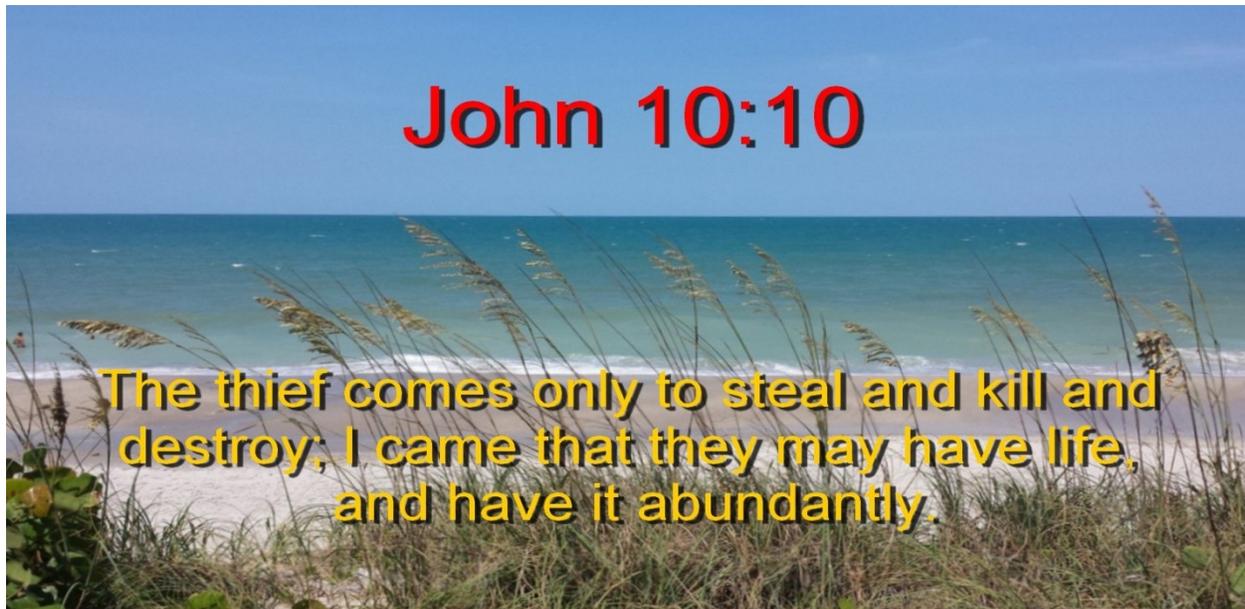
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by rejoicing in Jesus, the Door. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by going in and out and finding pasture through Jesus?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Four Hundred Thirty Three

Steal and Destroy Today



Why does the thief come? The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy.

Jesus meant that the Pharisees come to steal, kill and destroy. They not only kill people on earth, but they also lead people to follow the devil to eternal destruction.

Jesus came that people may have life and have it abundantly. As the Door and the Shepherd, Jesus had a clear goal in mind. He wanted people to have eternal life. Furthermore, that eternal life starts at the moment of salvation and continues forever.

Jesus also came that people would have abundant life. Jesus meant that people would have a full and joyful spiritual life with Him. They would keep His word and so prove to be His disciples.

Abundantly

1. **Pharisees.** Jesus wanted the Pharisees to know that they were thieves who came only to steal and kill and destroy.

2. **Destroy.** Today, many "religious" leaders are thieves just like the Pharisees. They want to steal, kill and destroy believers in the name of their religion.

3. **Purpose.** Notice the word "only." Jesus said thieves come for only one purpose: to steal, kill and destroy the sheep.

4. **Give.** In contrast, Jesus came to give the sheep life. Not only does Jesus give life by faith alone, He also makes life abundant.

5. **Life.** Jesus loves you and gave each believer life. He wants you to enjoy abundant life today.

6. **Believers.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we know our enemies seek to kill, steal and destroy us, His flock of believers.

7. **Abundantly.** We rejoice today because Jesus came to give us life, and to have it abundantly.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by watching out for the thieves who only come to steal, kill and destroy.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God by warning unbelievers that they are following people who only want to steal, kill and destroy.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God by rejoicing that Jesus has given us life and have it abundantly.**

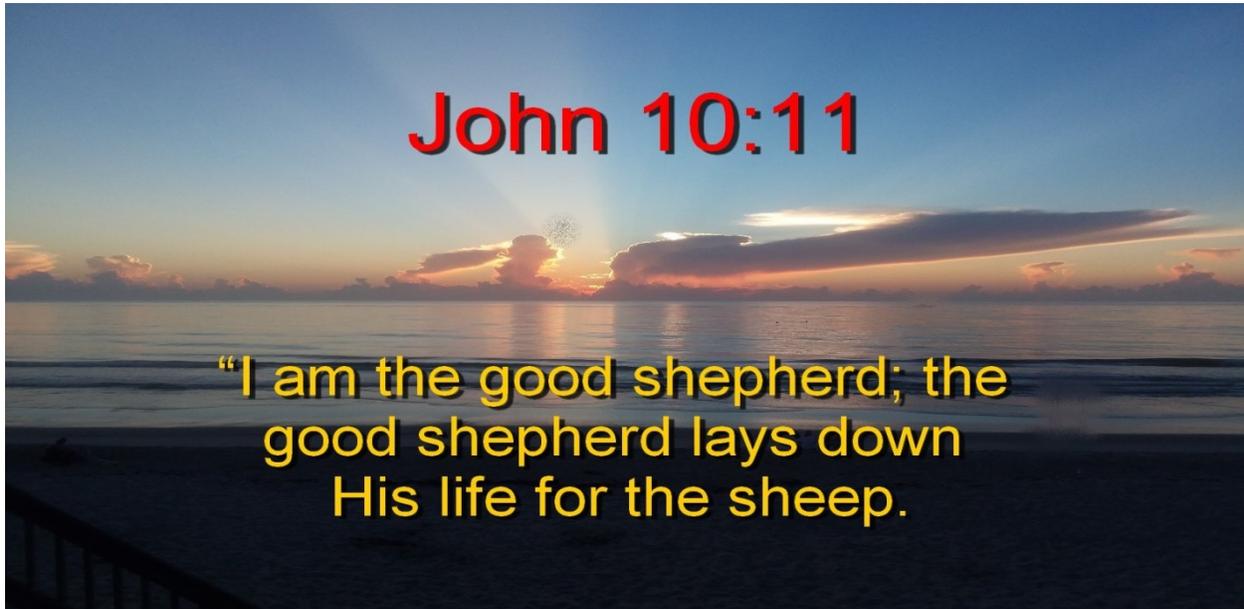
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by enjoying the abundant life that Jesus has given us. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by rejoicing in your abundant life?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Four Hundred Thirty Four

Good Shepherd Today



What does the Good Shepherd do? The Good Shepherd lays down His life for the sheep.

Jesus described the Pharisees and everyone like them as thieves and robbers. They came to kill, steal and destroy the sheep. Although they claimed to be very religious people, they were actually enemies of God and very opposed to the family of God.

Jesus is the Good Shepherd. Jesus wanted everyone, especially the Pharisees, to know that He came to lay down His life for the sheep. He had every intention of dying for the sheep at the proper time. He knew when, where, why and how He would lay down His life. He had already described His crucifixion as being lifted up.

Jesus loved the sheep and wanted them to have an abundant and eternal life. He had to die to give them those things, and He did so willingly.

His Life

1. **I AM.** Jesus made another "I AM" statement. This time He said I AM the good shepherd.
2. **Truths.** Jesus used common illustrations to reveal profound spiritual truths.
3. **Good Shepherd.** The Good Shepherd image conveys important truths about the character, commitment, courage, love and power of Jesus.
4. **Life.** Jesus revealed that the Good Shepherd lays down His life for the sheep. Jesus never deserts the sheep, even when evil comes.
5. **Intended.** Jesus intended to die as the Good Shepherd. He planned to lay down His life for the sheep.
6. **Loved.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we love Jesus because He is the Good Shepherd Who loved us first and laid down His life for us.
7. **Never Deserts.** We rejoice today because Jesus, the Good Shepherd, never leaves us or deserts us. He lives today!

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by thanking Jesus for laying down His life for us.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we worship Jesus the Good Shepherd.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we join together to love Jesus for laying down His life for us because He loves us.**

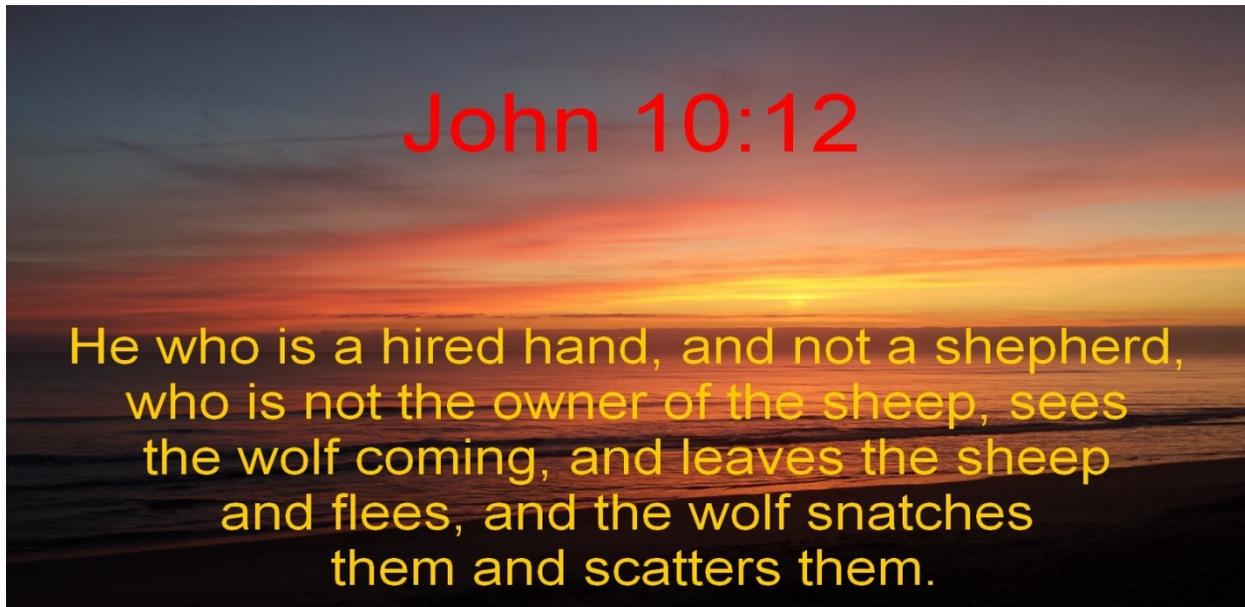
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by remembering that Jesus laid down His life for us. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by rejoicing in Jesus Who laid down His life for us and took it up again?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Four Hundred Thirty Five

Wolf Coming Today



What happens when the wolf comes? The wolf snatches the sheep and scatters them.

The hired hand, who is not a shepherd or an owner of the sheep, flees when he sees the wolf coming. He leaves the sheep. Jesus implied that the Good Shepherd protects the sheep from wolves like the Pharisees.

Jesus knows what wolves do to sheep. They need a shepherd who will protect them from wolves. Jesus indicated that He would even lay down His life for the sheep. Jesus was all in for the sheep because He loved them.

We are the sheep of the pasture where Jesus serves as the Good Shepherd. He will protect us from the wolves and every evil. We remain eternally secure in Jesus.

Hired Hand

1. **Contrast.** Jesus contrasted the Good Shepherd with the hired hand.
2. **Hired.** The hired hand does not own the sheep. He will not lay down his life for the sheep.
3. **Flees.** When the hired hand sees the wolf coming, he flees. He leaves the sheep to fend for themselves against the wolf.
4. **Wolves.** The wolf comes and snatches and scatters the sheep. Jesus said the very religious Pharisees were the wolves.
5. **Jesus.** The hired hand does not love the sheep like Jesus does. Jesus loves the sheep and will not flee when the wolf comes.
6. **Loves.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we know Jesus is not a hired hand. He loves us with His life.
7. **Never Flees.** We rejoice today because Jesus never flees from the wolf. As the Good Shepherd, He lays down His life for us.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by loving Jesus for protecting us from wolves.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we remember that wolves come to snatch and scatter sheep.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we trust Jesus to guard us and keep us as the Good Shepherd.**

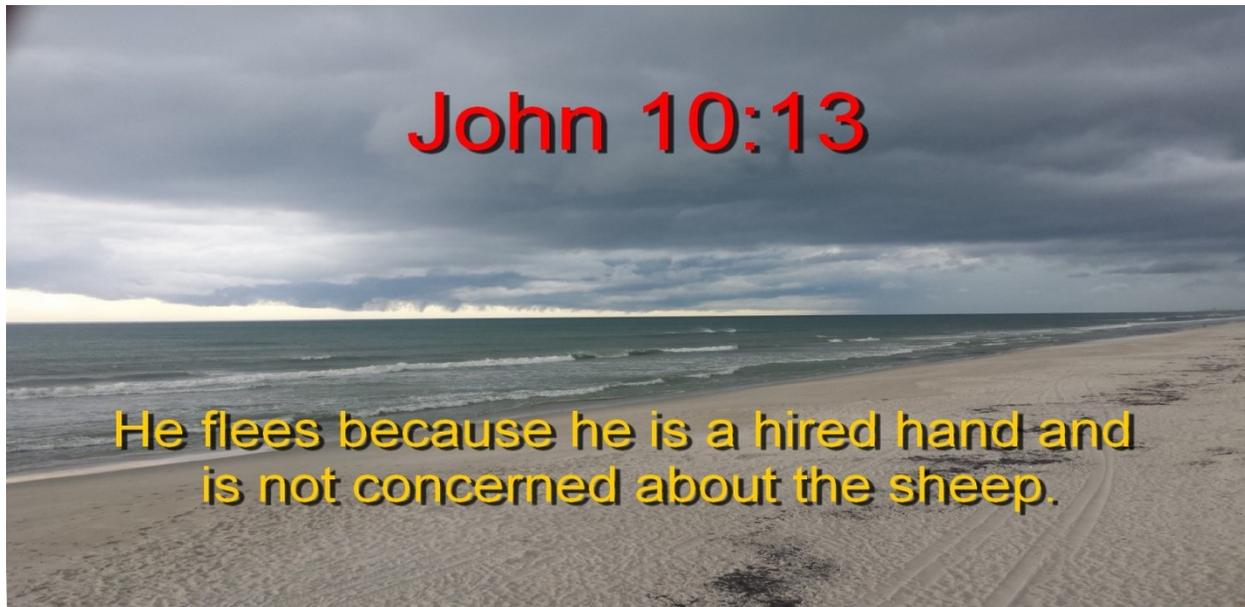
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by counting upon Jesus to protect us from wolves. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by staying close to Jesus and away from wolves?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Four Hundred Thirty Six

Hired Hand Today



Why do some shepherds flee? Some shepherds flee from the wolf because they are hired hands and not concerned about the sheep.

Jesus declared: "I AM the Good Shepherd." Jesus proclaimed that He would lay down His life for the sheep. He meant that He would lay down His life by being lifted up on a cross for our salvation. He would be raised for our justification.

Jesus not only described Himself, but He drew sharp contrasts with other people claiming to be shepherds of the sheep. The hired hand puts his own interests first. He does not want to be harmed by the wolf and so he flees from the wolf. He flees because he is not concerned about the sheep.

Jesus was always concerned about the sheep. He sought their welfare and gave them protection. He sought their salvation and gave His life for them.

He Flees

1. **Flees**. The hired hand flees from the wolf and the danger it poses to the hired hand.

2. **Hired Hand**. The hired hand works for money. He values his life more than the amount of money paid to him. Therefore, he will not risk his life for the sheep.

3. **Shepherd**. Jesus contrasted being the Good Shepherd with the thieves, robbers, and hired hands. Jesus shepherded the sheep because He was not motivated by money.

4. **Concerned**. Jesus used a word for concerned similar to the word the disciples used when the storm came upon their boat. They asked Jesus if He was concerned about them because He slept through the storm. They thought they were perishing and Jesus did not care.

5. **Motivation**. Jesus was not motivated by money. The hired hand was only motivated by the money. He earned a wage for being with the sheep, but he did not love the sheep.

6. **Money**. Living Godly in the family of God means that Jesus was concerned about the sheep and loved them absolutely

7. **Life**. We rejoice today because Jesus valued the lives of the sheep and knew He could give them eternal life by laying down His life for them. Jesus never flees from us.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by understanding that hired hands leave the sheep.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God by remembering that Jesus will never flee from us.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God by loving Jesus because He was never a hired hand.**

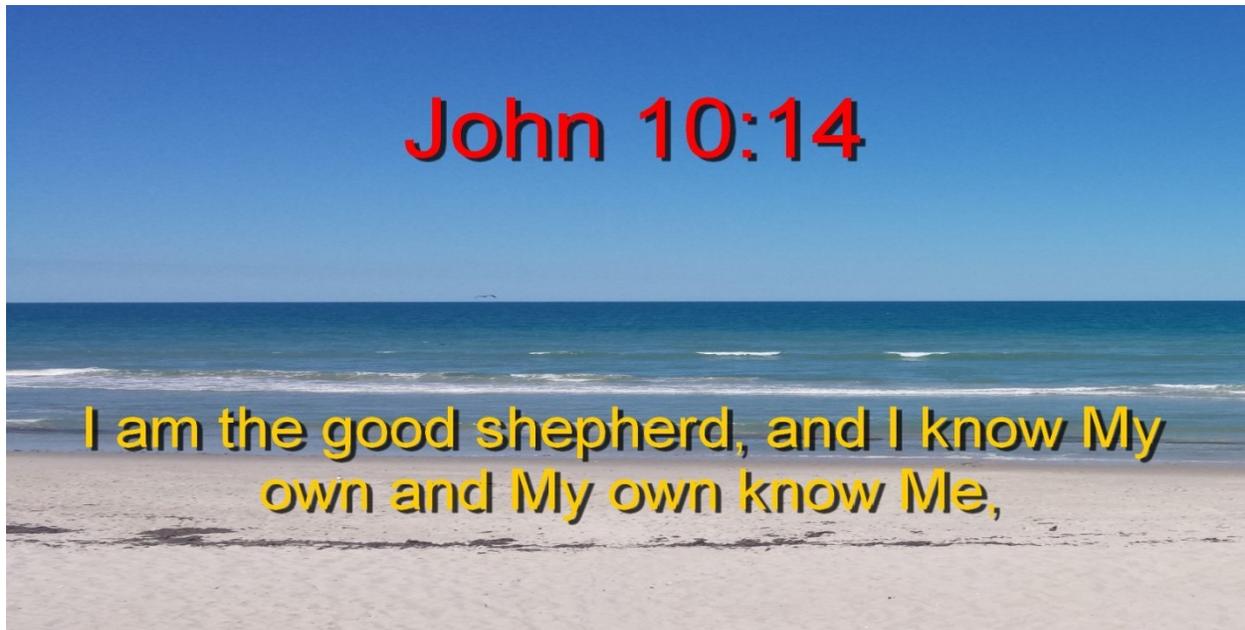
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by loving Jesus for never fleeing from us. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by trusting Jesus to always be with you because He is concerned about you?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Four Hundred Thirty Seven

I Know Today



Who knows Jesus? Jesus said that His own know Him.

Jesus emphasized that He is the Good Shepherd. As the Good Shepherd, Jesus knew His own. He knew them by name, and He led them in and out of the sheepfold.

Jesus also explained the relationship the Good Shepherd had with the sheep. He knew them and they knew Him. They each knew each other. The sheep followed Jesus, and He took care of them. The relationship included Jesus caring for the sheep.

Jesus contrasted His ministry to the sheep based upon love, with the hired hand. The hired hand fled when the wolf came, but the Good Shepherd never fled from sheep. Jesus had an absolute commitment to the sheep. He was not a robber, thief, hired hand or a wolf. While they came to harm the sheep, Jesus came to love the sheep and save them.

My Own Know Me

1. **Good Shepherd.** Jesus continued His sermon about the Good Shepherd.
2. **Name.** As the Good Shepherd, Jesus calls His sheep by name and they follow Him.
3. **His Own.** Jesus revealed further that He knows His own. Consider the wonder of that truth for a moment.
4. **Everything.** Jesus knows everything about you and still loves you. Jesus also owns every sheep in His flock.
5. **Knows.** Every sheep in His flock knows Jesus. We know Him and He knows us.
6. **Loves.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we know Jesus and He knows us. Being the Good Shepherd, Jesus loves each sheep.
7. **Personal.** We rejoice today because Jesus tends His flock with personal, loving care for each one of us.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by keeping in mind that we know Jesus and He knows each of us by name.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God by remembering that Jesus has a personal relationship with each one of us.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God by worshiping Jesus that because of His great personal love for us, He would cause us to know Him and love Him.**

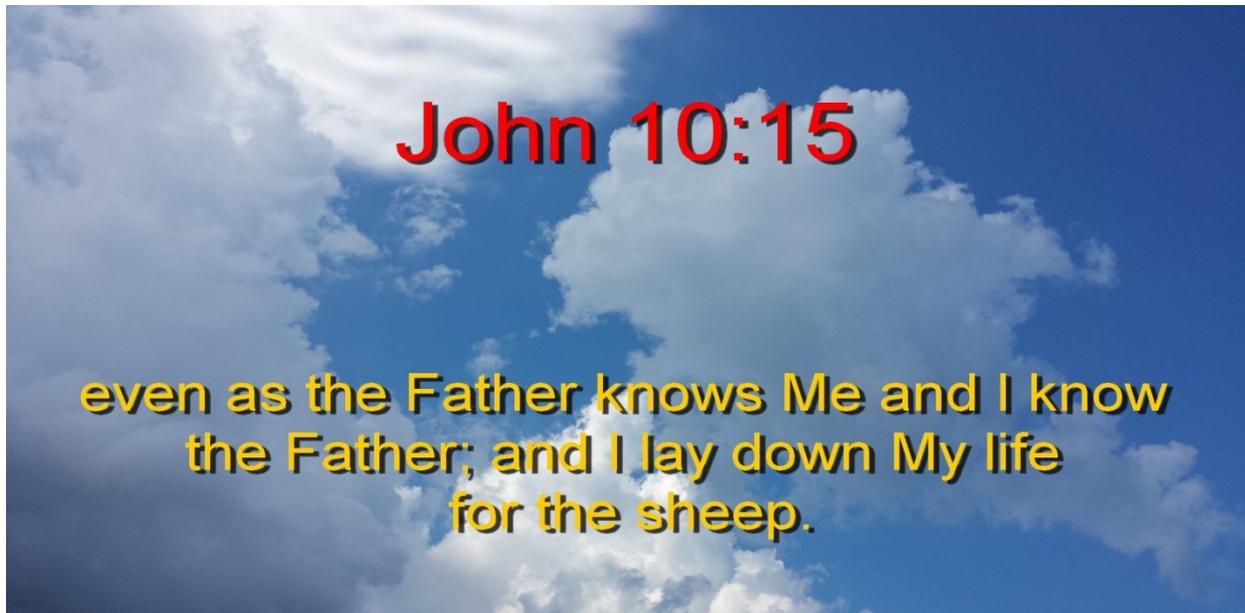
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by remembering that we know Jesus and He knows us. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by dwelling upon your relationship with Jesus?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Four Hundred Thirty Eight

Father Knows Today



Does Jesus know the Father? Jesus knows the Father just as the sheep know Jesus.

Jesus meant that His own do not just know about Jesus. His own know Jesus personally and deeply, just like the Father knows Jesus, and Jesus knows the Father.

Jesus taught us that God opens the door to deep and personal knowledge of God on a spiritual level. We do not know Jesus on a physical level because we have never seen Him. We know Jesus with spiritual knowledge that transcends physical knowledge. We know Jesus on a spiritual level. This knowledge is a gift of God to the children of God.

Knowing Jesus surpasses all things. Jesus described eternal life as knowing Him and God the Father Who sent Jesus. We have a personal, spiritual knowledge of God the Son and God the Father.

I Know

1. **Sheep.** Jesus revealed that His sheep know Him as the Good Shepherd.

2. **Know.** Jesus then elaborated that His sheep know Him in the same way that He knows the Father and the Father knows Jesus.

3. **Spiritual.** Jesus meant deep spiritual knowledge. The Father has spiritual knowledge of the Son and so we know Jesus in that same spiritual way.

4. **Life.** Jesus again stated that He lays down His life for the sheep. Notice the present tense, with continuous action. The whole life of Jesus was focused upon His work and love as the Good Shepherd laying down His life for the sheep.

5. **Shepherd.** Jesus identified Himself using the simple image of a shepherd. But Jesus was the only Good Shepherd truly able to save the sheep.

6. **Father.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we know Jesus just like He knows the Father and the Father knows Him.

7. **For Us.** We rejoice today because Jesus knows us and laid down His life for us, His sheep.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by rejoicing that Jesus knows God the Father.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we understand that we know Jesus like Jesus knows God the Father.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we join together in worshiping Jesus and God the Father for letting us know them as they truly are.**

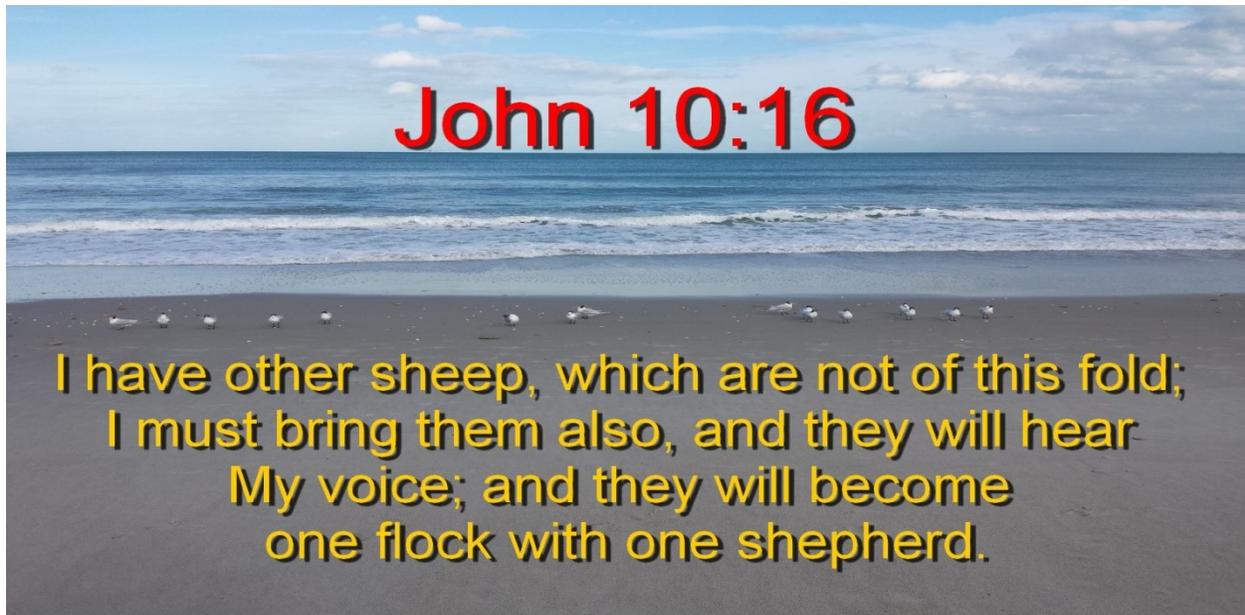
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by delighting in our knowledge of Jesus and His Father. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by living according to the knowledge of God within you?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Four Hundred Thirty Nine

Other Sheep Today



**I have other sheep, which are not of this fold;
I must bring them also, and they will hear
My voice; and they will become
one flock with one shepherd.**

Does Jesus have other sheep? Jesus declared that He had other sheep which are not of this fold.

Jesus spoke about other sheep. Because Jesus was talking to the Pharisees and the Jews, He meant that some sheep were not Jews, meaning they were Gentiles.

Jesus proclaimed He was the only Savior for the world. Therefore, He brought salvation to Jews and Gentiles by grace through faith.

The sheep from another fold also hear the voice of Jesus. Jesus has Jewish sheep and Gentile sheep. Together they become one flock with one Shepherd, Jesus.

Jesus described Himself as the Good Shepherd. He meant that He was the One and Only Good Shepherd. His flock listens to His voice. The

Jewish sheep hear His voice and the Gentile sheep hear His voice. Together they become one flock, the Church.

One Flock

1. **Other.** Jesus revealed that He had other sheep, not just the sheep before Him.

2. **Sheep.** Jesus did not show partiality in salvation. Jesus loved everyone and did not want anyone to perish, but for all people to come to repentance.

3. **Fold.** Jesus had the ability as omnipresent God to shepherd more than one fold at a time. Jesus had sheep from another fold.

4. **Bring.** Notice that Jesus would bring the sheep from the other fold so that all the sheep are joined together with one Shepherd.

5. **Voice.** All the sheep, from both folds, will hear the voice of Jesus. He alone will be the voice that His sheep follow. They know His voice. Both Jews and Gentiles will hear the voice of Jesus and follow His voice.

6. **One.** Living Godly in the family of God means that Jesus Himself will bring together both flocks from separate folds. Together as one, He will be their Shepherd.

7. **Shepherd.** We rejoice today because Jesus declared He was the Good Shepherd. He lays down His life for the sheep, and they come from separate folds. Together He cares for them and they hear His voice.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by loving Jesus for bringing us together with sheep from another fold.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God by hearing the voice of Jesus as the only Shepherd of the sheep.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we join together with other sheep to worship Jesus in Spirit and in truth.**

Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by rejoicing in Jesus who brings all sheep together into one flock. Will you live Godly in the family of God today and enjoy the diversity of sheep in the family of God?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Four Hundred Forty

Lay Down Today



Why does the Father love Jesus? The Father loves Jesus because He lays down His life so that He may take it again.

Jesus loved the sheep and did the will of His Father. The Father loved Jesus because Jesus laid down His life for the sheep, just as the Father intended.

The Father loved the world and gave His only Son to die for the world, so that no one would perish, but for all to have eternal life. The only way for the world to have eternal life required that Jesus lay down His life.

Notice that Jesus describes a deliberate process. He deliberately laid down His life; no one took it from Him. He laid down His life so that He could take it up again. All deliberate, planned acts based upon love for us.

Take Up

1. **Message.** Jesus linked His message about the Good Shepherd to His revelation about life and death.
2. **Revealed.** Jesus revealed that God the Father loved Him because He laid down His life for the sheep.
3. **Relationship.** Jesus transcended the Good Shepherd imagery to disclose His relationship to God the Father.
4. **Father.** As the Good Shepherd, Jesus laid down His life for the sheep. For that reason, God the Father loved Jesus.
5. **Planned.** We learn that God the Father sent Jesus to be the Good Shepherd Who would lay down His life for the sheep. The Father planned on watching His only Son die on the cross to save the sheep.
6. **Life.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we too love Jesus because He laid down His life for us, the sheep.
7. **Death.** We rejoice today because both God the Father and God the Son love us so much that they planned to save us, at the cost of death, with resurrection and glory to follow.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by remembering that Jesus laid down His life for us.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we worship Jesus for taking up His life again.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we praise Jesus for doing the will of His Father in laying down His life so that He might take it up again.**

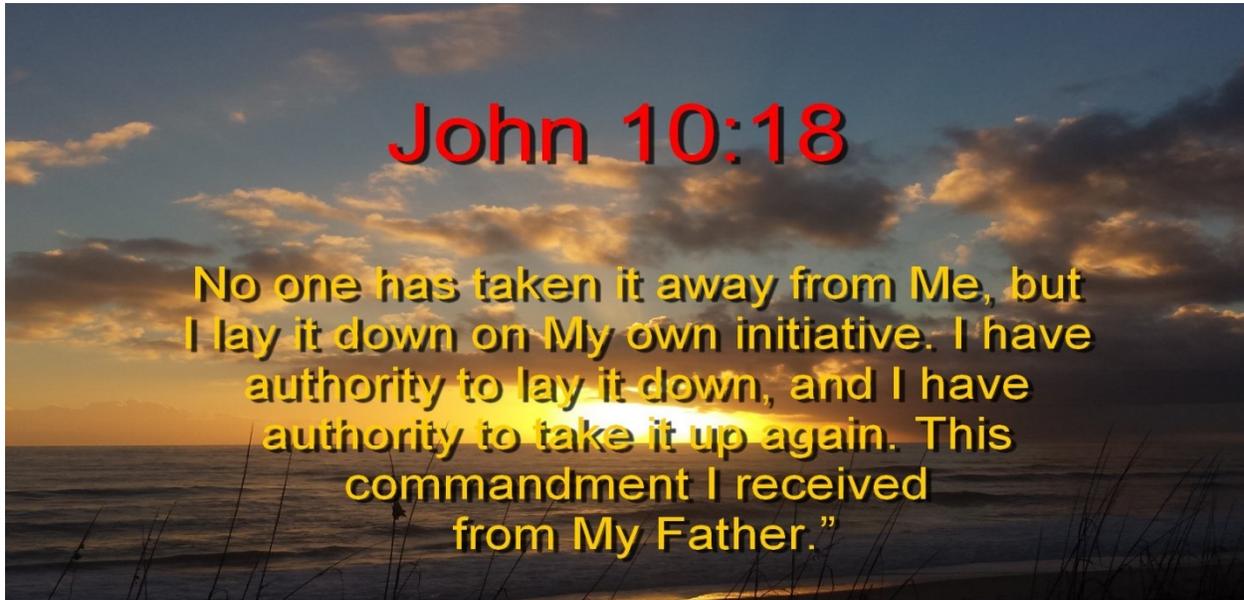
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by rejoicing in Jesus being alive today, because He not only laid His life down for us, but He also took it up again. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by rejoicing that Jesus is alive today because He took His life up again?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Four Hundred Forty One

My Own Initiative Today



What authority did Jesus have over His life? Jesus had authority to lay down His life and authority to take it up again.

No one took the life of Jesus from Him. He made a voluntary decision to lay His life down. In harmony with God the Father, in the fullness of time, and just the right moment, having fulfilled Scripture, Jesus died on the cross. He gave up His spirit and died.

After three days in the tomb, Jesus took up His life again. He was raised with a glorified body. He could instantly appear in a room with the doors closed. He could eat food and spend time with His disciples. Many people saw Jesus after His resurrection and before His ascension.

Jesus laid down His life and took it up again according to the commandment of His Father. The Father gave different kinds of authority to Jesus, including the authority to lay down His life and take it up again.

Authority

1. **Revealed.** Jesus continued revealing deep spiritual truths about Himself. He revealed His divine authority over life and death.
2. **No One.** Jesus said no one has taken His life from Him. Wolves, thieves and robbers cannot overpower Jesus.
3. **Choice.** Jesus laid down His own life on His own initiative--His choice.
4. **Authority.** Jesus had authority to lay down His life and to take it up.
5. **Commandment.** Jesus received the commandment from His Father to lay down His life for the sheep. Jesus chose to obey His Father's command.
6. **Divine.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we recognize His divine authority over life and death.
7. **Paradise.** We rejoice today because we will die at just the right time and resurrection will follow. Jesus will call us home to Him in paradise.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by remembering that Jesus had the authority to lay down His life and take it up again.**

- **We live more Godly in the family of God when we trust Jesus with life and death decisions in our lives.**

- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we live by the authority and commandments God has given to us.**

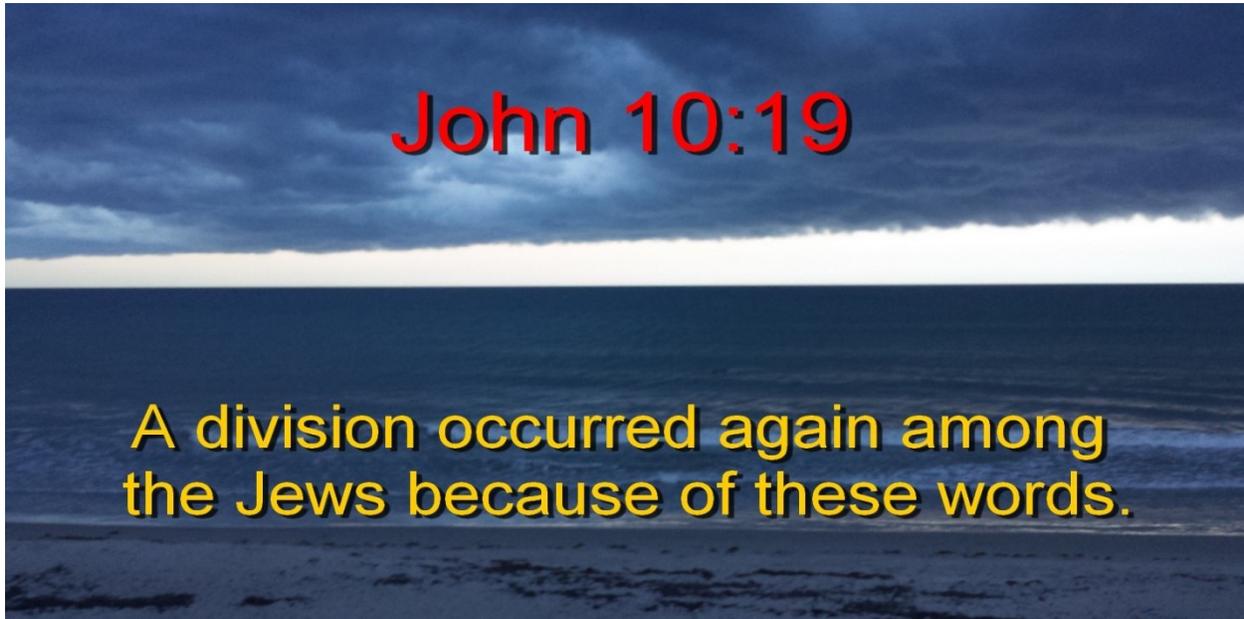
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by enjoying the resurrected Savior today. Will you live Godly in the family of God today spending time with Jesus today as He lives with you?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Four Hundred Forty Two

Division Today



How did Jesus divide the Jews? Jesus divided the Jews with His words.

Jesus spoke about being the Good Shepherd and abundant life. He explained to the Jews that the Pharisees and others were thieves, robbers and wolves. The audience hearing Jesus divided over those words.

Jesus also proclaimed that He was the Good Shepherd who would lie down His life for the sheep. He also had the authority from God the Father to take up His life again. Some Jews believed in resurrection and the afterlife, other Jews did not.

Jesus divided people by telling them the truth about Himself and about God the Father. Many people reject the truth. The Jews rejected Jesus even when He told them the truth about God the Father and Himself.

Words

1. **People**. Jesus divided people with His words and His acts.
2. **Divided**. Jesus divided people in many ways. He divided families, religious groups, and individuals.
3. **Invalidated**. Some people rejected Jesus because He rejected their human traditions which invalidated the word of God.
4. **Rejected**. Other people rejected Jesus, saying He had a demon.
5. **Truth**. Jesus declared He was the Good Shepherd Who laid down His life for the sheep. The thieves, robbers, and wolves rejected Jesus for telling the truth to people.
6. **Know**. Living Godly in the family of God means that we know Jesus divides believers from unbelievers.
7. **One Flock**. We rejoice today because Jesus never divides believers because He only has one flock.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by understanding that spiritual truth divides people.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God when we recall that Jesus divided people with His words.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God by expecting that the words of Jesus will still divide people today.**

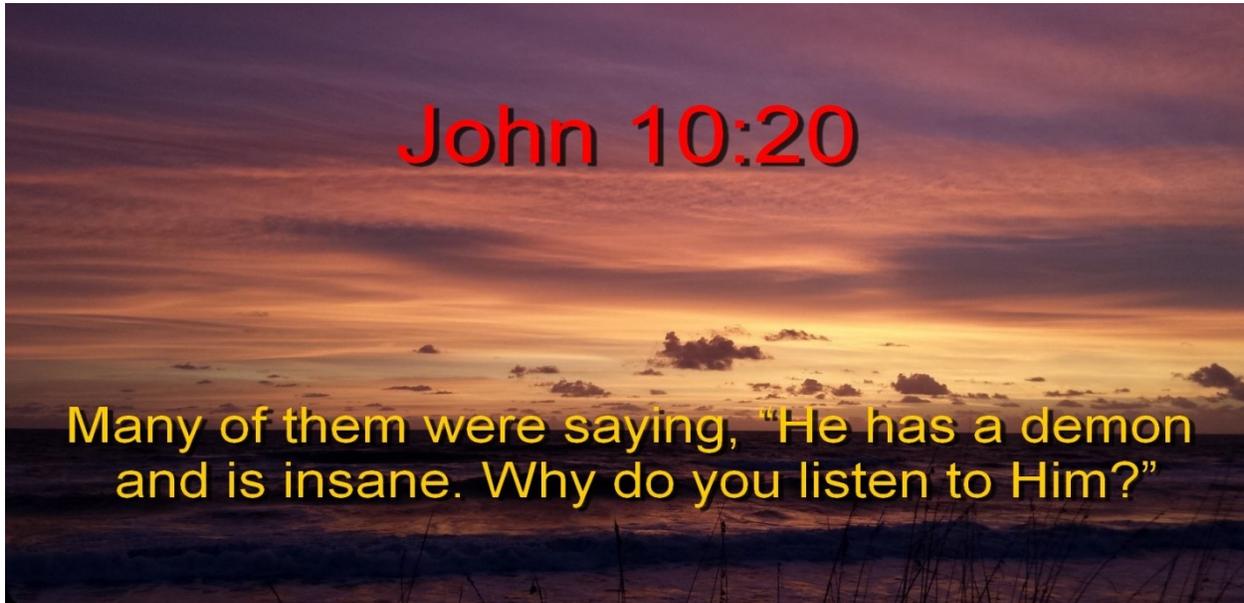
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by sharing the words of Jesus with people. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by speaking the words of Jesus to people, even knowing that the words of Jesus will divide people?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Four Hundred Forty Three

Insane Today



How did many of the Jews react to Jesus? Many of the Jews said that Jesus had a demon and was insane.

Jesus divided people with His words. Many of the Jews said that Jesus had a demon and was insane. The Jews had made this charge against Jesus before. The sin of blasphemy against the Holy Spirit includes attributing the words and works of Jesus to demons and the devil. When many of the Jews said that Jesus had a demon because He spoke the words of truth, they were committing blasphemy against the Holy Spirit.

Many of the Jews also questioned why some people were listening to Jesus. Jesus had worked great miracles before the Jews, including healing Pallet Man and giving sight to Man Born Blind. The Jews attacked Jesus in many ways, but they could not actually deny that miracles had occurred and Jesus did them. So they attacked Jesus and penalized people who confessed Jesus as Savior and became His disciples. They wanted no one to listen to Jesus.

Listen

1. **Divided**. Jesus divided people.
2. **Insane**. Some Jews said Jesus had a demon and was insane.
3. **Samaritan**. Previously, some Jews called Jesus a Samaritan and claimed He had a demon.
4. **Custody**. Apparently, Mary the mother of Jesus and His brothers sought to take custody of Jesus, saying Jesus had lost His senses.
5. **Sinless**. If people said all those things about sinless and holy Jesus, what will they say about His family of believers today?
6. **Hated**. Living Godly in the family of God means that we know people hated Jesus without cause and said evil lies about Him.
7. **Blessed**. We rejoice today because Jesus said we are blessed when people insult us and persecute us and falsely say all kinds of evil against us because of Him.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by understanding that many people said Jesus had a demon and was insane.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God by remembering that many people did not want anyone listening to Jesus.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God by listening to all that Jesus said.**

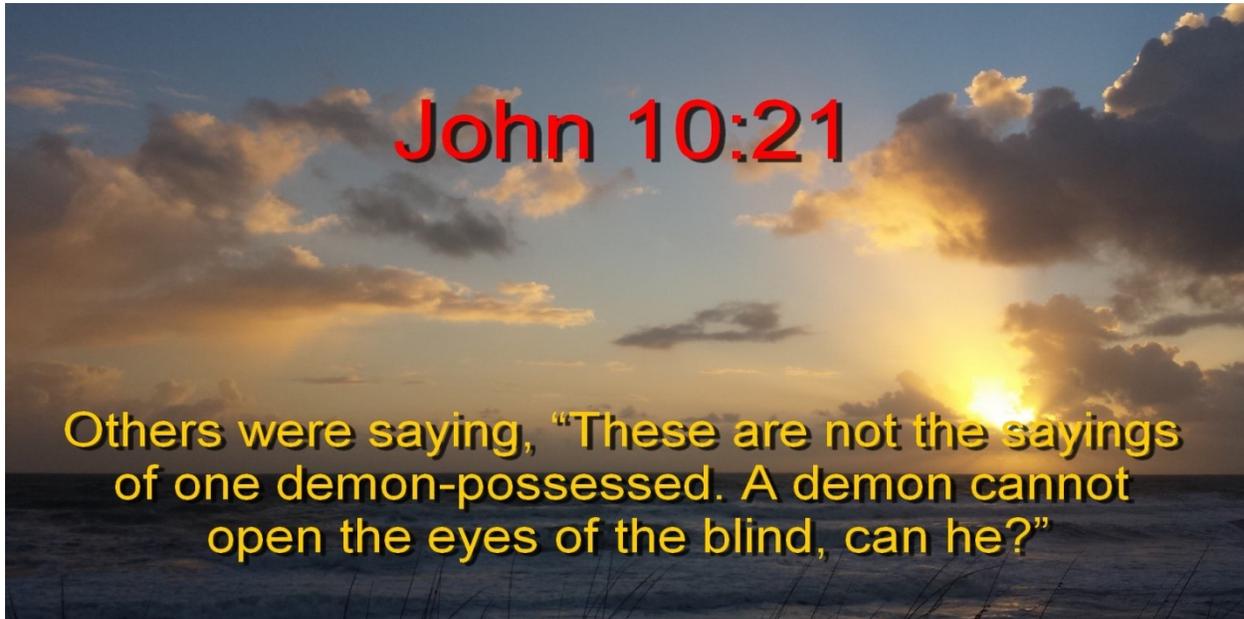
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by listening to Jesus, even though many people urge us to stop listening to Jesus. Will you live Godly in the family of God today listening to Jesus and obeying Him today?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Four Hundred Forty Four

Demon Cannot Today



Why did some people say that Jesus did not have a demon? Some people said that a demon cannot open the eyes of a blind man.

Jesus taught that demons can work miracles and perform wonders. People today wrongly conclude that demons cannot do supernatural things. Demons deceive many people. You may recall that people will stand before Jesus and claim they cast out many demons and performed many miracles in His name. Yet, Jesus will tell them to depart from Him. If people are casting out demons and doing miracles in the name of Jesus, but Jesus never knew them, then we were working under the power of the devil. Jesus also prophesied that, in the future, false Christs and false prophets will arise and will show great signs and wonders, intending to mislead even the elect, if possible.

Jesus did miracles by the power of God, according to the will of God. Jesus healed Pallet Man and gave sight to Man Born Blind by the power of God.

The Sayings

1. **Divided.** Jesus divided people. Some people said He had a demon.

2. **Group.** The other group said demons lacked the power to heal a person born blind.

3. **Unbelievers.** You may recall that some unbelievers cast out demons in the name of Jesus.

4. **Salvation.** Jesus presented salvation as a free gift received by faith alone.

5. **Accepted.** Some people accepted His sayings and believed in Him as the Divine Savior. They received the free gift of eternal life by faith alone.

6. **Grace.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we love Jesus because He told us the truth about salvation and by grace we believed unto salvation.

7. **Follow.** We rejoice today because Jesus divides unbelievers, but His sheep always hear His voice and follow Him.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by expecting that people will say things about demons that are not true.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God understanding that Jesus worked miracles by the power of God.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God by expecting that Jesus will continue to do works of powers in our lives each day.**

Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by expecting that some people will recognize that Jesus did great works of powers. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by expecting that people will divide over the power of Jesus Christ?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Four Hundred Forty Five

That Time Today



What was the Feast of Dedication? The Feast of Dedication celebrated a victory of the Maccabees over their enemies.

The Feast of Dedication was not mentioned in the Old Testament. Historians tell us that this feast celebrated the triumph over the Graeco-Syrian rulers. A ruler named Antiochus Epiphanes set up a statute of Zeus in Jerusalem and the temple had to be cleansed and rededicated. Therefore, the Maccabees and their allies ultimately defeated Antiochus Epiphanes and cleansed the temple about three years after it was defiled. The Jews created a feast to celebrate its cleansing. Jesus was not under an obligation to go up to the Feast of Dedication because it was not required under the Old Testament Law. Even so, Jesus went up to the Feast.

Jesus went up to Jerusalem, the very place where the Jews were seeking to kill Him. Jesus went up the Feast to continue preaching the Good News of salvation.

Feast of Dedication

1. **Feast.** The Feast of Dedication was not known in the Old Testament. It was an annual Jewish feast celebrating a victory for Israel dating back to about 165 B.C. (centuries after the last Old Testament book was written).

2. **Desecration.** In 165 B.C., a Graeco-Syrian ruler of Israel desecrated the Jerusalem Temple and its altar.

3. **Revolt.** The Jews revolted and won a battle. Jesus did not endorse or condemn the Feast of Dedication.

4. **Rededication.** According to rabbinic tradition, not the Bible, a great miracle occurred at that time regarding oil to light the menorah. The oil lasted a long time and the temple was cleansed and rededicated.

5. **Hanukah.** Therefore, because of the victory, the Jews celebrated the Feast of Dedication, today known as Hanukkah, in December or late November, depending upon the Jewish calendar.

6. **Memories.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we always enjoy our memories of the great triumphs of God over evil.

7. **Triumphs.** We rejoice today because Jesus triumphed over all evil and laid down His life for us so that He could take it up again. No enemy took His life from Him.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by celebrating the victories of God.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we remember the great power of God to deliver His people from oppression.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God by joining together to worship God for His awesome power displayed in His triumphs over evil.**

Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by celebrating the power of God over evil. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by rejoicing in the great power of God at work in your life?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Four Hundred Forty Six

Winter Today



Where was Jesus walking in the temple? Jesus was walking in the portico of Solomon.

You may recall that Bethesda (the pool by the sheep gate) had five porticoes. Jesus met Pallet Man there and healed him. In the temple was the portico of Solomon. This same portico would be a place for believers to gather after the Ascension of Jesus.

The Bible has many historical details which help us understand how the geography plays a role. Jesus went up to the Feast of Dedication and He knew that opposition awaited Him. The Pharisees and other religious leaders sought to kill Him. They also imposed penalties upon anyone who confessed to being a disciple of Jesus. Jesus divided people wherever He went. He often divided them with His words and works.

The Portico of Solomon

1. **Details.** The Bible provides a lot of details about the New Testament. For example Jesus was walking in the portico of Solomon.
2. **Poritco.** As you may know, a portico is a covered walkway.
3. **Temple.** Jesus appeared in the temple to teach the people.
4. **Teach.** The Jews have been seeking to kill him and yet Jesus boldly went to the temple to teach.
5. **Winter.** Not only did John specify the exact location of Jesus in the temple, he also specified the time of the year as winter.
6. **Accurate.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we love the Bible because it provides historically accurate truth regarding Jesus.
7. **Walking.** We rejoice today because the details in the Bible really matter. Jesus really was walking in the portico of Solomon and acting very courageously.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by believing that the Bible tells us the truth.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God by rejoicing in the strength and courage of Jesus.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we encourage believers who live in strength and courage in the face of opposition.**

Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by encouraging saints who follow Jesus into opposition. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by praying for the saints who are facing opposition?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Four Hundred Forty Seven

Are You the Christ Today



Why were the Jews in suspense? They were in suspense because they wanted Jesus to tell them plainly if He is the Christ.

The Jews lived in suspense because they could not understand that Jesus had been consistently telling them that He was the Christ. They were unable to hear His word because they were unwilling to do the will of God.

The deeds of the Jews were evil. They did not want to come to the Light of Jesus for fear that their evil deeds would be exposed. They did not want to do the will of God because they did the will of their father, the devil.

Jesus repeatedly explained to people that He was the Christ, the only Savior. He told them through His words, His witnesses, and His works. They did not have ears to hear.

Tell Us

1. **Asked.** I enjoy it when people ask me about Jesus. People asked Jesus Himself if He was the Christ.
2. **Christ.** The term "Christ" is the Greek word for the Hebrew word "Messiah" which means the Anointed One.
3. **Messiah.** The Old Testament refers to the Coming One (Messiah) Who will come to earth, slay His enemies, and set up the Kingdom of God on earth.
4. **Servant.** The Old Testament also described a Suffering Servant Who would give His life for sinners, with glory to follow.
5. **Kingdom.** Jesus offered the Kingdom of God to Israel, but Israel rejected both Jesus and His offer of the Kingdom of God.
6. **Both.** Living Godly in the family of God means that Jesus was both the Messiah of Israel and also the Suffering Servant.
7. **Return.** We rejoice today because Jesus laid down His life for us, but He will return to earth with great power and glory to subdue His enemies and rule on earth as King of kings and Lord of lords.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by listening to Jesus with open ears.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God by no longer living in suspense about whether Jesus is the Christ.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God by worshiping Jesus as the Christ, because we no longer live in suspense about Jesus.**

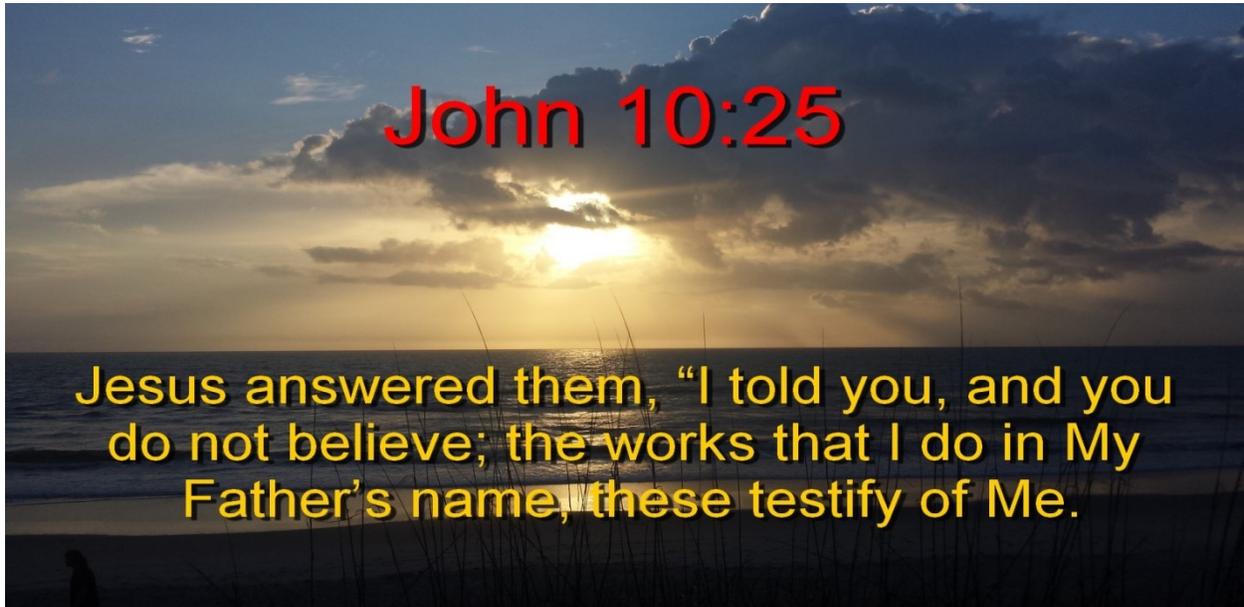
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by living without suspense that Jesus is the Christ. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by worshiping Jesus as the Christ, the Holy One, the Anointed One of God?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Four Hundred Forty Eight

I Told You Today



Did Jesus tell the Jews that He is the Christ? Jesus told them, but they did not believe.

Jesus focused upon unbelief. He answered the Jews saying that He told them He is the Christ, but their unbelief caused them not to hear Jesus. Jesus had consistently told them spiritual things. He described Himself in many different ways, all of which revealed that He is the Christ.

Jesus also focused upon His works. Jesus did works in the Name of God the Father. Those works testified that Jesus is the Christ. The Jews saw those works and did not believe. They saw Pallet Man walk and Man Born Blind see. They say other works as well. Because of their unwillingness to do the works of God, they did not understand the works they saw.

Jesus told the Jews that He is the Christ. Jesus was the Anointed of God, the Savior of the World. Jesus was the Messiah of God, the Holy One.

Testify of Me

1. **Often.** Jesus often talked with Jews. Many of them opposed Him.
2. **Told.** The Jews asked Jesus to tell them plainly if He was the Messiah. He replied that He had already told them.
3. **Answer.** Jesus pointed out that the Jews did not believe His answer. He was the Messiah.
4. **Testified.** Jesus buttressed His words with His works. They both testified that He was the Messiah.
5. **Disbelief.** Jesus highlighted disbelief. Just because you hear the words of Jesus and see His works does not mean you have saving faith.
6. **Believe.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we believe in Jesus, including His words and works.
7. **Savior.** We rejoice today because we believe the truth Jesus told us. He is the Messiah, Savior of the world.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by examining the works of Jesus to praise Him for them.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we see the works that testify of Jesus.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we worship Jesus for the works He performs in the Name of His Father.**

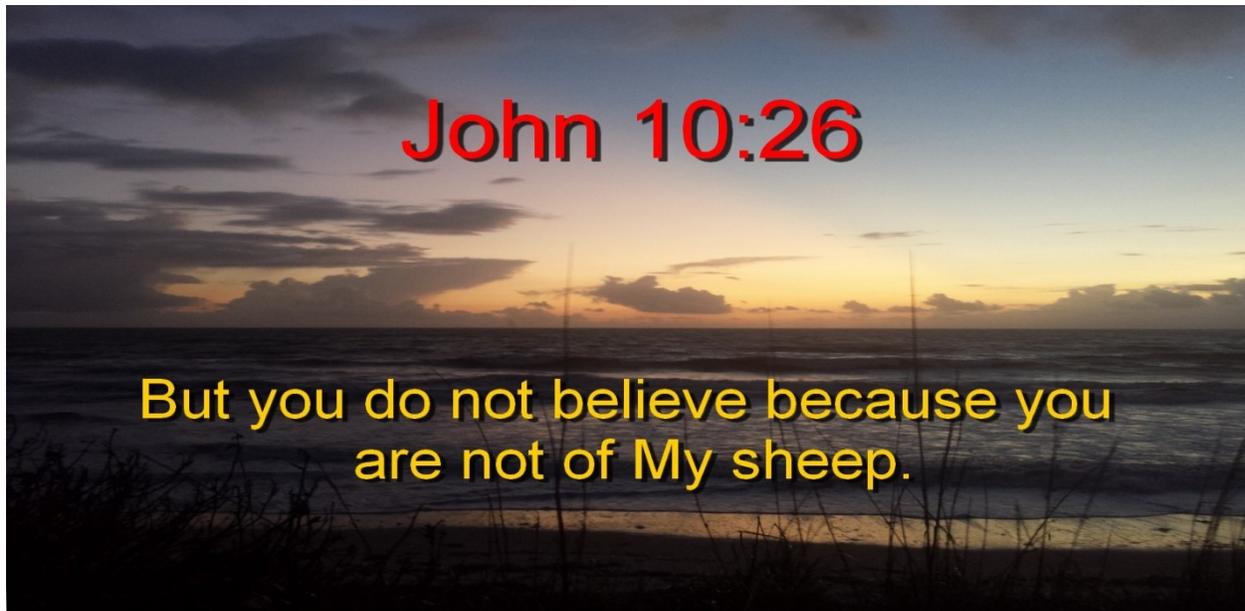
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by praising Jesus for the works which testify of Him. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by seeing the works of Jesus today?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Four Hundred Forty Nine

Not Believe Today



Why did Jesus say that the Jews did not believe? Jesus said they did not believe because they were not of His sheep.

Jesus taught very deep theology here. The Jews did not believe because they were not His sheep. Jesus implied that His sheep believe in Him. Jesus, however, said more than that truth. Jesus meant that God the Father gives the sheep to Jesus and then they believe in Him.

Jesus described that process as God the Father reveals Jesus to the sheep, and then Jesus reveals God the Father to the sheep. Jesus was the door to the sheep, and God the Father was the doorkeeper of the sheep. Jesus used very deep and wonderful illustrations of salvation, the trinity, and the harmony of doing God's will in all things.

My Sheep

1. **Not Believe.** As the Good Shepherd, Jesus explained why the Jews did not hear His words or believe in Him for salvation.
2. **Not His.** The Jews did not believe in Him because they were not His sheep.
3. **Jewish.** Remember that Jesus was Jewish, but the Jewish nation as a whole rejected Him.
4. **Truths.** Jesus revealed that no one can understand the truths He revealed unless they are His sheep.
5. **Understand.** We hear and understand Jesus today because we are His sheep. By grace we live as the flock of Jesus.
6. **His.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we are His sheep.
7. **Sheep.** We rejoice today because we understand what Jesus says to us because we are His sheep.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by rejoicing that we are the sheep of Jesus.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God by praising Jesus that God the Father opened our hearts to believe in Jesus.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God by worshiping Jesus and God the Father for the blessings of knowing God.**

Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by rejoicing that we are the sheep of God and believe in Jesus. Will you live Godly in the family of God today and encourage other people to believe in Jesus so that they can become His sheep?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Four Hundred Fifty

My Voice Today



What do the sheep hear? The sheep hear the voice of Jesus.

While Jesus told the Jews and the Pharisees that they could not hear His words, He also said that His sheep hear His voice. Jesus taught that the sheep hear the voice of the shepherd, but others they will not follow.

Jesus said that He knew the sheep. He knows them very well, and He knows all their names. Jesus knows your name and everything about you. Jesus emphasized that He knows His sheep.

Jesus also taught that His sheep follow Him. They do not follow robbers, thieves, and wolves. This personal relationship that Jesus has with His sheep flows both ways. He knows them and they know His voice and follow Him.

They Follow Me

1. **My.** Jesus described His personal relationship with the sheep using the term “My.” Jesus considered the sheep His sheep, and He was their shepherd.

2. **Sheep.** Jesus spoke about believers and sheep. People in the time of Jesus know about sheep. They knew about shepherds. As the Good Shepherd, Jesus had a special relationship with sheep.

3. **Hear.** The sheep hear the voice of Jesus and they listen to Him. They follow Jesus for protection, care and food. He leads them in and out to pasture.

4. **Voice.** Jesus has a voice like no other. The sheep listen only to the voice of Jesus, the Good Shepherd.

5. **Know.** Jesus knows the name of each sheep. Jesus, the infinite God of the universe, knows the name of each one of His sheep.

6. **They.** Living Godly in the family of God means that Jesus leads the entire flock, not just one sheep.

7. **Follow.** We rejoice today because we follow Jesus by listening to His voice.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by listening to Jesus lead the entire flock.**

- **We live more Godly in the family of God by trusting that Jesus knows the first, middle and last name of each sheep.**

- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God by following Jesus as He leads us with His voice and we know that voice and He knows us.**

Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by trusting Jesus to know your name and lead you and the entire flock together? Will you live Godly in the family of God today by trusting Jesus to lead the flock to where it will glorify God?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Four Hundred Fifty One

Give Eternal Life Today



Can anyone snatch people out of the hand of Jesus? Jesus said that no one will snatch them out of His hand.

Jesus promised that He gives eternal life to some people. Those people will have age life and will not be destroyed to the age. In fact, those people have eternal life. Furthermore, no one will ever snatch them out of the hand of Jesus.

Jesus described the devil as snatching the Gospel of Jesus Christ out of the lives of people who heard the Gospel of Jesus Christ, but did not understand it. Once the Gospel is understood and received by faith, those people remain eternally secure in Jesus. No one will snatch people out of the hand of Jesus.

Never Perish

1. **Revelation.** Jesus continued His revelation about the Good Shepherd and sheep.
2. **Eternal Life.** Jesus declared that He gave eternal life to His sheep.
3. **Never Perish.** Jesus also promised that those sheep would never perish.
4. **Security.** Jesus taught eternal security. Jesus promised that His sheep will never perish. So, once saved, always saved.
5. **No Separation.** Jesus also taught that no one can snatch them out of His hand. Nothing can separate us from the loving grip of Jesus.
6. **His Hand.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we live in the palm of Jesus Christ and we will never perish and no one will ever snatch us out of His hand.
7. **Grip.** We rejoice today because no one can overpower Jesus. He always maintains His loving grip upon our lives. Our grip may fade at times, but His grip holds us firmly for all eternity.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by resting in the hand of Jesus.**

- **We live more Godly in the family of God knowing that no one will ever snatch us out of the hand of Jesus.**

- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God by rejoicing in the eternal life we have received from Jesus as a free gift.**

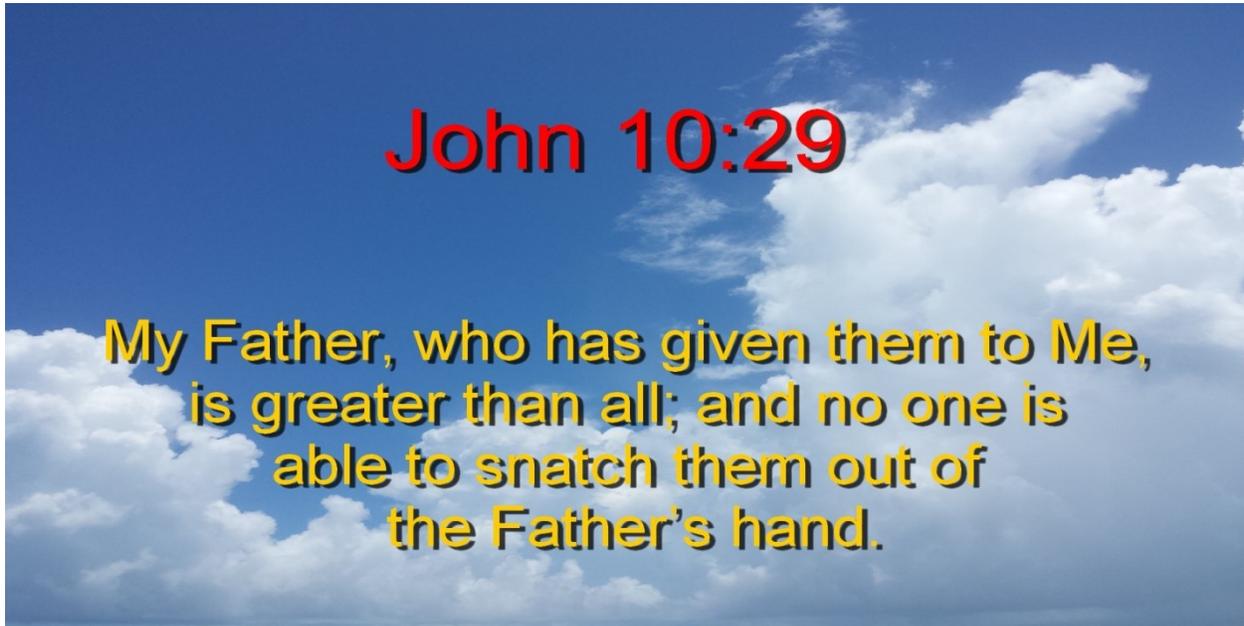
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by rejoicing that we remain eternally secure in the hand of Jesus. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by worshiping Jesus for holding us tightly in His hand?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Four Hundred Fifty Two

Greater than All Today



Can anyone snatch people out of the Father's hand? No one is able to snatch people out of the hand of the Father.

Jesus explained first that no one is able to snatch people out of His hand. Then Jesus further explained that no one can snatch people out of the Father's hand.

God the Father is greater than all. He gave people to Jesus. Jesus never turns away anyone the Father gives to Him. They all come to Jesus. Jesus then holds them in His hand. No one can snatch them out of the hand of Jesus.

We praise Jesus and God the Father for revealing to us that we are secure in their hands. We have nothing to fear, except God. He loves us and holds us tightly and securely.

The Father's Hand

1. **God.** Jesus continued His revelation of the power of God.
2. **Power.** The power of the Father of Jesus is greater than all other powers.
3. **Hands.** Jesus already revealed that He holds believers in His hand. Now we learn that the Father puts His hand over the hand of Jesus.
4. **Sheep.** Jesus explained that the wolf snatches the sheep and scatters them.
5. **All-Powerful.** Because both the Father and Jesus hold us in their hands, no wolf (or anyone else) is able to snatch them out of those all-powerful hands.
6. **Hold.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we have eternal security because the hand of Jesus plus the hand of the Father holds us tightly for all eternity.
7. **Safe.** We rejoice today in the strength and loving power of God. He loves us forever and keeps us safe so that no one can snatch us away from Him.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by rejoicing that God the Father holds us in His hand.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God by praising God the Father that He gave us to Jesus.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we worship God the Father, Who is greater than all, as we rest securely in His hand.**

Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by enjoying the security of the Father's hand holding us. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by meditating upon God the Father, Who is greater than all?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Four Hundred Fifty Three

I and the Father Today



How does Jesus relate to the Father? Jesus said that I and the Father are one.

Jesus described Himself as one with the Father. Jesus meant that He is God like the Father. He is the Son of God and equal with God. He is eternal like God the Father.

Jesus distinguished Himself from the Father. He said God the Father sent Him from heaven to do the works of God on earth. Jesus was one God with the Father. Jesus was not the same Person as the Father. Jesus died on the cross, not the Father. Jesus rose from the dead, not the Father.

Jesus is one with the Father in their divine qualities. They are one in their will. They are both sinless. Jesus holds each believer and so does the Father. In that sense, too, they are one.

One

1. **Hands.** Jesus explained that He held His sheep in His hand. His Father covered the sheep also with His hand.

2. **Messiah.** Jesus had revealed Himself as the Messiah. Then He revealed that He and His Father are one.

3. **One God.** Jesus meant that both He and the Father are one God.

4. **Standing.** As Jesus declared He and the Father are One, Jesus was standing on earth in his human body, heading to the cross with resurrection to follow.

5. **Died.** The Father did not die on the cross. Only Jesus died on the cross. Yet, they remained One God always.

6. **We Know.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we know Jesus and the Father are One.

7. **Protection.** We rejoice today because Jesus and the Father both love to protect us with their hands. We find green pastures in the hands of God.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by remembering that Jesus is one with the Father.**

- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we understand that Jesus and the Father are both God.**

- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God by worshiping God the Father and Jesus as One God.**

Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by loving Jesus and God the Father, One God. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by worshiping Jesus and the Father, One God?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Four Hundred Fifty Four

Stones Today



Why did the Jews pick up stones? The Jews picked up stones to stone Jesus.

The Jews became very angry when Jesus proclaimed that He is One with God the Father. The Jews were already very angry because Jesus said that He was the Son of God, making Himself equal to the Father.

The Jews boiled when Jesus said He was One with the Father. They could not understand how any man could claim to be One with the Father. They knew Him to be a man and they thought He came from Galilee. He actually came from heaven and was born in Bethlehem.

The Jews grabbed stones because they never knew God and never loved God. They did not understand Jesus and His words. Indeed, they had no intention of doing the will of God, which remains to believe Jesus and receive Him as Savior.

Stone Him

1. **One.** Jesus declared that He and His Father are one.
2. **Understood.** The Jews understood that Jesus claimed to be equal with God.
3. **Blasphemy.** The Jews condemned Jesus for blasphemy (speaking irreverently about God); Jesus, however, spoke the truth and actually the Jews were blaspheming.
4. **Stone.** The Old Testament provided that people guilty of blasphemy should be stoned.
5. **Angry.** Jesus now faced an angry group of Jews holding rocks and ready to start hurling them at any moment.
6. **Violent.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we expect some people today to have violent reactions to Jesus' claim to be God.
7. **God.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we love Jesus because He is one with the Father.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by understanding that Jesus made the Jews very angry.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we understand that Jesus made the Jews so angry they wanted to stone Him to death immediately.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God by expecting that many people will have violent reactions to the truth that Jesus is God and is One with the Father.**

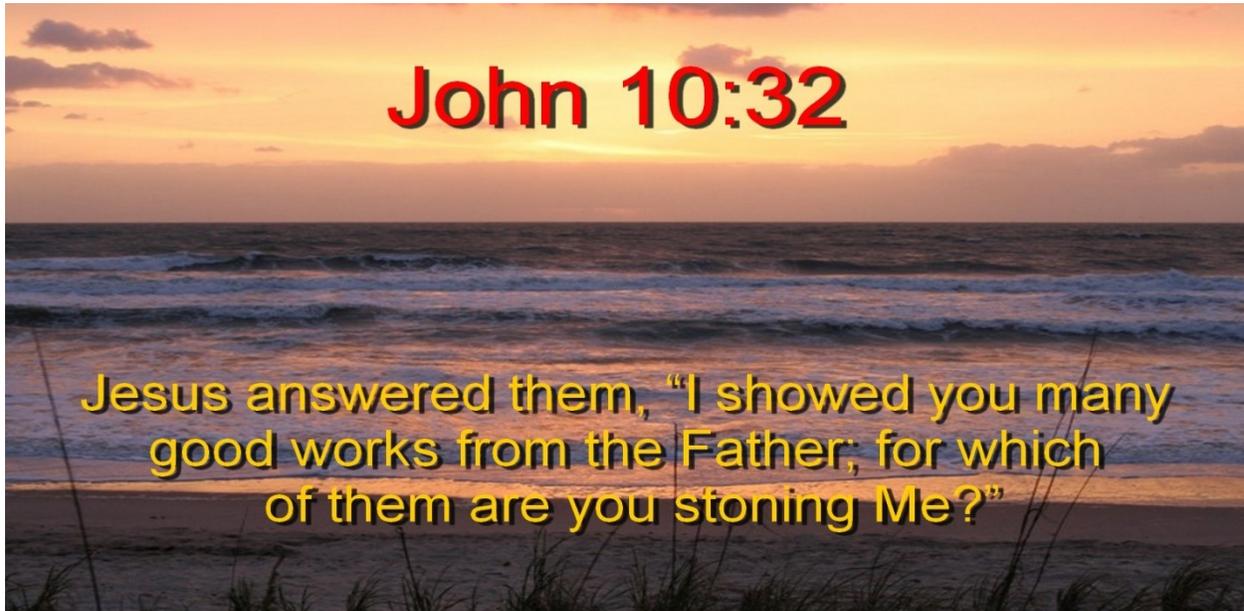
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by anticipating that some people will have very violent reactions to Jesus. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by praying for people to receive Jesus as Savior, even when they violently oppose Jesus?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Four Hundred Fifty Five

Good Works Today



Did Jesus show the Jews many good works? Jesus showed the Jews many good works from the Father.

The Jews were ready to stone Jesus because He revealed that He is one with the Father. What would you say to an angry mob holding stones and ready to kill you? Jesus asked that mob questions.

Jesus focused their attention upon the good works He did from the Father. They had seen Man Born Blind and knew that he received the gift of sight. Jesus had also healed Pallet Man and many other people. He had performed works of powers.

The Jews had explosive anger. They claimed to know God and be zealous for God. Instead, they actually opposed God and tried to kill Jesus because He told them the truth.

Stoning Me

1. **Calmly.** When confronted by an angry group of Jews holding rocks ready to stone Him, Jesus calmly asked them a simple question.
2. **Focused.** Jesus focused His question upon the good works that He had done.
3. **Father.** Jesus identified those good works as coming from God the Father.
4. **Equality.** Even with a crowd ready to stone Him, Jesus was willing to teach them about His relationship with God the Father and reveal His full equality with God the Father.
5. **God.** Jesus also revealed how God became flesh and dwelt among men.
6. **Proclaimed.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we know that Jesus always had full command of His emotions and actions; He never feared death or backed down from proclaiming the truth.
7. **Truth.** We rejoice today because Jesus always told the truth, even when people were about to stone Him.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by remembering that people saw the good works of Jesus and still wanted to kill Him.**

- **We live more Godly in the family of God by expecting that Jesus will always divide the believers from the unbelievers.**

- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God by worshiping Jesus because He courageously told the truth to very hostile people.**

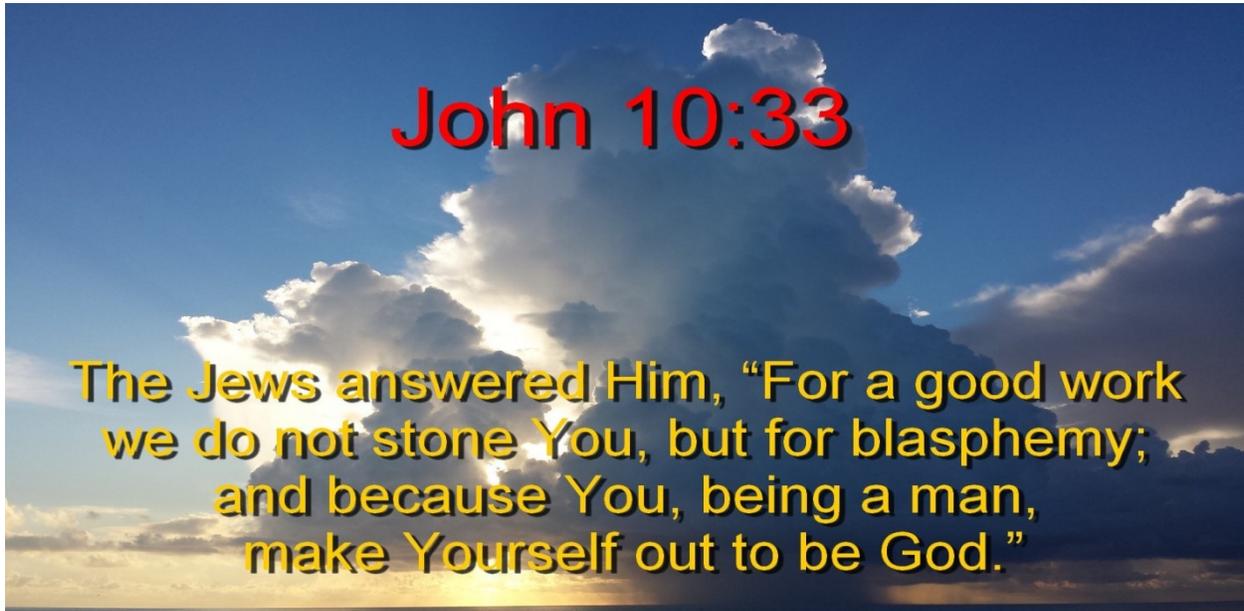
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by loving Jesus for speaking the truth to angry people. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by following Jesus when He leads us to speak up for Him among angry people?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Four Hundred Fifty Six

Being a Man Today



Why were the Jews going to stone Jesus? The Jews were going to stone Jesus because He made Himself out to be God.

The Jews were not going to stone Jesus for His good works. They wanted to stone Him because in their minds He had blasphemed by declaring Himself One with God.

The Jews worked from a binary view of Jesus. He was either God or He was Man, but you could not be both at the same time. They certainly rejected Him as God, but they knew He was a man.

The Jews were correct that Jesus was truly a man. The Jews were incorrect that Jesus is not God. Jesus was the Son of God Who took flesh and dwelt among men. He was God in the flesh. He was truly God and truly Man at the same time.

Blasphemy

1. **Stoning.** The Jews were holding rocks and ready to stone Jesus. Jesus asked them for what good work were they stoning Him.

2. **Claim.** The Jews replied they were not stoning Him for a good work. They were stoning him because he claimed to be God even though He was a man.

3. **Both.** In their minds, you were either human or divine, but not both.

4. **Expose.** Jesus exposed the reasons they sought to stone Him.

5. **Prove.** Jesus will prove that He is God and man, at the same time.

6. **Fully God.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we believe Jesus was fully God and fully man.

7. **Salvation.** We rejoice today because Jesus loved His enemies and proclaimed salvation to them, even as they sought to stone Him.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by understanding that Jesus was truly God and truly man at the same time.**

- **We live more Godly in the family of God by counting upon Jesus to understand our weaknesses because He was also a man.**

- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God by rejoicing that we have a Savior Who took human flesh and is truly God.**

Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by thanking Jesus for all His good works in our lives. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by rejoicing that Jesus is God Who took flesh and dwelt among us?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Four Hundred Fifty Seven

In Your Law Today



What was written in their Law? In their Law God declared: "I said, you are gods."

With a mob ready and holding stones in their hands to hurl at Jesus, He began to explain the incarnation to them. They were locked into thinking that if a person is a man, then he cannot be God. Jesus was both God and Man.

Jesus quoted Psalm 82 to prove that God called some humans "gods." Because God called some humans gods in the Old Testament, the mob should not be shocked that Jesus, a man, also claimed to be God. Jesus was not identifying Himself with the humans of Psalm 82, but the God of Psalm 82.

Jesus is God and always has been God. He was in the beginning with God and was God. He made all things. God the Father sent Jesus to do the Father's works on earth.

You Are gods

1. **Equal.** The Jews charged Jesus with blasphemy for making Himself equal with God.
2. **God.** In their minds, you are either God or man, but not both.
3. **Cited.** Jesus cited their Law (Psalm 82): "I SAID, YOU ARE GODS."
4. **Psalm.** Jesus quoted the Psalm to show that God called some men (human judges) gods.
5. **Became.** Jesus began to show the Jews that not only did God call some humans gods, but God became a human (Jesus of Nazareth).
6. **God-Man.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we know God took flesh and became the God-Man, Jesus.
7. **Ransom.** We rejoice today because Jesus took flesh to be the ransom for many people, like us-- sinners saved by grace through faith.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by remembering that Jesus took flesh and dwelt among us.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God when we remember that some humans were called gods.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God by loving Jesus for becoming a man just like us, yet without sin.**

Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by praising Jesus for taking flesh and living among us. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by living like Jesus today?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Four Hundred Fifty Eight

The Word of God Today



Can the Scripture be broken? According to Jesus, the Scripture cannot be broken.

Jesus proved from the Scriptures that some humans could be called gods. They were not divine, but they did act as judges carrying out the commands of God.

Jesus made the point that they should not stone Him based upon their own Scriptures. They could not understand that God could take human flesh and dwell among men.

The Jews thought that a person could be God or man, but not both. Jesus proved from their own Scriptures that God called some humans gods. Therefore, the Jews should drop their stones.

Scripture Cannot Be Broken

1. **Declared.** Jesus faced a group of Jews holding stones ready to stone Him because they thought He blasphemed by declaring that He was one with God.

2. **Representatives.** Jesus explained that God called some human beings gods. Jesus did not mean they were divine, but God chose them to represent Him on earth as judges.

3. **Scriptures.** Jesus quoted Psalm 82 which is part of the Scriptures. Jesus said the Scriptures cannot be broken.

4. **Quoted.** By quoting the Scriptures, Jesus proved that the Jews should not stone Him. The Jews should have recognized the authority of the Scriptures.

5. **Proved.** Jesus consistently declared the truth and used the Bible to prove that He was one with God and that He was God in the flesh.

6. **Truth.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we should rely upon the Scriptures to know the truth.

7. **Never Contradicts.** We rejoice today because the Scriptures never contradict Jesus and Jesus never contradicts the Scriptures because they both tell the truth all the time.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by understanding that the Scriptures cannot be broken.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we recall that God called some humans gods.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we worship only Jesus, because He took flesh and dwelt among us doing the works of God.**

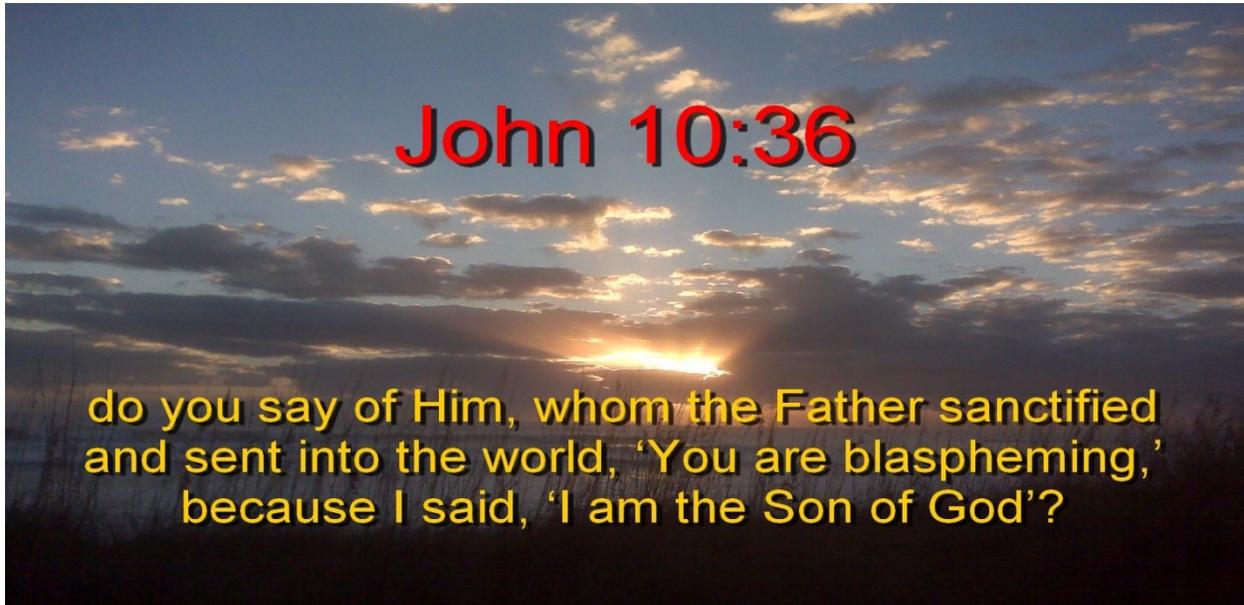
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by remembering that Jesus faced very angry crowds and He quoted Scripture to them. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by loving Jesus for reminding us that the Scriptures cannot be broken?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Four Hundred Fifty Nine

Sanctified Today



John 10:36

do you say of Him, whom the Father sanctified and sent into the world, 'You are blaspheming,' because I said, 'I am the Son of God'?

Who did the Father sanctify and send into the world? The Father sanctified Jesus and sent Him into the world.

Jesus had been proclaiming all along that God the Father sent Him into the world to do the works of God. As eternal God, Jesus created the world and He came into the world to seek and to save the lost.

Jesus intended to lay down His life for the sheep, at the proper time and at the proper place. Jesus knew exactly the plan of salvation and He fulfilled every detail of that plan.

Jesus was not blaspheming when He declared repeatedly that He is the Son of God. Jesus was equal with God the Father because He was God like God the Father.

Into the World

1. **Flesh.** Jesus continued to explain that He was God in the flesh. Therefore He was not guilty of blasphemy by saying that He was God.

2. **Incarnation.** Jesus then explained the incarnation. Incarnation means that God took flesh and dwelt among men living as both God and man.

3. **Sanctified.** The incarnation started with the Father sanctifying the Son and sending Him into the world.

4. **Purpose.** In this case the word "sanctifying" means that God set apart Jesus for the particular purpose of taking flesh and living among men.

5. **Holy.** Jesus was already holy and continued in His sinless perfection while on Earth.

6. **Dwelt.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we recognize Jesus as having been sanctified by the Father and sent into the world. In other words, God took flesh and dwelt among us.

7. **Bought.** We rejoice today because Jesus came into the world and bought our salvation by dying on the cross and then taking His life up again three days later with glory to follow.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by remembering that God the Father sanctified Jesus.**

- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we believe that God the Father sent Jesus into the world to do the will of His Father.**

- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we worship Jesus as the Son of God, sanctified and sent into the world.**

Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by remembering that God the Father sanctified and sent Jesus into the world because they both loved us. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by praising Jesus for coming into the world to save us from our sins?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Four Hundred Sixty

The Works Today



Did Jesus link works with faith? Jesus challenged people not to believe Him if He did not do the works of His Father.

Of course, Jesus always did the works of His Father. They were one touchstone of His deity. Jesus proved His relationship to the Father by consistently doing the works of His Father, even when people who “believed” in Him were doing the works of their father, the devil.

God the Father sanctified and sent Jesus into the world for the very purpose of doing the works of His Father. Therefore, those works gave consistent testimony that God the Father sent Jesus.

Jesus challenged people not to believe in Him if He did not do the works of His Father. Jesus knew that no one could accept that challenge in good faith, because He consistently did the works of His Father.

My Father

1. **Incarnation.** Jesus explained the incarnation to the Jews holding stones ready to stone Him.
2. **Proved.** Jesus first proved that God called some humans elohim and then declared that God sent Him into the world.
3. **Proclaimed.** Finally Jesus proclaimed that if He did not do the works of God His Father, then do not believe Him.
4. **Works.** Jesus not only explained theology and made bold proclamations, but He also backed up everything with the works of God.
5. **Powerful.** As the old saying goes: talk is cheap, but with Jesus, His works testified powerfully to His words.
6. **Divine.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we believe the works of Jesus reflected His divine relationship with His Father.
7. **Commanded.** We rejoice today because Jesus proved that He is God, One with the Father, and He commanded everyone to believe Him.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by doing the works of God the Father.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we enjoy doing the works of God the Father.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we join together in worshiping Jesus because He always did the works of His Father.**

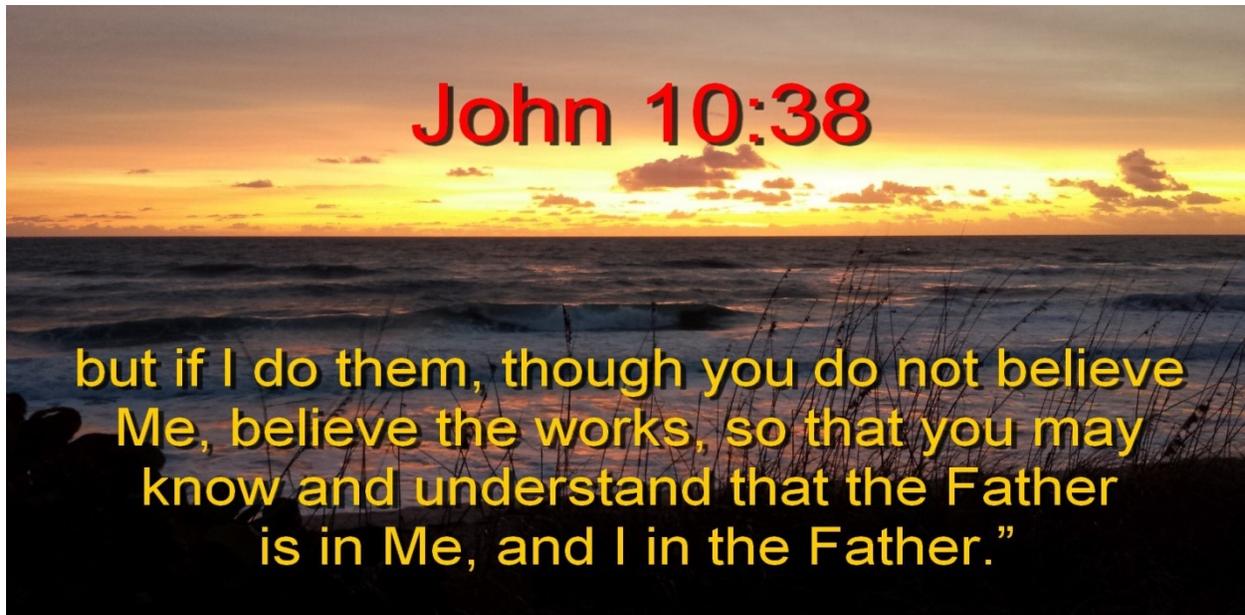
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by doing the works of God the Father. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by following Jesus in doing the works of God the Father?

HALLELUJAH!

Day Four Hundred Sixty One

Believe the Works Today



What did Jesus mean by know and understand? Jesus told the Jews that they should believe the works He did in the Name of the Father so that they may know and understand that the Father is in Jesus and Jesus in the Father.

Jesus often explained complex theology in very simple words. He made theology simple. Our only hope of understanding the relationship between Jesus and His Father lies in believing, knowing and understanding the words and works of Jesus. They all fit together.

Jesus commanded people to believe the works, even if they do not believe Him. He meant the works provide a separate basis for believing He is the Son of God, the Savior of the world. If they would believe His works, then they may have the result that they would know and understand His relationship with the Father.

Know and Understand

1. **Urged.** The Jews held stones ready to stone Jesus. He urged them to believe in Him because He was one with God the Father.
2. **Commanded.** Jesus first commanded the Jews not to believe Him if He did not do the works of His Father.
3. **Works.** Jesus next commanded the Jews to believe His works from the Father, even if they did not believe Him.
4. **Sufficient.** Jesus indicated that His works alone provided sufficient proof for them to believe in Him.
5. **Believe.** Jesus sought for all people to know and believe that the Father is in Him and He is in the Father.
6. **Know.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we know and believe that Jesus is in the Father and the Father is in Jesus.
7. **One.** We rejoice today because Jesus and the Father are One, and the words and works of Jesus prove it.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by believing the words and works of Jesus.**

- **We live more Godly in the family of God by knowing and understanding the relationship between Jesus and His Father.**

- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God by remembering that Jesus is in the Father and the Father is in Jesus.**

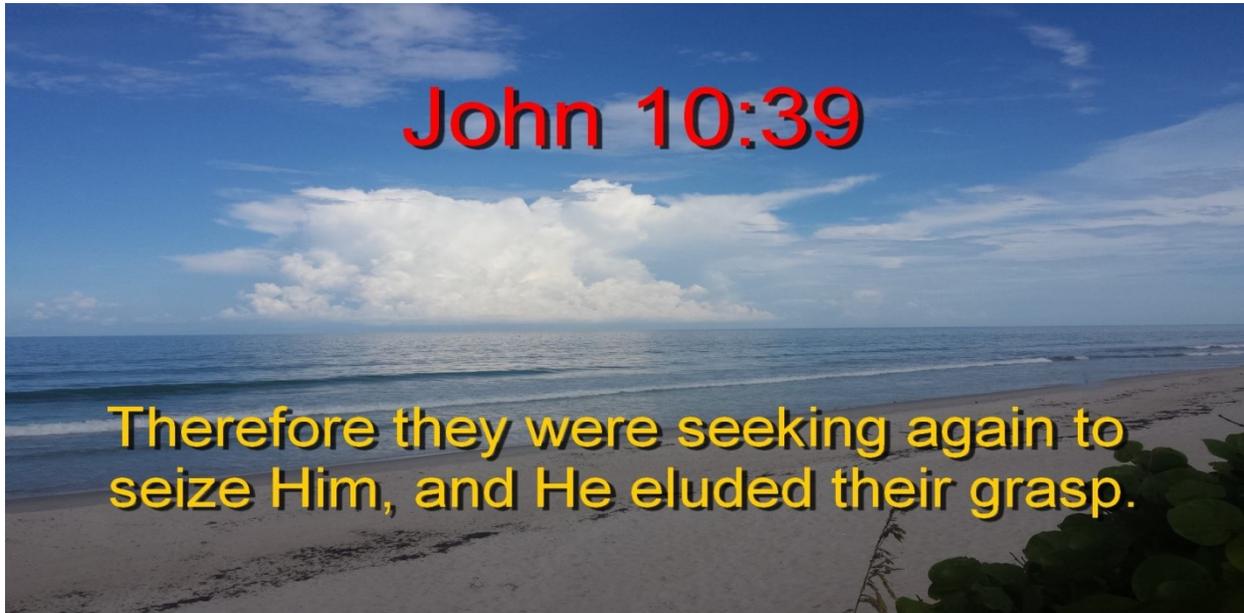
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by believing the words and works of Jesus. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by praising God that Jesus is in the Father and the Father is in Jesus?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Four Hundred Sixty Two

Seeking Again Today



How did Jesus escape from the Jews ready to stone Him? He eluded their grasp.

The Jews picked up stones to kill Jesus because of the things He said to them. They also objected to the things He did. Jesus proclaimed that He was the Son of God. God the Father sent Him into the world.

Jesus also commanded them to believe in Him. They should believe His words of eternal life. They could also believe because of His works. Both His words and His works testified that God the Father sent Him to earth to be the Savior of the world.

Jesus explained that if they believe Him and do the will of His Father, then they would know and understand His words. If they did not believe Him, then they never knew His Father and they would die in their sins.

Eluded

1. **Reveal.** The Jews were ready to stone Jesus. Even so He continued to reveal that He was one with the Father.
2. **Detail.** Jesus explained in detail that His works and His words testified that His Father and He are One.
3. **Explained.** After explaining that He came from the Father, Jesus commanded the Jews to believe in Him.
4. **Eluded.** Jesus finished talking and they tried to seize Him. Jesus eluded their grasp. The original text used a common word for going out (like Jesus went out of the temple in John 8:59) from their hands.
5. **Truth.** Jesus never toned down His message or avoided the truth, even if telling the truth angered people.
6. **Anger.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we praise Jesus for always telling the truth, even when the angry Jews tried to kill Him.
7. **Prophecy.** We rejoice today because Jesus eluded the grasping hands of the Jews trying to kill Him. His time and manner of death had been prophesied centuries before, and He would die on the cross at just the right time and in just the right place, with resurrection and glory to follow.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by going out from people who want to kill us.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God knowing when to stay and when to leave.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God by having the wisdom from God to know when to continue speaking and when to leave and speak somewhere else.**

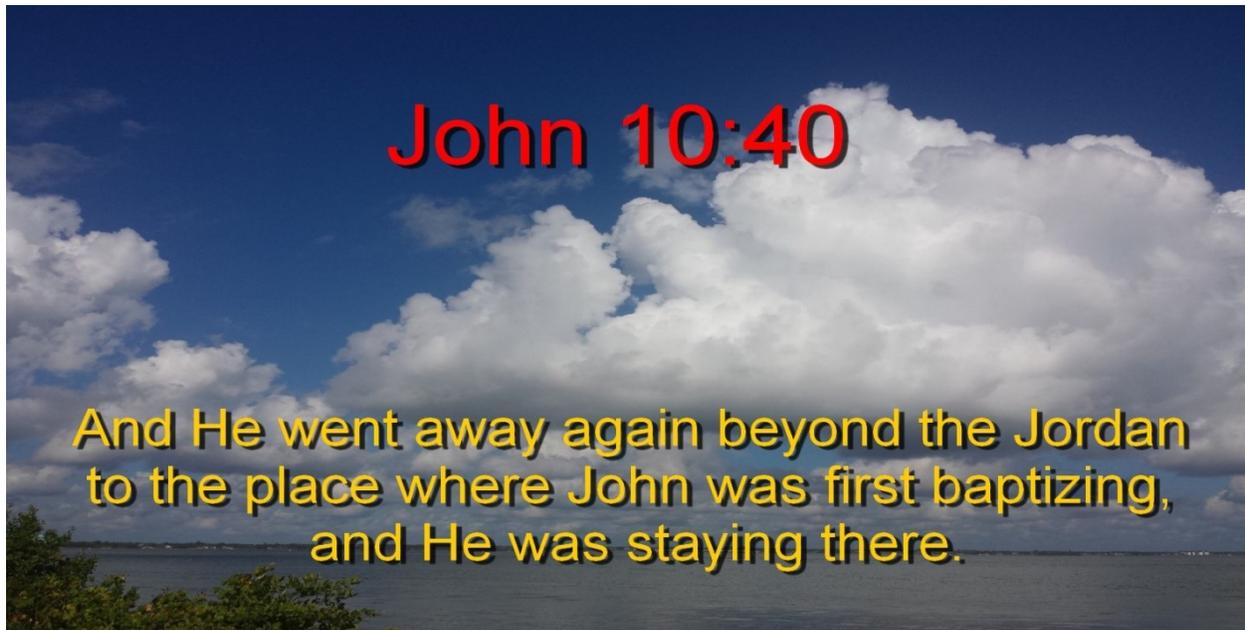
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by knowing when to stay and when to leave. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by following Jesus as He leads us to stay and when to leave?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Four Hundred Sixty Three

Went Away Today



When Jesus left Jerusalem, where did He go? Jesus went to the place where John was first baptizing.

Jesus had great memories of John the Baptist. John the Baptist gave his life for the ministry of preparing the way for Jesus. John the Baptist lived in the spirit and power of Elijah. John the Baptist baptized Jesus to fulfill all righteousness.

Jesus stayed away from the Jews. They were seeking to kill Him and He went away. He went out into a wilderness. In our lives, we all may need wilderness time at times. We leave the crowds and spend time with our disciples. Jesus was staying there in the wilderness until just the right time.

Beyond the Jordan

1. **Wilderness**. John baptized in the wilderness area. People came out to hear him and be baptized.

2. **Stone**. The Jews had just tried to stone Jesus and even before that incident they had sought to kill Him more than once.

3. **Withdrew**. In order to avoid further contact with the Jews seeking His death, Jesus withdrew into the wilderness.

4. **Wisdom**. Jesus did not hide in fear. He applied wisdom to avoid persecution.

5. **Time**. Jesus also spent time with His disciples. We will see that people came to see Jesus in the wilderness and many believed.

6. **Persecution**. Living Godly in the family of God means that we follow Jesus. At times, He leads us away from persecution.

7. **Hand**. We rejoice today because Jesus always holds us in His hand and we remain eternally secure there.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by following Jesus wherever He leads, even into the wilderness.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we use wisdom to avoid further persecution.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God by praising Jesus for leading us to places of safety.**

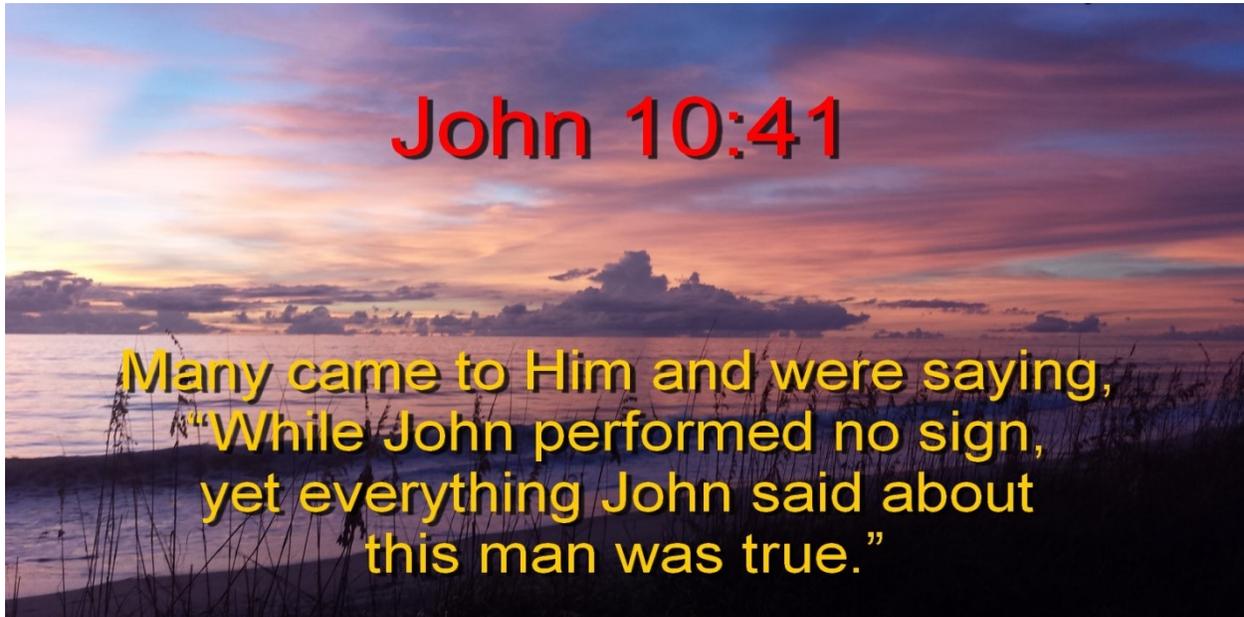
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by following Jesus as He leads us to safety. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by spending some time in the wilderness when Jesus leads you there?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Four Hundred Sixty Four

Many Came Today



What were many people saying about Jesus? As many people came to Jesus in the wilderness, they were saying that everything John the Baptist said about Jesus was true.

John the Baptist did not perform any signs. Instead he proclaimed the baptism of repentance and prophesied about Messiah. He declared he came to prepare the way for Messiah.

John the Baptist testified that Jesus was coming. John the Baptist was not worthy to untie the thong of His sandal. Jesus had a higher rank than John, because Jesus existed before John.

John the Baptist told his disciples that Jesus was the Lamb of God. John understood that he must decrease, but Jesus must increase. John the Baptist completed his work for Jesus and died in prison.

True

1. **Wilderness.** Jesus withdrew into the wilderness area where John was first baptizing.

2. **Crowds.** As the crowds came to Jesus even out in the wilderness, they were saying that John performed no signs, but everything John said about Jesus was true.

3. **Connection.** Because Jesus stood in the same place that John had stood previously, the crowd recognized the connection between Jesus and John.

4. **John and Jesus.** John talked about Jesus. He spoke about the Messiah coming Who would baptize with the Holy Spirit and with fire.

5. **Fulfilled.** Jesus fulfilled the words of John the Baptist. John performed no signs, but Jesus worked many miracles.

6. **Truth.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we know that John the Baptist told the truth about Jesus being the Messiah.

7. **Believe.** We rejoice today because Jesus never stopped loving people and inviting them to believe in Him as Lord and Savior, the Messiah of Israel. Many people came to Him in the wilderness.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by remembering that not every prophet perform signs.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we praise God that John the Baptist always told the truth.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God by always telling the truth about Jesus.**

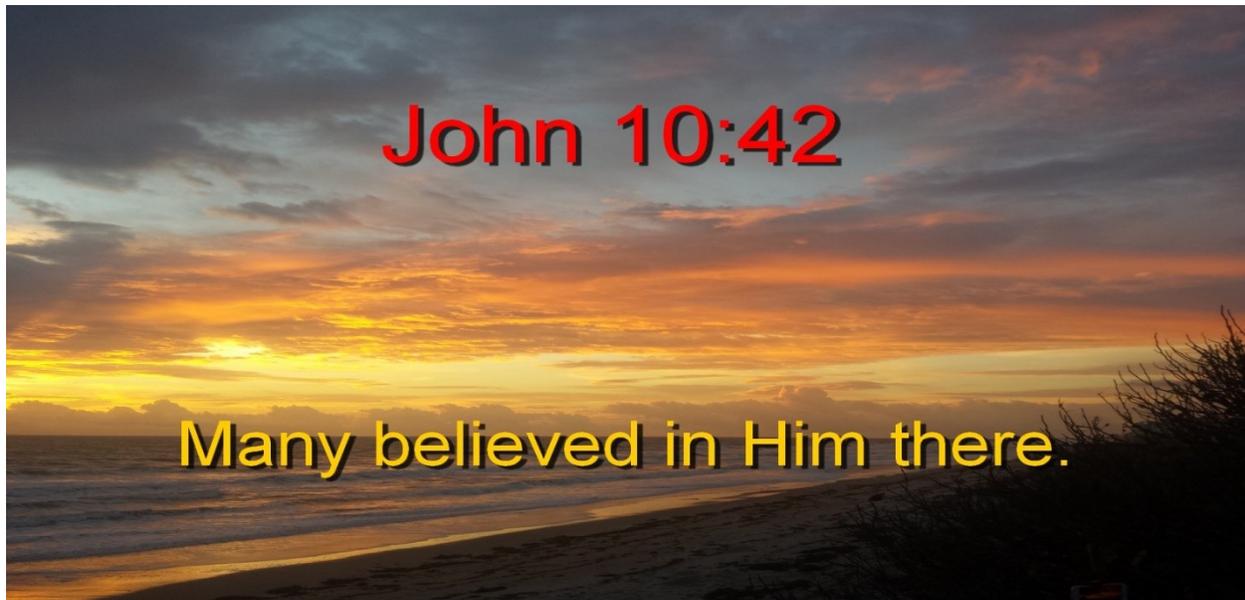
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by telling the truth about Jesus. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by recognizing that Jesus fulfilled every prophecy about Messiah's birth, life, death, resurrection and ascension?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Four Hundred Sixty Five

Many Believed Today



What did many people do in the wilderness? Like with John the Baptist, many people came out to see Jesus in the wilderness and believed.

Many people today think of a wilderness as a place of emptiness. For many people, it was a place of salvation for them. They went out into the wilderness to see Jesus and believed in Him there.

Jesus had crowds come to Him in many different places. God the Father sent people to Jesus for salvation. The geography did not stop those people from coming to Jesus.

Jesus continued His ministry to people wherever He went. He came to preach the Gospel of the Kingdom to the people of Israel. Jesus going to the wilderness was not retreating into hiding, but going where God would send many to Jesus for salvation, even in a wilderness.

Many Believed

1. **“Believed”**. As we have seen in the Gospel of John, "believed" does not always mean saved.
2. **No Faith**. In John 2:23 and John 8:31, people believed, but they did not have saving faith.
3. **Abiding**. Jesus preached that abiding in His word shows that you were saved, and you know the truth which set you free from the slavery of sin.
4. **Few**. Jesus also warned that many people go to destruction, but few go to heaven.
5. **Assurance**. Saving faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.
6. **Saving Faith**. Living Godly in the family of God means that we have saving faith.
7. **Free**. We rejoice today because we continue in the word of Jesus and have been set free from slavery to sin.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by remembering that people came to see Jesus in many different places.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God when we recall that God always draws people to Jesus.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God by remembering the day that we were drawn to Jesus for salvation.**

Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by welcoming people into the family of God from the wilderness. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by rejoicing in the variety of places people meet Jesus for salvation?

HALLELUJAH !

4

Learning about Godliness and Sickness Today

Jesus met Lazarus, the brother of Mary and Martha of Bethany. Before Jesus arrived in Bethany, Mary and Martha sent word to Him that Lazarus, whom He loved, was sick. Jesus stayed two more days where He was. The disciples were concerned about going back to Judea because the Jews there wanted to kill Him. Jesus explained that anyone who walked in the day does not stumble, because he sees the light of this world. But anyone who walks at night stumbles because the light is not in him. Jesus then told the disciples that their friend, Lazarus had fallen asleep, but He meant Lazarus had died. He also said that He was glad He had not been there when Lazarus died. The disciples went with Him, expecting to die in Judea with Him.

When Jesus came to Bethany, Lazarus had been dead for four days. Martha met Jesus near Bethany and told Him that Lazarus would not have died if Jesus had been there. She also said that she believed God will give Jesus whatever He asked. Jesus said that Lazarus would rise again. Martha said she knew her brother would rise in the resurrection. Jesus then explained that He is the resurrection and the life. Resurrection means that he who believes in Jesus will live even if he dies. Eternal life means he who lives and believes in Jesus will never die. Martha declared that she believed Jesus was the Christ, the Son of God, even He who enters the world.

Jesus later met Mary. She said that if Jesus had been there, then Lazarus would not have died. Jesus wept when He saw her weeping and the Jews who came to console the sisters also weeping. Jesus then came to the tomb of Lazarus.

Jesus commanded that the stone be removed from the tomb. Jesus said that if the people believed, they would see the glory of God. They removed the stone. Jesus prayed: “Father, I thank You that You have heard Me.” Jesus also prayed and said that He knew His Father always heard Him, but He prayed out loud so that everyone would believe that the Father sent Jesus.

Jesus then cried out with a loud voice: “Lazarus, come forth.” He came out of the tomb, still bound with wrappings. Jesus said to unbind him. Many of the Jews there believed, but some of them went to the Pharisees.

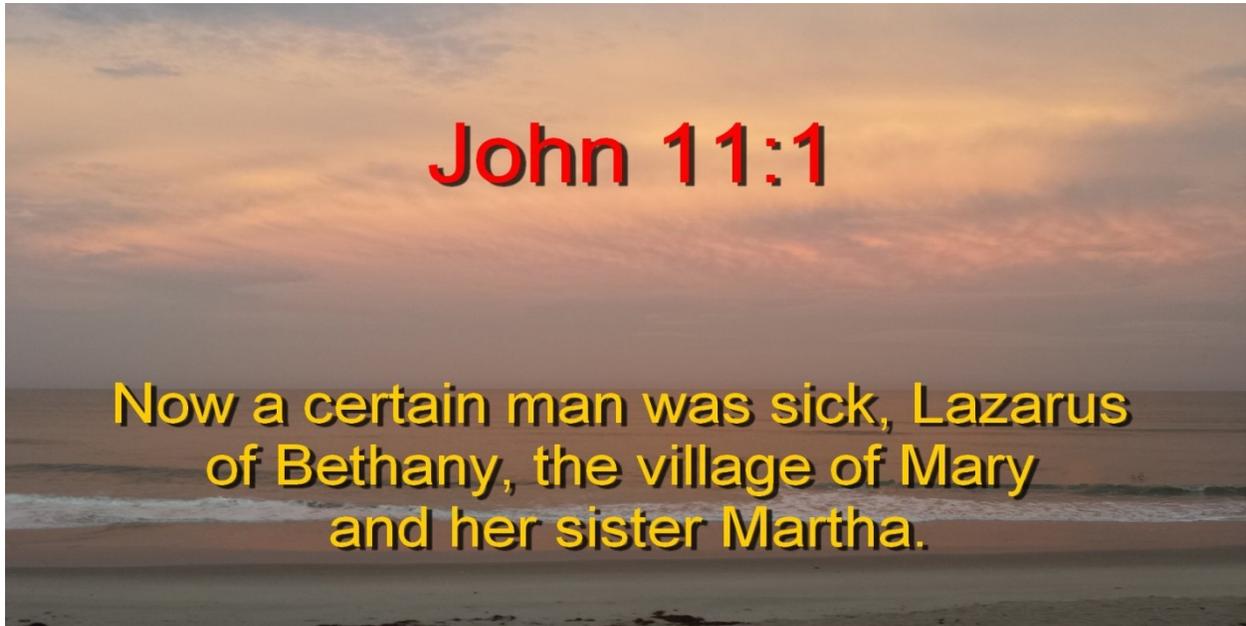
The chief priests and the Pharisees convened a council and decided to kill Jesus. Caiaphas, the high priest that year, said it was expedient for one man to die for the nation. He did not understand the true significance of what he said. He also prophesied that Jesus would gather into one the children of God who were scattered abroad.

Jesus no longer continued to walk publicly among the Jews. He stayed in the wilderness near Ephraim, until it was time to go up to the Feast and Passover. The Pharisees were waiting for Jesus, and told everyone to report any sighting of Jesus to them.

HALLELUJAH !

Day Four Hundred Sixty Six

Lazarus Today



Who was Lazarus? Lazarus was the brother of Mary and Martha.

Mary, Martha and Lazarus lived in the village of Bethany. They were friends of Jesus. When Lazarus fell sick, they called Jesus.

Jesus had earned a reputation for healing the sick. He had healed many people in Galilee and Judea. He healed them in many ways. At times, He healed people with just His words from a distance.

Jesus did the works of His Father. He commanded people to believe His works, even if they did not believe His words. Jesus came to seek and to save the lost. Jesus had great compassion upon people, especially those suffering from physical problems.

Mary and Martha

1. **Man**. John identified a certain man. John had already described servants, disciples, a ruler, an official, a mother, Pallet Man, Man Born Blind, and now Lazarus, among others.

2. **Sick**. Jesus often healed sick people. As God in the flesh, Jesus had infinite power to heal sick people. As He healed people, word spread and sick people came to him for healing. In some cases, people brought the sick or implored Jesus to come and heal.

3. **Lazarus of Bethany**. This sick man was named Lazarus, and he was from the village of Bethany.

4. **Mary and Martha**. Mary and Martha were sisters and they were friends of Jesus, along with their brother Lazarus.

5. **Healing**. People like Mary and Martha knew to call upon Jesus for help when people became sick.

6. **Family**. Living Godly in the family of God means that Jesus looked upon all people who did the will of God as His family.

7. **Friends**. We rejoice today because Jesus made friends with all kinds of people, including Mary, Martha and Lazarus. He loved them and they loved Him.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by making friends that call us when they need help.**

- **We live more Godly in the family of God by pointing our friends to Jesus when they need help.**

- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we worship Jesus who had many friends in many places.**

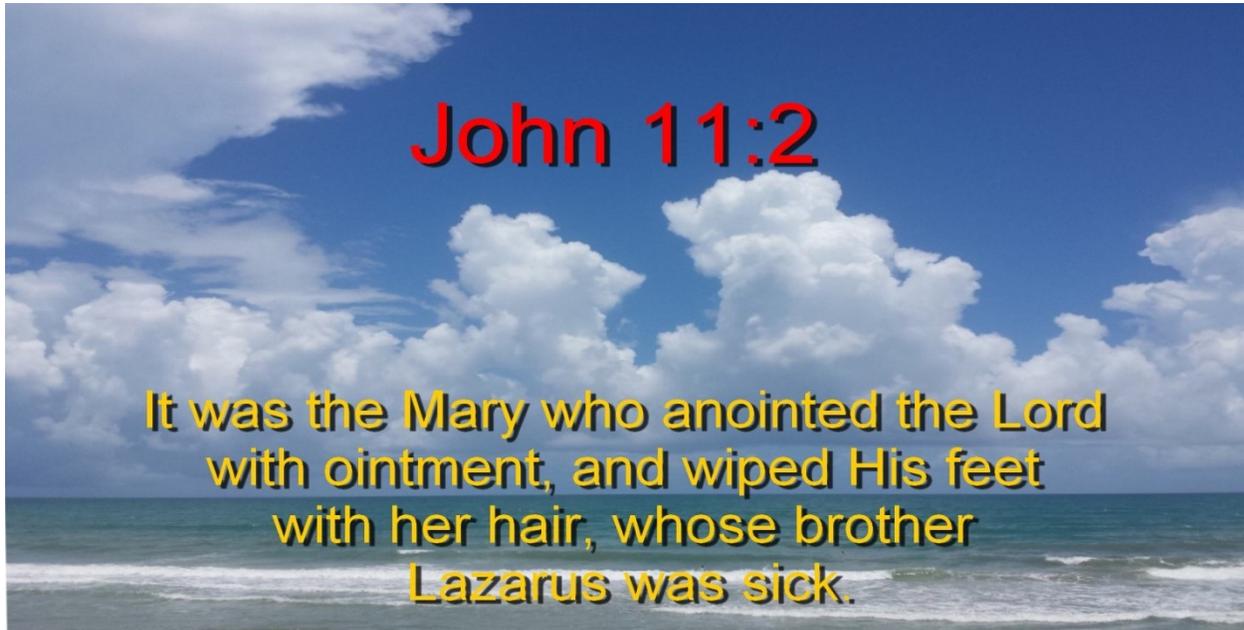
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by loving our friends like Jesus loves us. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by loving the family of God like Jesus loves us?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Four Hundred Sixty Seven

Anointed Today



Who anointed the Lord with ointment? Mary, the sister of Lazarus, anointed Jesus.

Mary was known for anointing Jesus with ointment. John presented that account later in his Gospel. Jesus was anointed twice with ointment, once by a woman at the house of Simon the Pharisee and later in Bethany. The first anointing emphasized forgiveness for sins and the second anointing prepared the body of Jesus for burial.

Mary wiped the feet of Jesus with her hair. She loved Jesus and kindly wiped his feet with her hair. As she anointed Jesus with ointment, some of the disciples objected to her activity. Jesus spoke up for her and said what she had done would be spoken about her. Mary would be held in high regard for anointing Jesus.

Mary's brother Lazarus was sick. She knew to call Jesus for help.

Mary, Martha and Lazarus

1. **Details.** John provided exact details about the family of Mary and Martha and Lazarus.
2. **Bethany.** They all lived in the village of Bethany not far from Jerusalem. We will see that Jesus loved Mary, Martha and Lazarus.
3. **Lazarus.** Lazarus had fallen sick. We have seen Jesus heal many people, including Pallet Man and Man Born Blind.
4. **True.** The New Testament provided true accounts of real people going through good and bad times.
5. **Eyewitnesses.** God chose to use human eyewitnesses to record certain events in the birth, life, death, resurrection, and return to glory of Jesus of Nazareth.
6. **Proof.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we believe Jesus because He always told the truth and historical documents prove it.
7. **Love.** We rejoice today because Jesus displayed His love for Mary, Martha, Lazarus, and the entire world by taking flesh to provide salvation as a free gift received by faith alone.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by serving Jesus in humility and love.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God by worshiping Jesus with our actions and words.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God by joining together in rejoicing in Jesus for being our friend we can call upon, especially in times of need.**

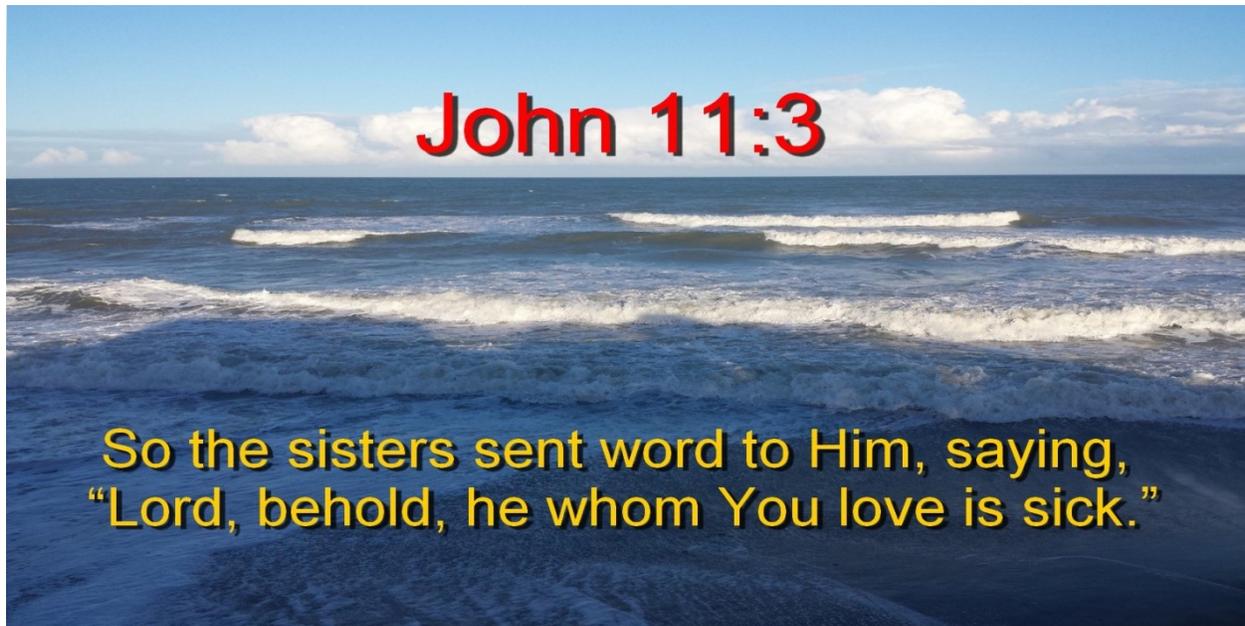
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by worshiping Jesus with our words and deeds. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by worshiping Jesus in humility and love?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Four Hundred Sixty Eight

Sent Word Today



What did Mary and Martha tell Jesus? They told Jesus that Lazarus was sick.

The sisters, Mary and Martha, sent word to Jesus. They wanted Him to know that Lazarus was sick. They described Lazarus as the one Jesus loved. Jesus loved many people, and one disciple was also known as the disciple Jesus loved.

The sisters also called Jesus Lord. They recognized that Jesus was Lord with special power to heal and that He deserved respect. Jesus had obviously formed a strong bond with Lazarus and Mary and Martha.

Jesus healed Man Born Blind and explained that not all sickness results from sin. He said that the works of God would be manifested in the life of Man Born Blind. So also Jesus has special plans for Lazarus.

Sick

1. **Love.** Mary and Martha knew that Jesus loved Lazarus. I hope every believer always remembers that Jesus loves us.

2. **Call.** Mary and Martha also knew to call Jesus when His loved ones are sick.

3. **Power.** Mary and Martha had faith to call Jesus because they believed Jesus had the power to cure Lazarus.

4. **Heal.** Mary and Martha thought that Jesus had to come to Bethany to heal Lazarus.

5. **Lord.** Mary and Martha called Jesus "Lord" because they respected Jesus and believed He was the Christ, the Son of God, Who came into the world.

6. **Good.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we know Jesus loves us and has the power to heal us at His good pleasure.

7. **Promise.** We rejoice today because Jesus promised to resurrect each believer and by faith gave each of us eternal life in Him. Our trust in Jesus lifts us every day.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by remembering that Jesus loves all His disciples.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God by calling Jesus to help our friends when they are sick.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God by recognizing that Jesus calls saints home to be with Him every day.**

Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by calling Jesus to help our friends that He loves. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by calling Jesus to help your friends when they are sick?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Four Hundred Sixty Nine

This Sickness Today



What did Jesus say about the sickness of Lazarus? He said it would not end in death, but for the glory of God.

Jesus had a totally different perspective on death and sickness. He saw sickness and death as a way for God to be glorified, so that the Son of Man would be glorified by it.

Jesus had a plan to deal with the sickness of Lazarus. He knew that Lazarus would die, but his death would not be the end. Jesus was going to glorify God as he helped Lazarus. God had a plan to glorify Jesus through the death of Lazarus. Jesus told His disciples what was going to happen.

Glory of God

1. **Prophe­sied.** Jesus prophesied about many things. He told His disciples that the sickness of Lazarus would not end in death, but in the glory of Jesus.
2. **Actions.** Jesus revealed Himself through actions. He acted to glorify God, so that people would receive Him as Savior.
3. **Plan.** Jesus followed God's plan every day, even when His friend was sick. Sometimes, physical death can draw people to Jesus.
4. **Glorify.** Because Jesus is God, when God is glorified, Jesus is also glorified.
5. **Learn.** We learn how to understand sickness and death by reading the Bible and learning from Jesus.
6. **Trust.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we trust Jesus with our sickness, knowing He can bring glory to God in all things.
7. **Healing.** We rejoice today because Jesus uses His healing powers to glorify God.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by expecting that God will glorify Himself through illness.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we expect to see Jesus use all our life's circumstances to bring glory to Himself.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we trust Jesus with all life and death decisions.**

Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by expecting Jesus to glorify Himself in our lives, healthy or not. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by trusting Jesus to glorify Himself in every circumstance arising in our lives?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Four Hundred Seventy

Loved Today



Did Jesus love people? Jesus loved Lazarus, Martha and Mary.

Jesus loved many people in different places. Jesus not only loved Lazarus, but He also loved Martha and her sister Mary. Jesus built very strong love relationships with many people.

Jesus loves you too. He loves you and gave His life so that we could live with Him for all eternity. He not only loves us, but He loves for us to be with Him. He promised to go and prepare a place for us.

Jesus sustains us with His love. We count upon Him helping in sickness and in health. He loves to glorify Himself in our lives. He wants us to trust Him to love us no matter what comes. Death does not end our lives, because we have eternal life in Jesus.

Now

1. **Loved.** Jesus loved all kinds of people. He was known for loving the poor and the rich, without partiality.

2. **Men and Women.** Jesus also loved both men and women. He loved Mary and Martha and their brother Lazarus.

3. **Example.** Jesus set the perfect example of love. He loved people, but did not always do what they wanted.

4. **Best.** Instead, Jesus did what God wanted, and that was always the best thing for everyone.

5. **Lives.** Jesus brings God into our lives, and God is love.

6. **Abiding.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we feel Jesus abiding in our lives, loving us each day.

7. **Bible.** We rejoice today because Jesus loves us, the Bible told us so.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by loving people and letting them know.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God by enjoying the love of other believers.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God by trusting the love of Jesus to be shared among all believers.**

Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by understanding that Jesus loves every child of God. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by sharing the love of Jesus with someone?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Four Hundred Seventy One

Sick Today



What did Jesus do when he heard that Lazarus was sick? Jesus stayed where He was two days longer.

Jesus had already said that the sickness of Lazarus would not end in death. The disciples may not have known much about resurrection yet, but they certainly understood that the Jews were trying to kill Jesus in Judea.

Jesus saw no hurry to get to Bethany and see Lazarus. Jesus deliberately took His time in getting there. Jesus did not delay because He did not care about Lazarus or his sisters. Jesus loved those people and they loved Him. Jesus stayed because He followed His Father's plan and timing of events. Jesus knew He would raise Lazarus, and so if Lazarus died before He got there, no problem. He would raise Lazarus at the right time.

Two Days Longer

1. **Wait.** Imagine you went to the emergency room for help and had to wait two days to be seen by the doctor. How would you like that?

2. **Expected.** Mary and Martha sent word to Jesus that their brother Lazarus was sick and expected immediate help.

3. **Stayed.** After receiving word that Lazarus was ill, Jesus stayed two days longer out in the wilderness where He was.

4. **Glory.** Please recall that Jesus said that the sickness of Lazarus would not end in death, but for the glory of God, so that the Son of God may be glorified by it.

5. **Sovereign.** As sovereign God Almighty, Jesus holds the power of physical life and eternal life.

6. **Provide.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we count upon Jesus to provide divine help at the best time to glorify God.

7. **Appointed.** We rejoice today because Jesus said everyone is appointed a time of death, but we have been appointed to eternal life by faith in Him.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by expecting that Jesus will act at just the right time, not upon our demand.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God by trusting Jesus to work the works of God in our lives, in His time, not ours.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God by praising Jesus for His perfect timing in all things.**

Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by trusting Jesus to help us at just the right time and not before. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by believing that Jesus will act at just the right time?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Four Hundred Seventy Two

Again Today



Why did Jesus go back to Judea? Jesus went back to Judea because Lazarus was sick.

Jesus had left Judea because the Jews tried to stone Him at least twice. They violently objected to His claim to be both God and man. They rejected His teaching, His witnesses, and His works. They simply would not believe.

Jesus presented the most compelling proof of His identity and backed up His revelation with perfect arguments in support, supernatural works, and the Scriptures. In every sense, Jesus proved beyond any doubt that He was God and He came to seek and to save the lost.

Jesus reminds all of us that people do not believe because they are unwilling to come to the light for fear that their evil deeds will be exposed. No one comes to Jesus unless the Father first gives that person to Jesus.

Judea

1. **Then**. Then reminds us that Jesus left for the wilderness to avoid the Jews and spend time with His disciples. The crowds soon followed Him.

2. **After**. After Jesus received word that Lazarus was sick, Jesus then announced to His disciples that they would go back to Jerusalem.

3. **Said**. Jesus told His disciples about His plans. The disciples knew about the opposition and the dangers the Jews posed. Jesus did not walk quietly through Jerusalem or elsewhere. He proclaimed salvation in Him and often worked miracles, drawing crowds. He also amazed people with His teaching.

4. **Disciples**. Jesus had disciples who followed Him, including twelve disciples He chose to be with Him, and one of them was the son of destruction. They knew that Judea posed a danger to them, from a human point of view.

5. **Go**. Jesus had travel plans set by His Father. Even so, earthly events also factored into His plans. We see then that His Father's itinerary matched human events. So also in our lives. We need to respond to people in love and let Jesus lead us.

6. **Judea**. Living Godly in the family of God means that we follow Jesus wherever He leads us. Judea included the tribes of Benjamin and Judah. They stayed loyal of the line of David. The other ten tribes revolted and they became known as Israel. Bethany and Jerusalem were both in Judea and the Jews were stirred up against Jesus.

7. **Again**. The Jews were already enraged against Jesus. The religious leaders in particular opposed Jesus and His teachings. They were seeking to kill Jesus. So going to back to Judea meant going back to danger and strong opposition against Jesus and His disciples.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by going where Jesus leads us, even if He leads us into dangerous territory.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God by going where God sends us, not necessarily the safest places for ministry.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God by following Jesus and trusting His guidance.**

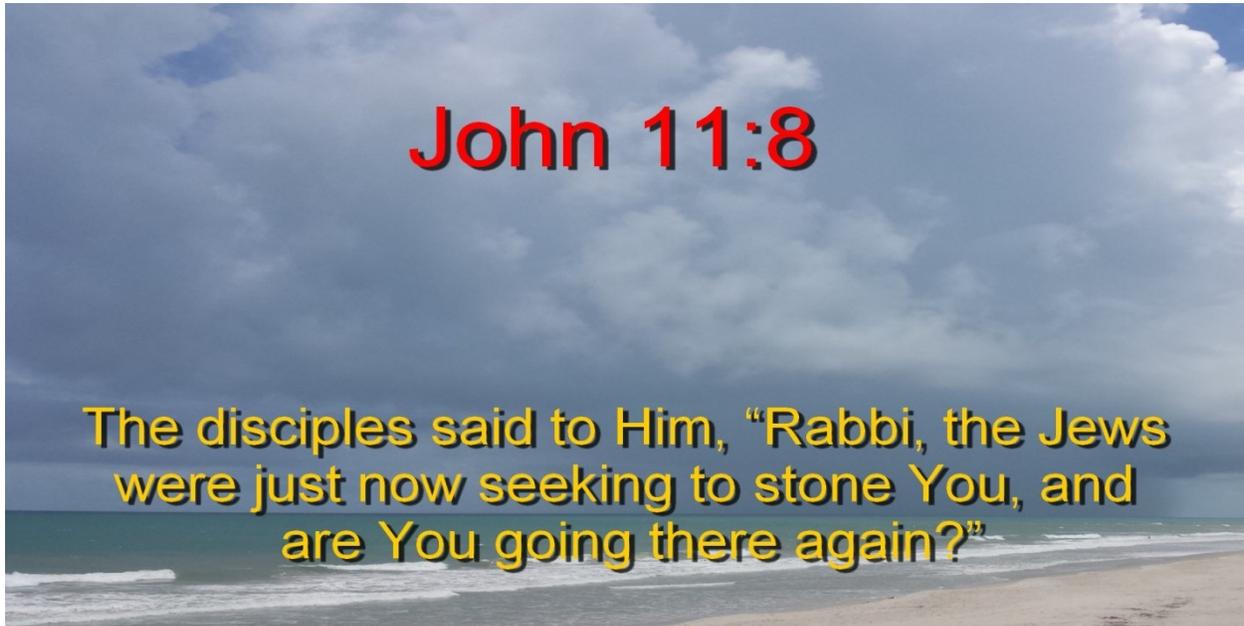
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by walking in the Light with Jesus. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by following Jesus wherever He leads you?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Four Hundred Seventy Three

Stone You Today



Why did the disciples ask Jesus why He was going back to Judea? The disciples asked about going back to Judea because they knew the Jews there wanted to stone Jesus the last time He was there.

The disciples did not forget that the Jews took up stones to kill Jesus and they wanted to kill Him for the things He said to them. The Jews called Jesus a blasphemer, a demon-possessed man, and a liar.

Jesus was not quick to go to Bethany in Judea, but He did want to go back to see Lazarus, Mary and Martha. He knew He would raise Lazarus, but they had to travel into Judea and come near to Jerusalem. The disciples thought they were going into hostile territory.

Jesus understood the Father's plan and timing. He went everywhere the Father sent Him. He was never late and never early. He arrived at just the right time and accomplished all the work His Father gave Him to do

each day. Jesus always had time to talk with the disciples about their concerns and triumphs.

Going There Again

1. **Relationship.** Jesus had a marvelous relationship with the disciples. They asked Him many questions.

2. **Dangers.** The disciples faced some dangers just because they were with Jesus.

3. **Stone.** The disciples recalled clearly that the Jews in Judea had just tried to stone Jesus.

4. **Revealed.** Jesus provided answers to virtually every question they posed. He often revealed deep truths to them with His answers.

5. **Clear.** Jesus still provides clear answers to His disciples. He speaks to us through the Bible.

6. **Follow.** Living Godly in the family of God means that when we follow Jesus, sometimes we will be in danger.

7. **Speak.** We rejoice today because Jesus took time to speak with His disciples. He still takes time today.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by taking time to listen to our friends in Christ and their concerns.**

- **We live more Godly in the family of God by trusting Jesus to answer our questions at the right time and in the right way.**

- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we rest assured that God will always lead us to the right place at the right time.**

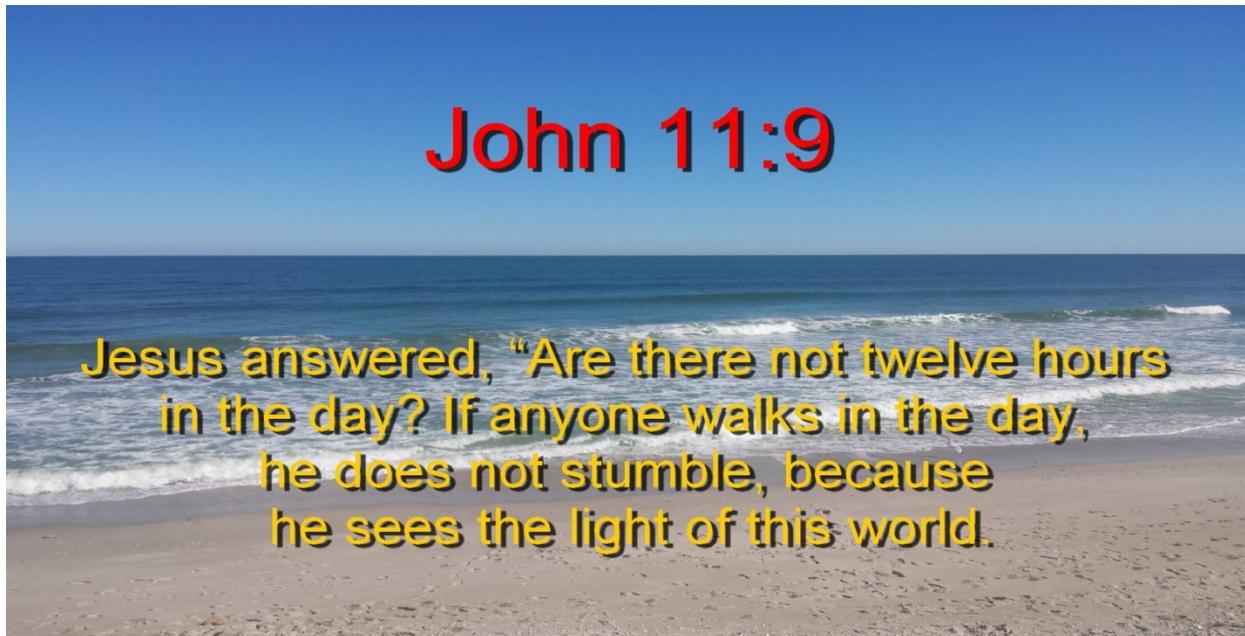
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by discussing our concerns with Jesus each day. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by counting upon Jesus to listen when you bring your questions to Him?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Four Hundred Seventy Four

Twelve Hours Today



What happens when someone walks in the day? When people walk in the day, they do not stumble.

People do not stumble when they see the light in this world. Jesus called Himself the Light of this world. He said as long as He was in the world, He was the Light of the world.

When people walk with Jesus, and follow Him as He leads them, then we do not stumble. The disciples were worried about stumbling. They perceived Judea as a very dangerous place for Jesus and them.

Jesus explained the concept of the Light and how it keeps people from stumbling. When we trust Jesus and His Light, then we will not stumble. We will be exactly where God wants us when we walk in the Light.

Walks in the Day

1. **Concerned.** The disciples were concerned about returning to Judea, because Jesus faced angry Jews there ready to stone Him.
2. **Explanation.** Jesus then provided a deep explanation of doing God's will every day.
3. **Light.** He used the language of day and light to teach His disciples not to stumble when they see the light of this world.
4. **Timing.** Jesus also taught timing. The day has twelve hours and His disciples should walk in that light wisely.
5. **Answer.** Jesus answered their concern about stones flying with light shining now.
6. **Every Day.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we use all the hours of every day to glorify God.
7. **Shield.** We rejoice today because Jesus really is the Light of the world. Even if stones fly, He remains our eternal light and shield.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by walking in the Light with Jesus.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we know that we follow Jesus and so do not stumble as we walk in His light.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God by worshiping Jesus for the Light He provides in our daily lives to guide us so that we do not stumble.**

Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God today by trusting Jesus to lead us in the Light. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by trusting Jesus that you will not stumble as you walk in the Light?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Four Hundred Seventy Five

Night Today



Who stumbles? People who walk in the night stumble, because the light is not in them.

Jesus revealed such terrific truths in simple words. As the disciples expressed their concern that the Jews were just seeking to kill Him in Judea and His going back there, Jesus explained stumbling. Jesus said that there are twelve hours in the day. If you walk in the day, they you do not stumble. The key is to walk in the day, not the night. When people walk at night, then they stumble. They stumble because the light is not in them.

Jesus explained that having the light in you makes all the difference. First, Jesus explained that they should work because it is day and they will not stumble, because of the light of day. Then Jesus explained further that people stumble at night, but saints have the Light inside of them. Jesus repeatedly called Himself the Light.

Jesus spoke words of strength and comfort to the disciples to help them overcome their fears about going back to Jerusalem. Jesus knew that He would be delivered in Jerusalem, tried and convicted in Jerusalem, and then killed outside the city. Even so, He went back to Judea with His disciples.

Stumbles

1. **Anyone**. Jesus addressed the concerns of the disciples about returning to Jerusalem. He first talked about anyone walking in the day. Then He explained what it means to have the Light in you.

2. **Day**. Jesus first explained that anyone can walk in the day and not stumble. People who walk in the night stumble.

3. **Night**. Jesus explained further that people who walk in the night stumble. Jesus spoke spiritual truth here. People who do not have Jesus abiding in them stumble, because they walk in the night.

4. **Stumbles**. Unbelievers stumble through life because they do not walk in the light. They walk in the darkness, because they do not believe in Jesus as Savior. They have never received the free gift of eternal life.

5. **Walk**. Jesus used the common word for walking. He meant that we carry out life's daily activities. We walk through life. Paul would use this same word to describe walking in the Spirit.

6. **Light**. Living Godly in the family of God means that we believe that Jesus is the Light of the world and that He who follows Jesus will not walk in the darkness, but will have the Light of life. Jesus applied that truth to (a) following Jesus while He was still in the world as the Light of the world; and (b) promising that the believers who follow Jesus will never walk in darkness, but will have the Light of Life in them.

7. **In.** We rejoice today because the Light is in us. Wherever we go, Jesus, the Light, remains in us. As we follow Him, we will never walk in darkness.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by walking in the Light so that we do not stumble.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God by praising Jesus that the Light is in us.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God by trusting that the Light of Jesus will always lead us and help us avoid stumbling.**

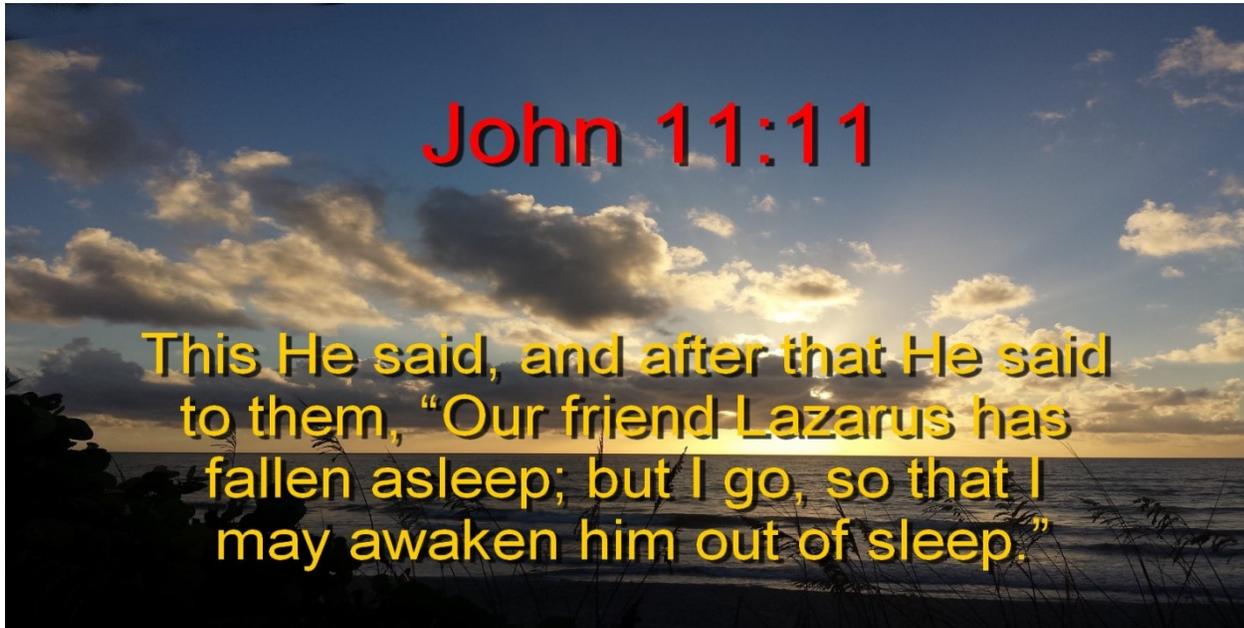
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God walking in the Light which is in us. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by walking in the Light Jesus provides all the time?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Four Hundred Seventy Six

Our Friend Today



Why was Jesus going to Lazarus? Jesus was going to Lazarus to wake him out of sleep.

Jesus described to them the importance of walking in the Light during the day, and the Light was in them. Because the Light was in them, they would never stumble.

Jesus continually built faith in His disciples by His teaching and His actions. Jesus explained many things to the disciples that He did not share with the crowds. Jesus knew that Lazarus had died, and Jesus was going to wake him up.

Jesus had said that the sickness of Lazarus would not end in death. Jesus did not say that Lazarus would not die. God the Father had great plans for Lazarus to glorify God and for the disciples to have greater faith.

Awaken Him

1. **Asleep.** Jesus knew that Lazarus would be "asleep" when Jesus arrived in Bethany. He went for the purpose of awakening Lazarus to glorify God.

2. **Future.** Jesus prophesied about the future frequently with His disciples.

3. **Awaken.** The disciples were concerned about death by stoning, and Jesus shared with them that He would awaken Lazarus.

4. **Raising.** In this case, raising Lazarus from the dead was like awakening someone from "sleep." No problem for Jesus.

5. **Unlimited.** If the disciples understood the unlimited powers of Jesus, they would walk with the Light shining out of them.

6. **Resurrection.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we know Jesus will resurrect all believers, because He is the resurrection and the life.

7. **Lazarus.** We rejoice today because God never slumbers or sleeps, but Jesus awakened Lazarus to the glory of God.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by depending upon Jesus to awaken each of us from sleep.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God by understanding that Jesus has unlimited power over all things.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God by counting upon Jesus to resurrect all believers to life.**

Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by believing that Jesus will resurrect each of us to life. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by looking forward to your resurrection?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Four Hundred Seventy Seven

Fallen Asleep Today



Why did the disciples expect that Lazarus would recover? They did not understand that Jesus used the term sleep to describe the death of Lazarus.

The disciples heard Jesus say that He was going to awaken Lazarus from his sleep. The disciples thought that Jesus was talking about physical sleep, but Jesus was referring to the death of Lazarus.

The disciples used the word “if” indicating that they had some uncertainty about what Jesus meant. They could assume it was true, but they still did not comprehend that Jesus intended to raise Lazarus.

Jesus also intended to glorify His Father and grow the faith of the disciples and many other people. Lazarus was about to become very famous.

He Will Recover

1. **Physical.** Jesus spoke about Lazarus being asleep. The disciples thought he was referring to physical sleep. The disciples leaped to the conclusion that Lazarus would recover by the usual means.

2. **Actually.** At times when we read the Bible, we do not understand what Jesus is actually saying. I enjoy spending time studying the Bible because I delight in it and it helps me live for Jesus.

3. **Glorified.** If the disciples understood that Jesus would be glorified by raising Lazarus, they may have realized what Jesus meant about "sleep."

4. **Absent.** We know that to be absent from the body is to be at home with the Lord.

5. **Promise.** We also know that Jesus promised the thief on the cross that he would be with Jesus that day in Paradise.

6. **Return.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we will all fall asleep in Jesus, unless we are alive and remain when Jesus returns to the clouds of earth with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and the sound of the trumpet of God. We will meet Him in those clouds and be with Him forever.

7. **Raise.** We rejoice today because Jesus raises the dead. By faith alone, we know that Jesus will raise us up, giving us glorified bodies to serve Him forever.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by asking questions to Jesus when we do not understand what He is telling us.**

- **We live more Godly in the family of God by seeking to understand the words of Jesus by faith in Him to illumine our minds and hearts with His truth.**

- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God by worshiping Jesus for the great things He does in our lives, and particularly by removing the fear of death.**

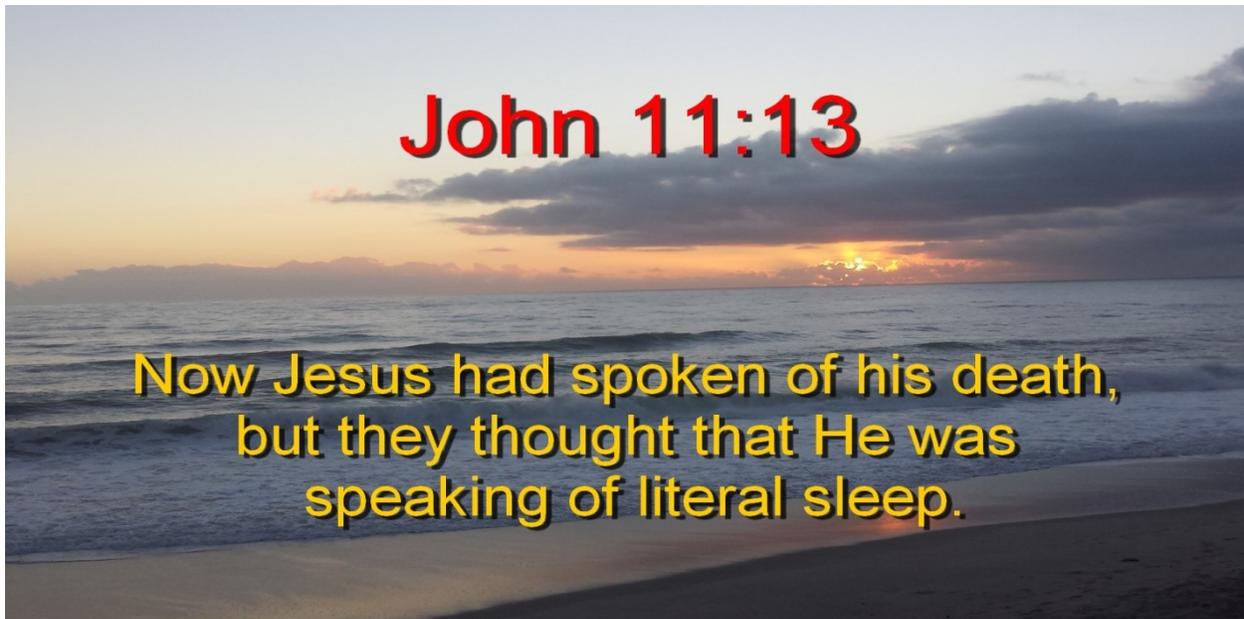
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by trusting Jesus to help us understand His words and actions. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by acting upon the truths that Jesus shows you?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Four Hundred Seventy Eight

His Death Today



Was Jesus talking about the physical sleep of Lazarus? Jesus was talking about the death of Lazarus, but the disciples did not understand what Jesus meant.

Jesus has to explain very carefully His prophecies. Jesus had prophesied that Jesus would awake Lazarus from his sleep. Jesus meant that He would awaken Lazarus from death.

Jesus used symbols and images to convey spiritual truth. He put deep theology about resurrection into simple terms and then demonstrated what it means to be raised from the dead. Jesus would raise Lazarus from the dead, but the resurrection of Lazarus would occur later. Being raised from the dead was not the same as being resurrected. Resurrection refers to receiving a glorified body that will not die again. Raised from the dead means you were brought back to life in your existing body, which will die again. Even so, Lazarus would not yet receive a glorified body, but he would

awaken to resume life in his present body. In the future, Jesus will resurrect saints at the Clouds Resurrection and give them a glorified body like Jesus has after His resurrection.

Literal Sleep

1. **Literal.** When Jesus said that Lazarus was asleep, the disciples thought Jesus meant literal sleep.

2. **Glory.** The disciples should have pondered that Jesus said that the sickness of Lazarus would not end in death, but for the glory of God so that the Son of God may be glorified by it.

3. **Clues.** Jesus gave definite clues that the death of Lazarus was not the end, but would produce glory for God.

4. **No Comprehension.** Jesus understood His disciples, and their lack of comprehension. Jesus trained them over time, step by step.

5. **Train.** Jesus planned to train His disciples about life and death, and health and sickness, all to the glory of God.

6. **Patience.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we count upon the patience of Jesus to train us to see His power display His glory.

7. **Display.** We rejoice today because Jesus displays His powerful love for us all the time and we delight in His glory.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by listening carefully to things that Jesus said.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we understand that Jesus frequently spoke in spiritual terms using common words.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God by having faith in Jesus to keep His promises even when they seem difficult or impossible to us.**

Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by expecting that Jesus has revealed deeps spiritual truths that will build our faith. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by expecting that Jesus will be growing your faith with things He brings into your life?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Four Hundred Seventy Nine

Plainly Today



Did Jesus tell the disciples plainly that Lazarus was dead? At just the right time Jesus told the disciples that Lazarus was dead.

Jesus did not leave immediately to go to Lazarus. Jesus delayed two days and then told His disciples that Lazarus was asleep. He also told His disciples that He was glad for their sakes He was not there when Lazarus fell asleep.

Jesus used the term sleep to mean that Jesus would awaken Lazarus. Jesus would bring Lazarus back to life, but Lazarus would return to his same physical body. In the future, Lazarus would experience death again. Jesus would give Lazarus a resurrected, imperishable, glorified body at the Clouds Resurrection in the future.

The disciples were about to have their faith expanded and developed by Jesus. He was going to show them the power of God at work in Lazarus.

Jesus was also about to go back to Judea, where His enemies waited for His return.

Lazarus Is Dead

1. **End.** Please recall that Jesus said that the sickness of Lazarus would not end in death, but in glory.

2. **Clarified.** At times, when Jesus knew that His disciples did not grasp what He had said, Jesus clarified His remarks.

3. **Review.** Like His disciples, Jesus wants us to understand His word. He often clarified things in the verses following the verse we stumble over. Therefore, we need to be careful to review the whole context.

4. **Physical.** Jesus made it plain that Lazarus was physically dead. Therefore, we know that Jesus was talking about sleep in a spiritual sense.

5. **Distinguish.** Jesus often distinguished the spiritual realm from the physical realm. We need to be careful to keep that distinction in mind when we read the Bible.

6. **Understand.** Living Godly in the family of God means that Jesus wants us to understand what He said so that we can see His glory.

7. **Plain.** We rejoice today because Jesus talks to us in plain language.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by remembering that death never takes Jesus by surprise.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we trust Jesus in all matters, life and death.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God by praising Jesus that He keeps us safely in Him, for eternity.**

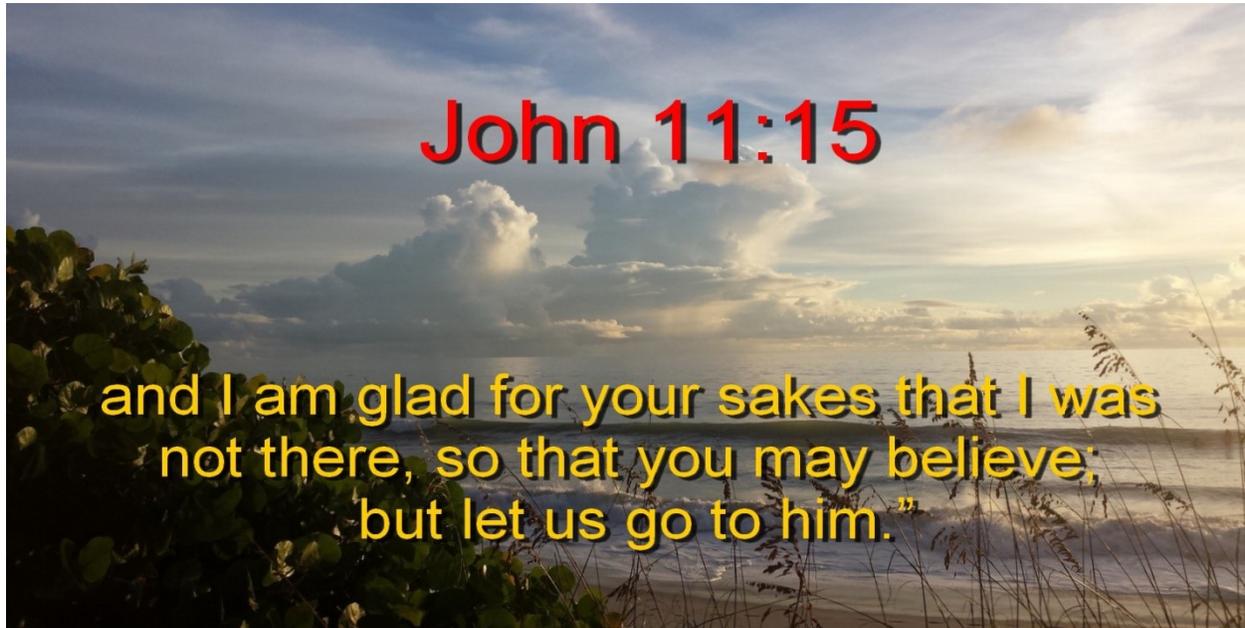
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by remembering that no death takes Jesus by surprise. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by counting upon Jesus to love you through life and death?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Four Hundred Eighty

May Believe Today



Why was Jesus glad? Jesus was glad for the sake of His disciples that He was not there when Lazarus died.

Jesus did not leave to see Lazarus when He first received the news that Lazarus was sick. Jesus had a plan for the disciples to believe. At times Jesus grows our faith through sickness and even death. Jesus glorifies Himself in all things, even the things that do not make sense to us right away.

Jesus sees the spiritual reality all around us. We tend to focus upon life in the here and now. Jesus teaches us to look at Him and believe the things He says to us. He knows the future and seeks to glorify His Father in all things. The disciples were about to learn great things about Jesus, and life and death, and eternal life and resurrection.

Glad

1. **I Am**. Jesus used the phrase I am many times in the Gospel of John. Jesus often disclosed His feelings and emotions.

2. **Glad**. Jesus was glad that He was not there when Lazarus died. Jesus loved Lazarus, but God had a great purpose in the death of Lazarus.

3. **Sakes**. Jesus was glad for the sake of the disciples. He was not glad for His own sake, but so that the disciples would see the great work of God the Father displayed in Lazarus. Jesus did many things for the sakes of the disciples.

4. **There**. Jesus stayed two days longer in the wilderness. By design He was not there when Lazarus died.

5. **Believe**. Jesus wanted the disciples to believe. Jesus meant that He intend to expand and strengthen their faith in Jesus and His Father.

6. **Go**. Living Godly in the family of God means that we trust Jesus to know the right time to leave and the right time to stay, even when people are very sick.

7. **Him**. We rejoice today because Jesus never forgets His children. He knows every illness and always comes for His own.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by learning about life and death from Jesus.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we learn about the things that make Jesus glad.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God by praising Jesus that growing our faith makes Jesus glad.**

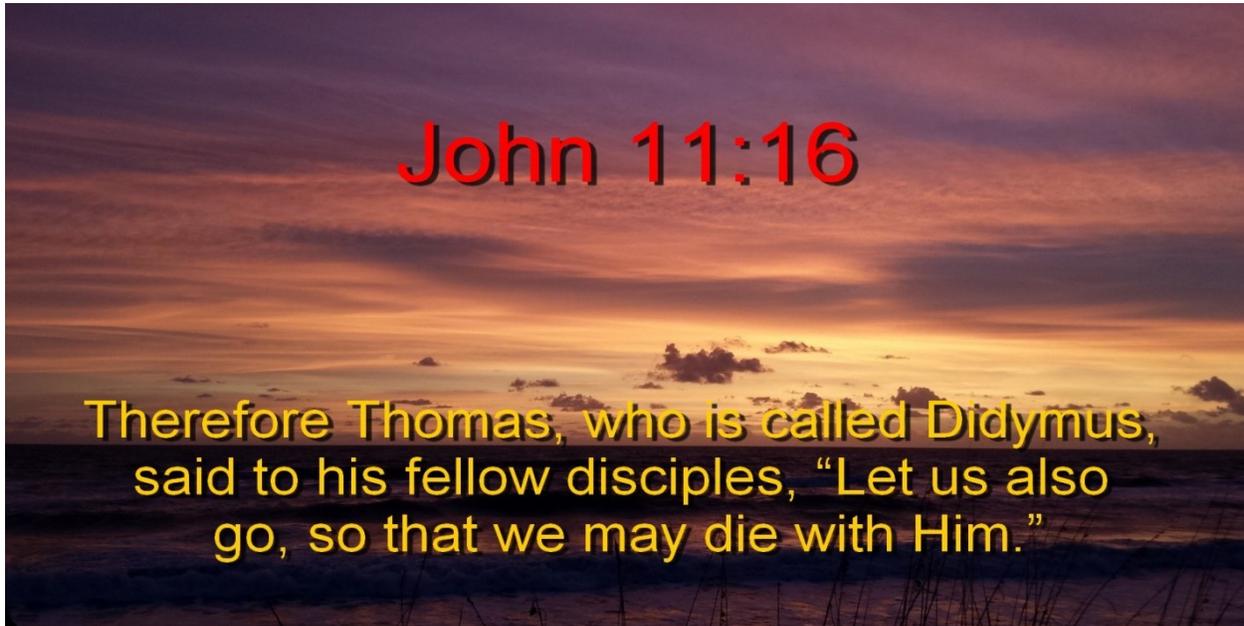
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by trusting Jesus to smile when He grows our faith through difficult times. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by keeping your eyes upon Jesus, even when it seems hard to understand what God really wants from us?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Four Hundred Eighty One

Thomas Today



Why did Thomas say that the disciples should go to Judea with Jesus? Thomas said they should go to Judea so that they may die with Jesus.

The Jews in Judea were actively seeking Jesus. They wanted to kill Him because He broke the Sabbath and proclaimed He was the Son of God. They thought that a person was either a man or God, but not both at the same time. Jesus told them that God the Father sanctified Him and sent Him to earth to do the will of God the Father on earth.

Thomas rallied the disciples to go die with Jesus. While Thomas did not understand that Jesus was going to lay down His life voluntarily at the right time, Thomas did have courage to die with Jesus. When the time came that the Shepherd was struck down, all the sheep had scattered.

Die with Him

1. **Courage.** At times, the disciples said very moving things. Here, Thomas had the courage to face death with Jesus.

2. **Thomas.** Many people remember Thomas as "Doubting Thomas." He wanted to see the hands and side of Jesus before he would believe that Jesus was risen from the dead.

3. **Glory.** Even though Thomas had courage, he lacked faith. Thomas did not grasp that Jesus said the sickness of Lazarus would not end in death and that it would turn out to the glory of God.

4. **Doubted.** Thomas also doubted that Jesus had the power to keep them all from dying.

5. **Building Faith.** Thomas looked forward to dying with Jesus, but Jesus looked forward to building faith in Thomas and the other disciples by displaying His glory and His power over death by raising Lazarus.

6. **Trust.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we trust Jesus with our lives and we also trust Him to build our faith by displaying His glory.

7. **Life.** We rejoice today because where we see death and danger, Jesus sees life and glory.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by trusting Jesus to keep us safe in Him for eternity.**

- **We live more Godly in the family of God by recognizing that Jesus has a time for all of us to die on earth, but continue living with Him in Paradise.**

- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God by having the courage to follow Jesus anywhere He leads us and the faith to trust Him to lead us to the right place at the right time.**

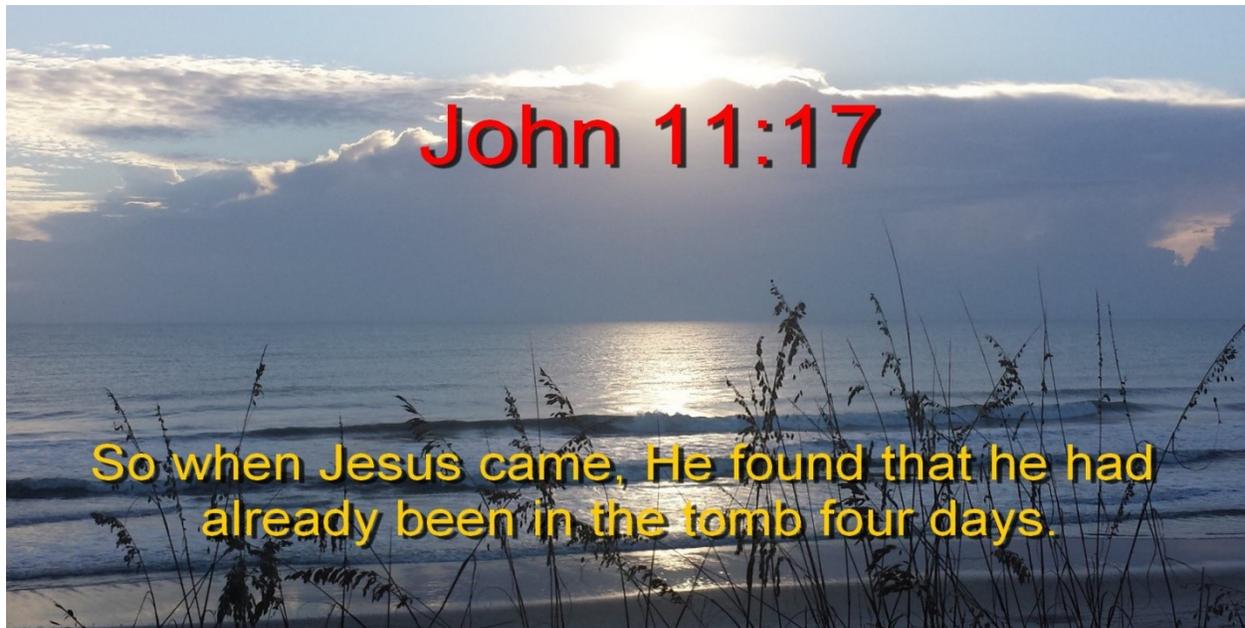
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by following Jesus with courage from Him and faith in Him. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by believing that Jesus will lead you home at the right time?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Four Hundred Eighty Two

Four Days Today



When Jesus came, where was Lazarus? Lazarus had been in the tomb for four days when Jesus came.

Jesus did not go to Bethany at the moment He received the report that Lazarus was sick. Instead, He continued His ministry elsewhere. He told His disciples that Lazarus had died before He left for Bethany.

Jesus also told His disciples that the sickness of Lazarus would not end in death. The works of God would be displayed in Lazarus and the disciples and others would believe in Him. Jesus said He was going to wake Lazarus from death. Jesus was following the timeline and the plan of God the Father which included building faith in people and raising up a powerful witness for God to testify to crowds of people.

In The Tomb

1. **Dead.** When Jesus arrived at Bethany, Lazarus had been dead for four days.

2. **Before.** Before Jesus arrived, He had already told His disciples that Lazarus was dead and that He was glad that He was not there.

3. **Plans.** Jesus always followed the plans of His Father. Jesus and His Father wanted the disciples to believe in them.

4. **Details.** The historical details show that Lazarus did not just swoon for a moment. He was really dead for four days and entombed.

5. **Glad.** Jesus was glad to reveal His power and glory, even in the death of His beloved friend.

6. **Resurrection.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we believe that Jesus is the resurrection and the life.

7. **Glory.** We rejoice today because Jesus always helps us at just the right time, when His glory will shine and He grows our faith in Him.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by trusting Jesus to raise people from the dead at the right time.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God by remembering that every believer will enjoy the resurrection to life.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God by knowing that four days in the tomb posed no obstacle to Jesus raising Lazarus back to life.**

Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God looking forward to the resurrection of life. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by reminding everyone that they will be resurrected in the future?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Four Hundred Eighty Three

Near Jerusalem Today



How far was Bethany from Jerusalem? Bethany was about two miles from Jerusalem.

Lazarus, Mary and Martha lived in Bethany. The distance from the Mount of Olives to Jerusalem was a Sabbath day's journey. Therefore, the distance for a Sabbath's day journey may be calculated as about three-quarters of a mile, or 2000 cubits.

Jesus left Jerusalem because the Jews tried to kill Him the last time He was there. He had healed Man Born Blind and explained that He was both God and man. The Jews had already claimed Jesus had a demon, and they took up stones for saying that He was the God of Abraham and also a man. Jesus escaped from the crowd and went into the wilderness for a while with His disciples, until He received word Lazarus was sick in Bethany. So He returned to Judea, along with His disciples, who thought the Jews were going to kill Jesus upon His return to Jerusalem.

Bethany

1. **Stones.** When Jesus healed Man Born Blind, the Jews in Jerusalem took up stones to stone Him, because He said that He was one with the God the Father.

2. **No Fear.** Jesus did not fear the Jews or death.

3. **Loved.** On the contrary, He loved His enemies and was determined to lay down His life to pay the death penalty for everyone, even His enemies, because He loved them all.

4. **Bethany.** John wrote his Gospel with explanations for people like us. He wanted us to know that Bethany was near Jerusalem, about two miles.

5. **Danger.** Disciples then and now must learn about following Jesus into danger. We must trust Him as we go with Him.

6. **Trusting.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we follow Jesus always, trusting Him as we walk towards danger.

7. **Leads.** We rejoice today because Jesus always leads us to the glory of God, no matter how dark things look to us now.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by trusting Jesus to lead us to the places He wants us to be.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we remember that Jesus lived without fear of men.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we praise God for the Shepherd Who leads us to abundant life and lays down His life for His sheep.**

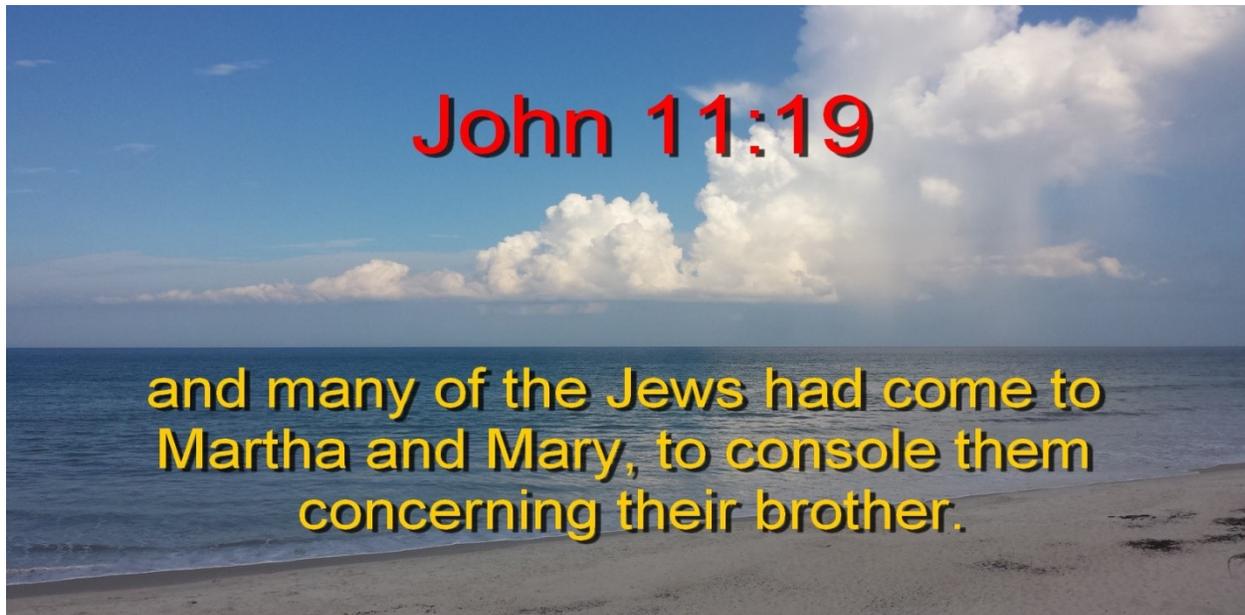
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God as Jesus goes back to Bethany to glorify God in the midst of danger. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by counting upon God to use your life to glorify Himself even in the midst of danger?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Four Hundred Eighty Four

Many of the Jews Today



Why did many of the Jews come to Martha and Mary? Many Jews came to Martha and Mary to console them concerning their brother, Lazarus.

Unbelievers offer meagre help when it comes to eternal consolation. They may say many nice things, but they do not understand spiritual things because they are unbelievers. Jesus taught that unbelievers cannot understand His words because they cannot hear them. They are unwilling to do the will of God and so cannot understand that words of God.

Jesus comforts believers with His presence, words and actions. He provides timeless truths that give believers hope and comfort regarding the dying of beloved saints. Their bodies die, but they have eternal life and so all live to Jesus. They never die spiritually, but live forever with Jesus.

Console

1. **Many**. The word many indicates that Mary and Martha may have been well known in the village of Bethany. Many Jews came to see them when their brother Lazarus died.

2. **Jews**. As a group of unbelievers, the Jews knew nothing about eternal life. Some of the Jews believed in the afterlife with resurrection, but, as unbelievers, they did not understand the spiritual concepts.

3. **Martha and Mary**. The two sisters of Lazarus, all friends of Jesus whom He loved, were grieving over the death of Lazarus. They had called for Jesus to come and He did not come right away.

4. **Console**. The Jews came to console Martha and Mary. Paul exhorted believers to console the small souled. He meant that people who are feeling down and weak need others to console them. When Jesus came to Mary and Martha, He provided true consolation.

5. **Them**. In times of grief, spending time with the family, and not just one member, has a better effect. Jesus would talk directly with both Mary and Martha and console both of them individually and together with others.

6. **Brother**. Living Godly in the family of God means that Jesus loved Mary, Martha, and Lazarus. He loved them and brought consolation to Mary and Martha. He talked to them about life and resurrection. He also demonstrated the works of powers that confirmed His words.

7. **Concerning**. Jesus consoled Mary and Martha by talking to them about spiritual truth related to life and death. Funerals can often be a great time to speak words of spiritual life and resurrection to people who mourn over the loss of loved ones.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by consoling people with the words of Jesus about life and resurrection.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we take time to share with people mourning the loss of family members.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we minister to the small souled people using our spiritual gifts to edify them.**

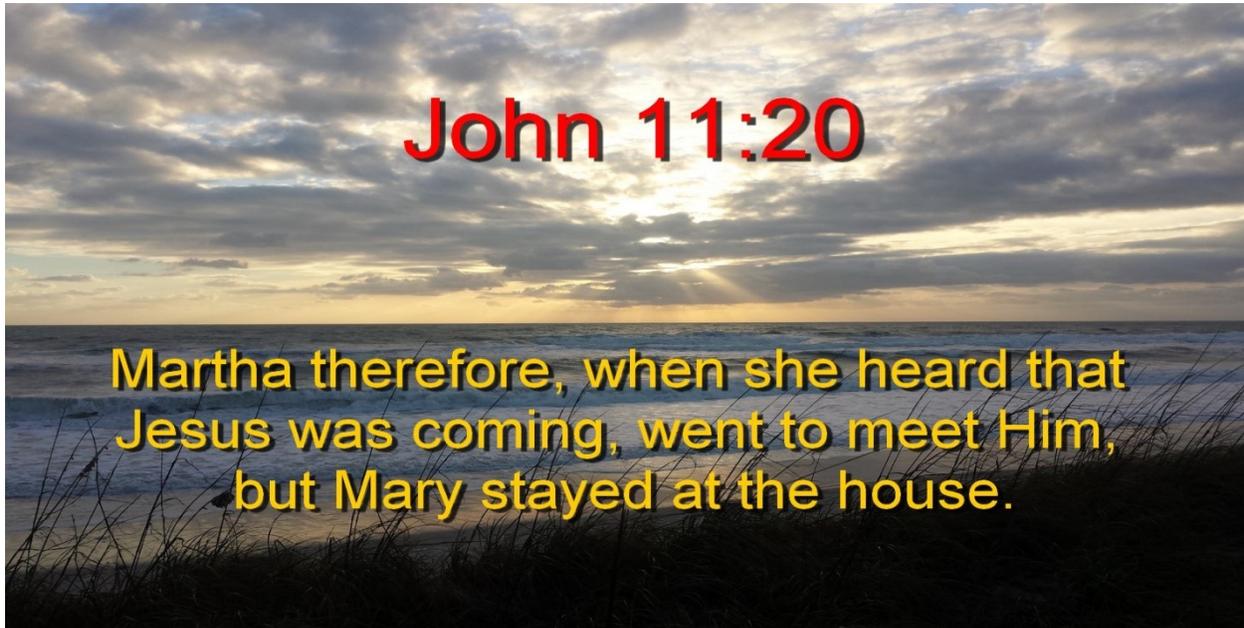
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by using our spiritual gifts to minister to people who mourn. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by spending time talking about Jesus with people who mourn?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Four Hundred Eighty Five

Martha Today



What did Martha do when she heard that Jesus was coming? Martha went out to meet Jesus.

Martha heard that Jesus was coming. Jesus loved Martha, Mary and Lazarus. Jesus had already said to His disciples that Lazarus was dead and He was glad for their sakes He was not there, so that they would believe in Him.

Jesus also had plans for Mary and Martha. They would also see that the death of Lazarus was not the end, for God would glorify Himself through the death of Lazarus. Jesus already knew how things were going to go in Bethany.

Even the disciples of Jesus had fears about going back to Judea, and Bethany of Judea was especially close to Jerusalem. They knew that hostility was coming for Jesus, but first Jesus indicated He would help Lazarus.

Meet Him

1. **Village.** Mary and Martha lived in the village of Bethany along with their brother Lazarus, but he died.

2. **Contacted.** Mary and Martha contacted Jesus to come to Bethany to save Lazarus from death.

3. **Not There.** Jesus was glad that He was not there when Lazarus died. Jesus promised that the sickness of Lazarus would not end in death, but in the glory of God.

4. **Meet.** Martha went to meet Jesus while her sister Mary stayed at home.

5. **Urgent.** Martha had something urgent on her heart to tell Jesus and it concerned her brother, Lazarus.

6. **Heart.** Living Godly in the family of God means that it is always a good idea to meet Jesus and talk to Him about whatever is on our heart.

7. **Listen.** We rejoice today because Jesus is always happy to talk to us and listen to our prayers with loving attention.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by meeting Jesus one on one.**

- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we take our urgent needs and routine concerns to Jesus in person.**

- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we spend some time talking with Jesus without our family around.**

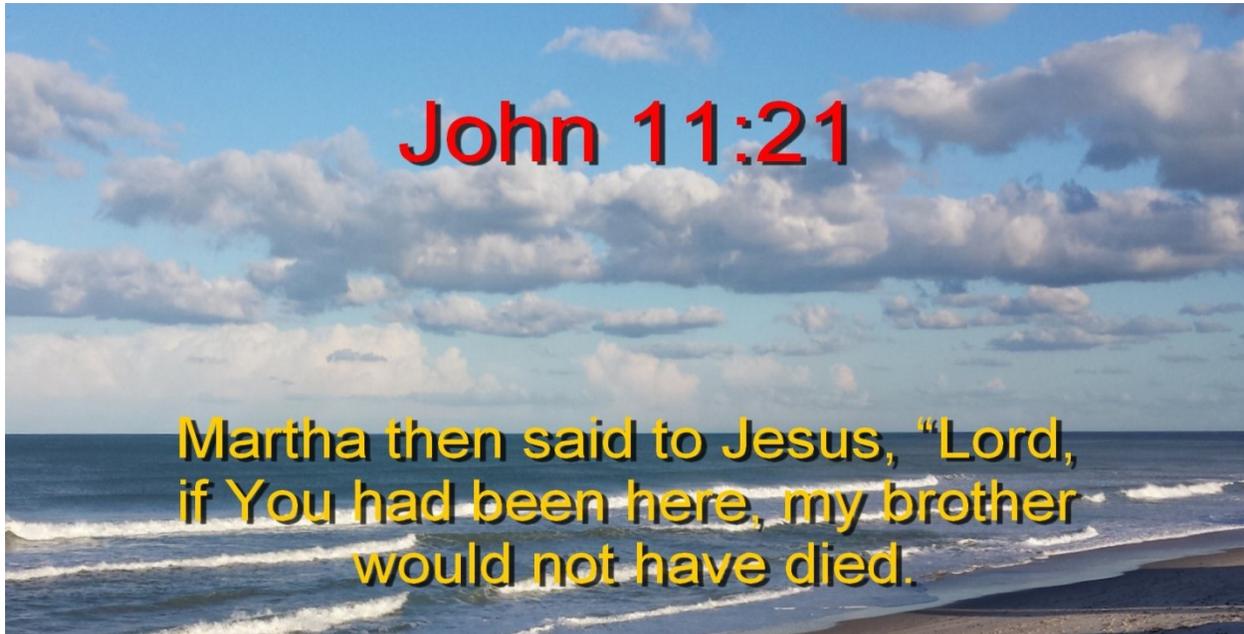
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by talking with Jesus about matters of life and death. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by taking time to speak with Jesus alone?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Four Hundred Eighty Six

Been Here Today



What did Martha tell Jesus? Martha told Jesus that Lazarus would not have died if Jesus had been there.

Martha loved Jesus and Jesus loved Martha, Mary and Lazarus. Martha had faith that Jesus could have saved Lazarus from death, if He would have come sooner. Martha did not understand the plans and purposes of Jesus.

Just because we have faith in one area does not mean we have faith in other areas. Martha believed in the healing power of Jesus, but did not understand the timing of Jesus to accomplish the will of His Father.

Martha understood that Jesus loved her and Lazarus, but she did not understand that Jesus had plans to grow her faith.

If You

1. **If.** Martha suffered from an "If You" problem. She had her own preconceived ideas about what would have happened if Jesus had arrived before Lazarus died.

2. **Concluded.** Martha concluded that her brother would not have died if Jesus would have arrived sooner. She certainly believed that Jesus could have healed her brother; she never considered that Jesus could raise him from the dead immediately.

3. **Blinds.** In our lives, the "If You" problem often blinds us to the plans of Jesus Christ.

4. **End.** Jesus was glad He did not arrive before Lazarus died. Jesus had already said that the sickness of Lazarus would not end in death, but in the glory of God.

5. **Believe.** We overcome the "If You" problem by believing that Jesus really has a plan and His timing is always perfect.

6. **Right Time.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we trust Jesus to arrive at just the right time and work His plans to increase our faith and display the glory of God.

7. **Plan.** We rejoice today because Jesus knows every "If You" situation and always has a loving plan for us.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by asking Jesus important questions.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God by accepting what Jesus does in His timing.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God by worshiping Jesus, Who always has perfect timing.**

Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by letting Jesus know our deepest thoughts and questions. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by talking with Jesus about the things on your mind?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Four Hundred Eighty Seven

You Ask Today



What did Martha know about Jesus? Martha knew that God would give Jesus whatever He asked of God.

Martha told Jesus that Lazarus would not have died if Jesus had come sooner. Martha implied that Jesus had delayed and caused the death of Lazarus, at least in the sense that Jesus could have healed Lazarus and prevented his death.

Martha also had remarkable faith. She believed that God would give Jesus whatever He asked of God. Even so, she did not seem to understand that Jesus could ask God to raise Lazarus from the dead.

Give You

1. **Problem.** Martha had the "If You" problem. She thought if Jesus had been there, her brother Lazarus would not have died.
2. **Faith.** Martha certainly had faith in Jesus, because she said, "I know that whatever you ask of God, God will give you."
3. **Build.** Jesus intended to build her faith and demonstrate His power to raise people from the dead and display His glory.
4. **Loved.** Jesus loved Mary, Martha and Lazarus, but He also loved everyone on Earth and did not want anyone to perish because of unbelief.
5. **Expand.** Martha had some faith in Jesus, but Jesus wanted to expand and broaden her faith in Him and His power.
6. **Increase.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we count upon Jesus to increase our faith, even when death takes a loved one.
7. **Power.** We rejoice today because Jesus has all the power of God and loves to shower our lives with His lovingkindness.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by remembering that God the Father will give Jesus whatever He asks.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God by relying upon Jesus to do give us the right things at the right times.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God by praising Jesus that He supplies what we need when we need it.**

Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by trusting Jesus to give us whatever we need as we need it. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by relaxing in Jesus while knowing that He provides all we need for life and Godliness?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Four Hundred Eighty Eight

Your Brother Today



What did Jesus promise Martha? Jesus promised Martha that Lazarus would rise again.

Martha met Jesus and told Him that if He would have been there, Lazarus would not have died. Martha had great faith that Jesus was a healer, but she did not believe that He could raise a person from the dead right then.

So often people like Martha and Pallet Man have their own conceptions about how the powers of God operate. Jesus did many works of powers for many people. As God in the flesh, His was infinite. He is and always has been omnipotent (all powers). Martha was focused upon Jesus healing before a person dies. He implied that Jesus had to be there to heal Lazarus. She was about to learn about the true power and love of Jesus.

Rise Again

1. **Jesus**. When people tell Jesus things that concern them the most, Jesus has wonderful words to share with them.

2. **Said**. Jesus talked with people. Today people often do not make time to hear what other people want to say. Taking time to listen means you act like Jesus. Then you speak the words of God to people who need to hear them.

3. **Her**. Jesus takes one on one time to speak. He talked with Martha about her biggest concerns. Individuals need individual time and Jesus has all the time in the universe and beyond, just for us, one at a time.

4. **Brother**. Jesus loved Lazarus, the brother of Martha. Jesus chose the term brother to convey to Martha the close bond they shared as brother and sister. Jesus understood the love they had for one another.

5. **Rise**. Jesus prophesied that Martha's brother would rise again. We should understand that Jesus did not promise He would resurrect Lazarus right now, but that Lazarus would rise again.

6. **Resurrection**. Living Godly in the family of God means that every believer will be resurrected to life, where they will receive an immortal, imperishable, glorified body. Lazarus will be raised from the dead, but later his body would die.

7. **Eternity**. We rejoice today because not only will Jesus resurrect the dead, but believers will have glorified, immortal and imperishable bodies that will allow us to spend eternity with Jesus doing His will.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by believing the comforting words of Jesus.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we believe the power of Jesus to raise the dead, so that we will believe in Him for all things.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God by laying aside our own thoughts and believe in the unlimited power of Jesus to do far beyond all we ask or think.**

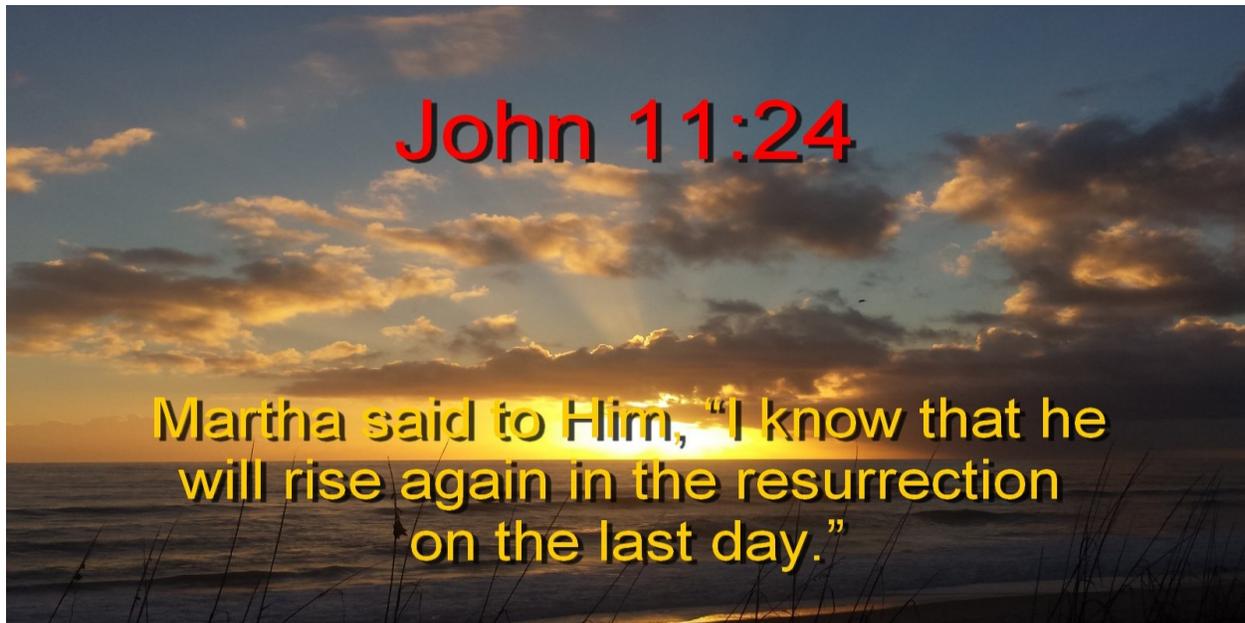
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by trusting Jesus to keep His promises about death and life after death. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by looking forward to all eternity with Jesus?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Four Hundred Eighty Nine

Martha Today



What did Martha know about resurrection? Martha knew that her brother will rise again in the resurrection on the last day.

Jesus had already told Martha that her brother would rise again. Jesus did not indicate when Lazarus would be raised. Martha thought that Jesus may have been talking about resurrection on the last day.

Martha had faith that Lazarus would be resurrected in the future. Jesus intended to increase her faith in Him. He wanted to glorify God through the sickness of Lazarus which Jesus promised would not end in death.

In our lives, Jesus seeks to expand our faith in Him to believe greater things. We may know things about the future based upon His word, but He wants us also to trust Him now to do things which will glorify God now.

The Last Day

1. **Scope.** Jesus frequently talked about the future and prophesied. He enlarged the scope and detail of Old Testament prophecies.

2. **Resurrection.** Martha had heard about the resurrection and proclaimed her faith that her brother would rise again in the resurrection on the last day.

3. **Life.** Jesus showed that He was the resurrection and the life.

4. **Raise.** As God in the flesh, Jesus had divine power to raise the dead at His command.

5. **Demonstrate.** Jesus followed the Father's carefully constructed plan to demonstrate that power over death and grow the faith of Mary, Martha, Lazarus, and many others.

6. **Faith.** Living Godly in the family of God means that not only do we have faith in the resurrection on the last day, but we also have faith that Jesus can raise the dead today, by His word.

7. **Completion.** We rejoice today because not only does our future look bright, but the unlimited power of Jesus brings all of God's promises to completion.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by believing that saints will be resurrected on the last day.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God by trusting Jesus to glorify Himself today with power displayed in our lives.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God by looking forward to the last day when all the saints will be resurrected.**

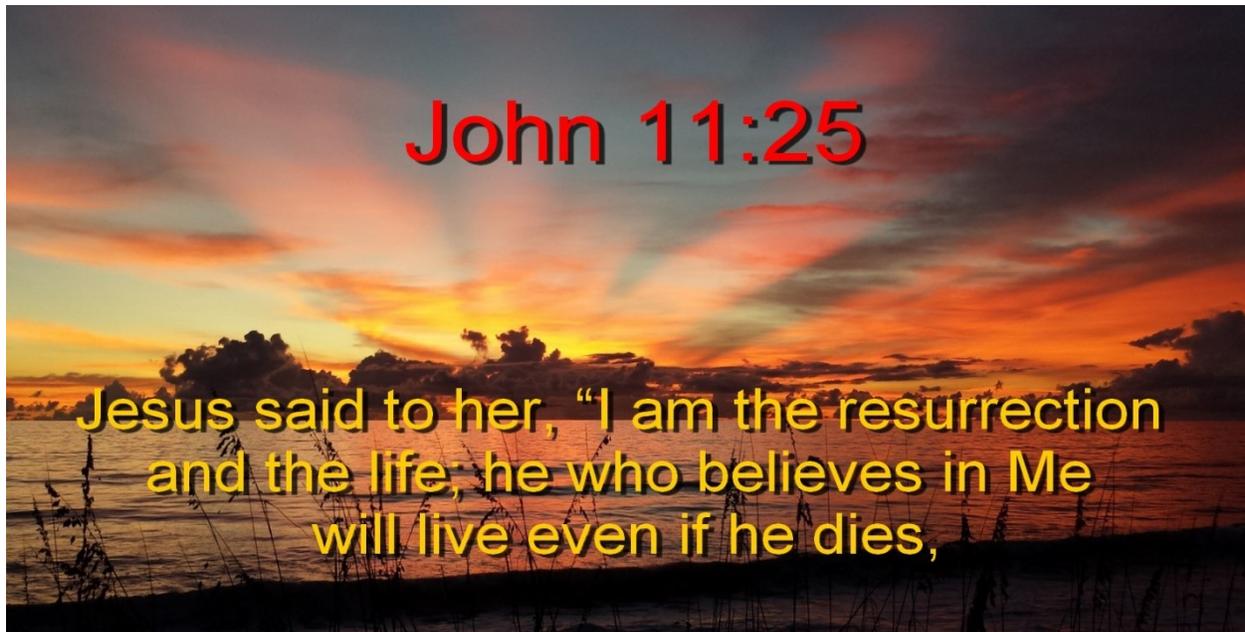
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by looking forward to the last day when all saints will be resurrected. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by living today in light of the future?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Four Hundred Ninety

Resurrection Today



What did Jesus tell Martha about resurrection and life? Jesus told Martha: I am the resurrection and the life.

Jesus defined resurrection in very simple terms: everyone who believes in Him will live even if he dies. Jesus meant that resurrection always follows death.

Jesus had explained earlier that everyone, saints and the wicked, will all be raised. The saints will be raised to resurrection of life and the wicked to resurrection of judgment.

Jesus described Himself as the resurrection and the life. Jesus embodies those things because He controls those things and empowers those things.

Life

1. **I Am.** Jesus told Martha: "I am the resurrection and the life."
2. **Relates.** Jesus explained to Martha how resurrection relates to eternal life. Have you ever asked yourself why you need resurrection if you have eternal life?
3. **Resurrection.** Resurrection means that Jesus raises the body--glorified, immortal and incorruptible.
4. **Eternal Life.** By faith you have eternal life that starts at the moment of salvation. Your body will die, but you live on.
5. **Future.** Jesus will raise the dead at the appointed time in the future. Both the just and the unjust shall be raised.
6. **Raise.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we know that Jesus will raise our bodies from the dead one day.
7. **Identity.** We rejoice today because Jesus identified Himself as the resurrection and the life.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by believing that Jesus is the resurrection and the life today.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God by looking forward to living after we die.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God by encouraging one another with the promise of resurrection.**

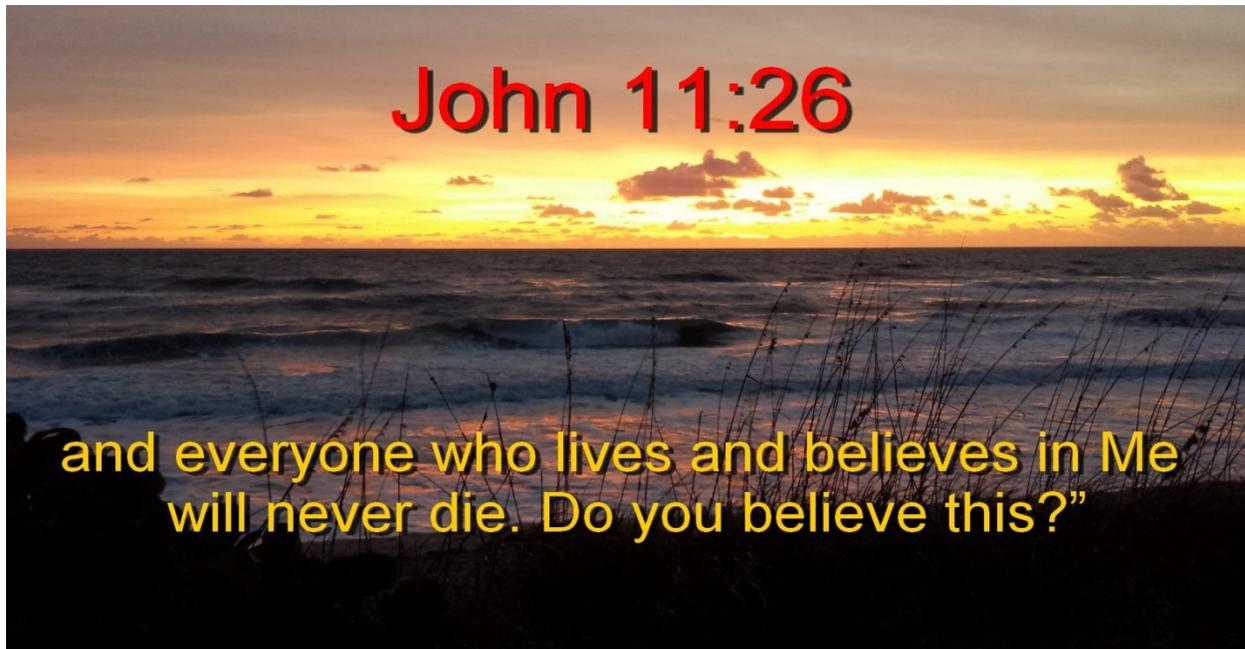
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by counting upon resurrection to life. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by trusting Jesus to make us live after we have died?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Four Hundred Ninety One

Eternal Life Today



How did Jesus define eternal life? Jesus defined eternal life as everyone who believes in Him will never die.

Jesus defined both resurrection and eternal life to Martha to strengthen her faith and expand her understanding of life and death. Jesus defined resurrection as everyone who believes in Him will live even if he dies. Jesus then defined eternal life as everyone who believes in Him will never die. Jesus used very simple terms to express very complex and far-reaching truths.

Jesus also explained how resurrection relates to eternal life. All believers have eternal life, which means they will live separately from life on earth. Eternal life continues through death. The physical body dies, but the spiritual life begun on earth continues for eternity without interruption. In contrast, resurrection takes place after death. We are not resurrected at the moment of salvation, but on the last day in the future. Jesus did not

come to Bethany to resurrect Lazarus, but to raise him from the dead. On the last day, in the future, Jesus would resurrect Lazarus and all saints. Lazarus already had eternal life, and death of his body did not affect it.

Never Die

1. **Present.** Jesus told Martha that He was the resurrection and the life. He was talking about the present, not just the future.

2. **Resurrection.** Jesus defined resurrection as: "he who believes in Me will live even if he dies."

3. **Life.** Jesus defined eternal life as: "everyone who lives and believes in Me will never die."

4. **Body.** In the New Testament, resurrection means each believer will receive a glorified body like Jesus had after He arose from the dead.

5. **Eternity.** Eternal life means we live with Jesus for all eternity. Resurrection means we will have a glorified body like Jesus.

6. **Both.** Living Godly in the family of God means that Jesus is the resurrection and the life. He wants us to believe that He is both today.

7. **Power.** We rejoice today because Jesus has the power of eternal life and resurrection today. In fact He said that He is the resurrection and the life today.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by understanding resurrection and eternal life.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God by understanding the difference between resurrection and eternal life.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we praise Jesus for explaining resurrection and eternal life to us so that we would love Him more.**

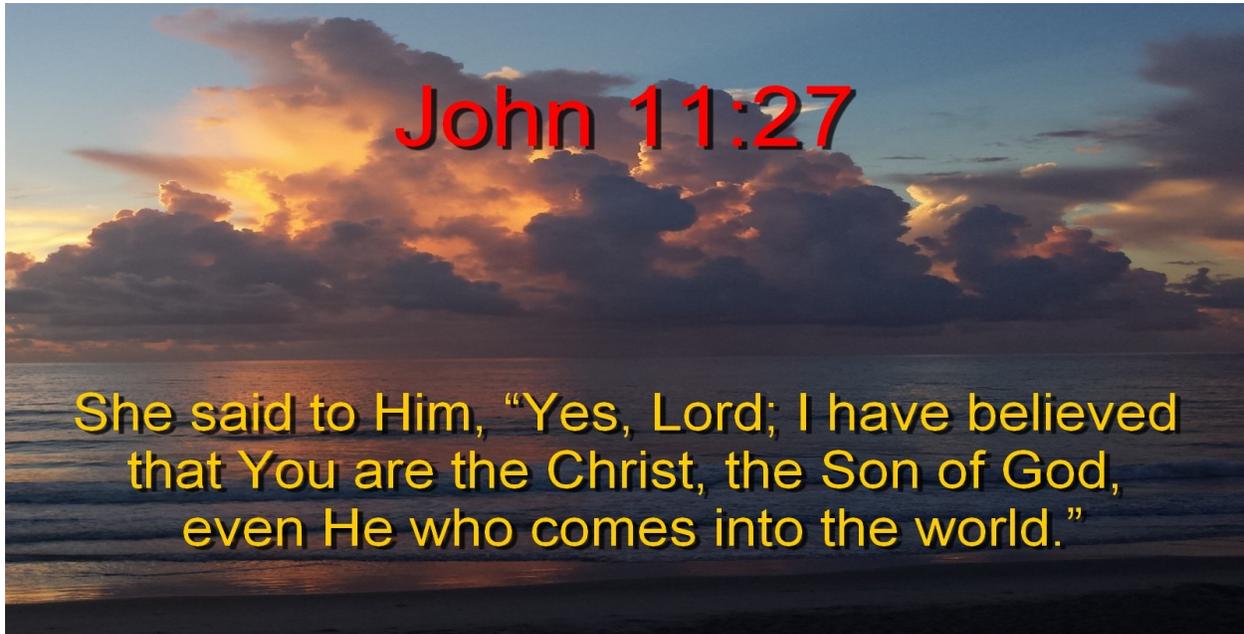
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by looking forward to resurrection while we enjoy eternal life today. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by praising Jesus for both eternal life and resurrection?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Four Hundred Ninety Two

Yes, Lord Today



What did Martha confess after her brother died? Martha confessed that she believed Jesus was the Christ, the Son of God, Who comes into the world.

Martha had great faith. While other people rejected Jesus as Messiah, the Son of God, Martha believed. She had faith that endured the death of her beloved brother. She still believed Jesus even though she thought that her brother would not have died if Jesus had come earlier.

Martha helps us understand how faith works. Jesus develops faith and expands our faith. Martha had saving faith, but her faith in Jesus did not extend to raising her dead brother. Her faith also did not comprehend that Jesus did not want to cure Lazarus of sickness, but demonstrate the power of God to raise the dead. Jesus did not come to Bethany to resurrect Lazarus, because his resurrection would come on the last day. Lazarus

would return to his mortal body which would die again someday. Even so, Lazarus had eternal life and would never die.

Christ, the Son of God

1. **Yes, Lord**. Martha confessed Jesus was the resurrection and the life.
2. **I**. “I” makes faith personal. Individually, we believe Jesus is the resurrection and eternal life. Salvation is always personal.
3. **Believed**. Martha had received faith in the past and it remained into the present and future. She believed in Jesus before her brother died. Her faith remained in the present, even though her brother had died.
4. **Are**. Martha believed that Jesus is the Christ. Martha emphasized that she had present, active faith in Jesus. The death of Lazarus did not disrupt her faith in Jesus.
5. **Christ**. Martha believed that Jesus was the Messiah, the Christ, the Anointed One.
6. **Son of God**. What the Jews rejected, Martha believed. She believed that Jesus was the Son of God, because God the Father had revealed Jesus to her.
7. **Comes**. Martha believed that Jesus came into the world as the Son of God. His Father had sent Him into the world, and His Father would do whatever Jesus asked of Him.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by believing that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, even after loved ones die.**

- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we avoid the tendency to blame God for the death of loved ones.**

- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God by praising God that in Jesus we have eternal life today and resurrection tomorrow.**

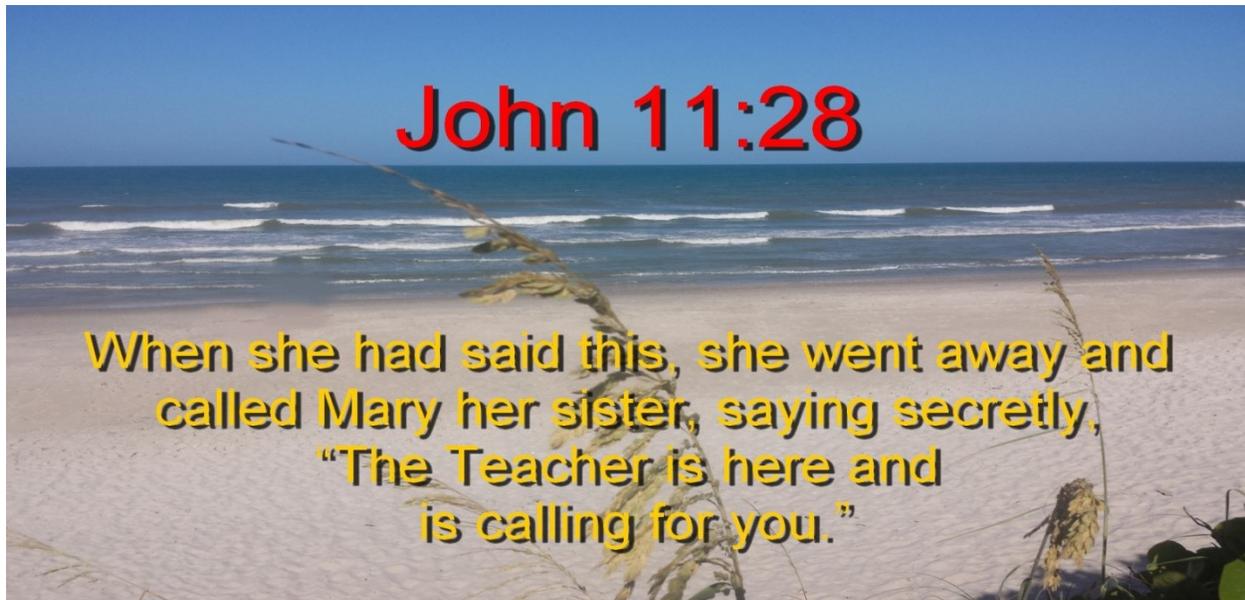
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by trusting Jesus to build our faith in Him through the death of loved ones. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by praising Jesus for the many ways He builds our faith in Him to love Him more?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Four Hundred Ninety Three

Teacher Today



What did Martha tell Mary? Martha told Mary that the Teacher is here and calling for you.

Martha thought of Jesus as Teacher. Jesus amazed people with His teaching and Jesus revealed many things through His teaching. Jesus taught people about Himself and His relationship with God the Father. He also taught them about themselves and their relationship to their father, the devil. Jesus wanted to do the works of His Father, while the Jews wanted to do the works of their father, the devil.

Martha also said that Jesus was calling for her. Martha used a word for calling different from the word for calling related to salvation. She used a common word for speaking aloud. Jesus loves to speak with people and spent considerable time traveling through Israel speaking to people about eternal life and sin.

Calling for You

1. **Martha.** Martha declared her faith that Jesus really was the Christ and the Son of God who comes into the world.

2. **Mary.** After confessing her faith to Jesus she went away and called Mary her sister.

3. **Secretly.** Notice that Mary told Martha secretly that Jesus was there and was calling for her. The Jews still intended to kill Jesus.

4. **Intent.** Jesus intended for Mary to obey His call to come to Him.

5. **Obedience.** In our lives, great spurts of spiritual growth often start with simple obedience to Jesus, especially being close to Jesus.

6. **Calling.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we always obey the voice and calling of Jesus Christ.

7. **Received.** We rejoice today because Jesus called us to Himself and we received the free gift of salvation by grace through faith.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by understanding that Jesus talks to people through the Bible.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we listen to the words of Jesus in the Bible (not just the red-lettered words) as breathed out by God.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we heed the words we read in the Bible and know that Jesus loves us one at a time and all together.**

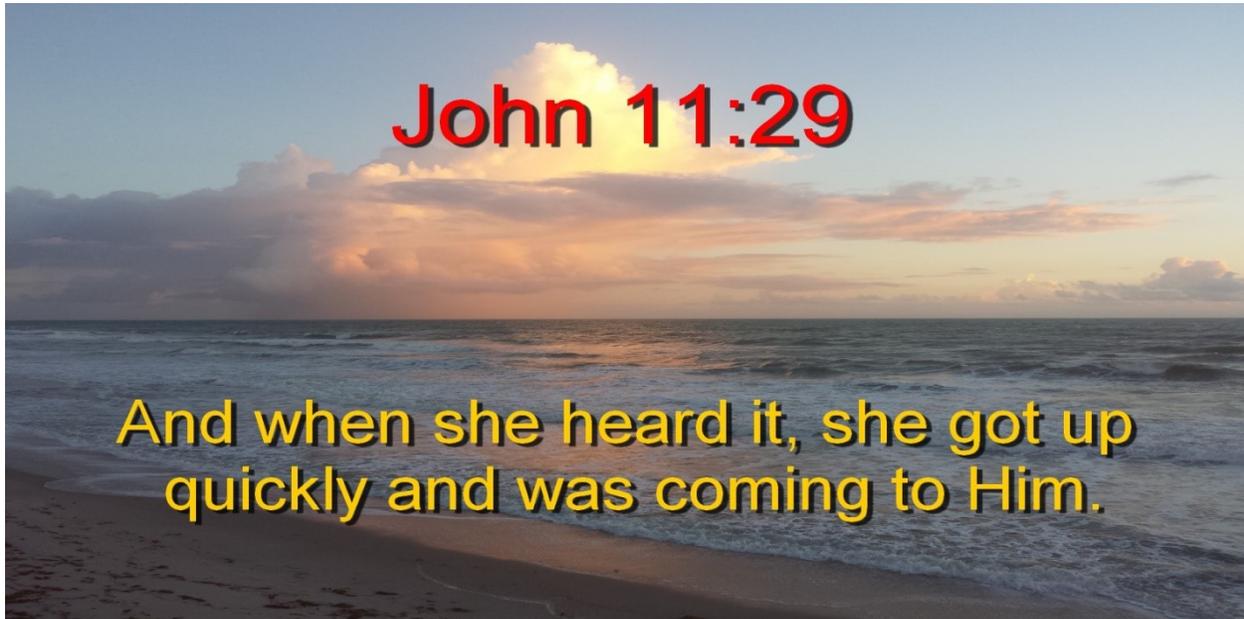
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by listening to Jesus talk with us. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by heeding the voice of Jesus seeking to talk with you?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Four Hundred Ninety Four

Heard It Today



Why did Mary move quickly? Mary moved quickly because Martha told her that Jesus was calling for her.

Mary moved quickly to get to Jesus because she wanted to talk with Him. Jesus had also called for Mary. Jesus took time with each of the sisters and wanted them to know about Lazarus.

Jesus was never accused of being partial to anyone. Even His enemies recognized the He was no respecter of persons. He treated everyone the same and offered everyone eternal life in Him.

Jesus perfectly reflected His Father's love for all people. All people have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God, and God still loves people. Jesus talked with Mary and Martha to build their faith individually and also to answer their questions. They also told Him the same thing about Lazarus.

Quickly

1. **Acted.** Martha secretly told Mary, her sister, that Jesus wanted to see her. Mary acted quickly to see Jesus.

2. **Urgent.** Apparently, Mary had an urgent desire to see Jesus and to speak with Him.

3. **Quickly.** When Jesus calls for our attention, do we move quickly to give it to Him?

4. **Left.** Mary left town to see Jesus out of town, because he had not yet arrived in Bethany.

5. **Discuss.** Mary also had something on her mind that she wanted to discuss with Jesus.

6. **Answer.** Living Godly in the family of God means that when Jesus calls, we answer and we move quickly.

7. **Desire.** We rejoice today because the speed of our movement towards Jesus often reflects the strength of our desire to talk to Him. When Jesus calls, we come quickly.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by trusting Jesus to have time for each of us.**

- **We live more Godly in the family of God by answering the call of Jesus to spend time talking with Him and listening to Him.**

- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God by recognizing that Jesus does not play favorites.**

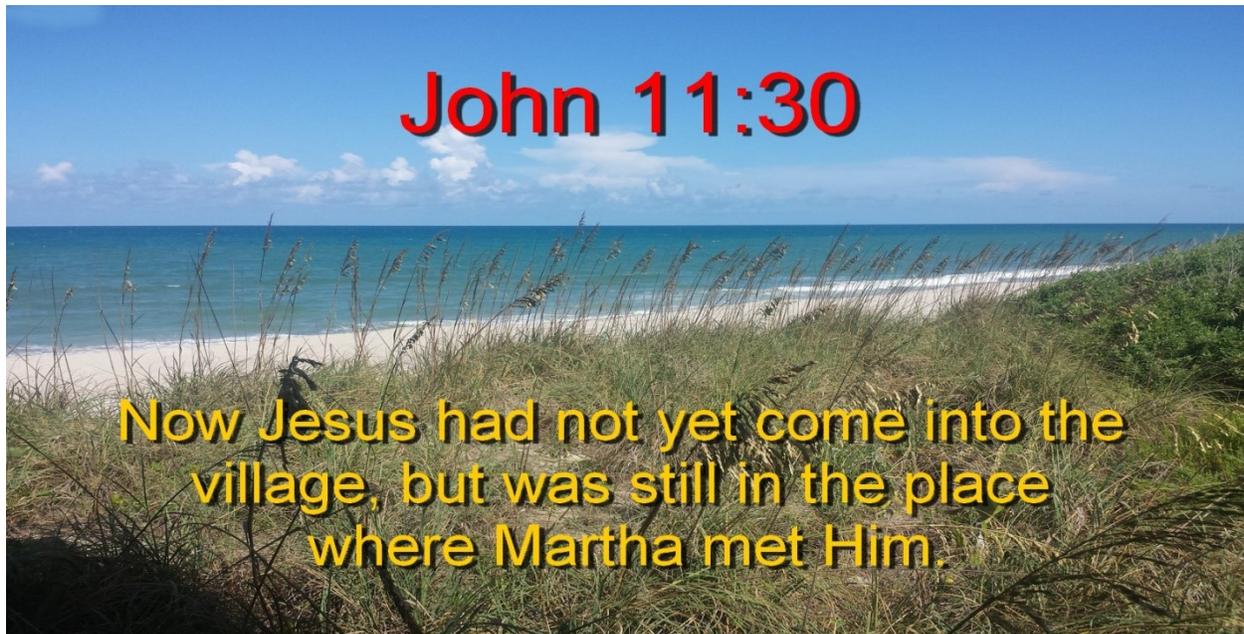
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by coming to Jesus when He calls us. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by spending some time with Jesus talking and listening to Him?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Four Hundred Ninety Five

Not Yet Today



Where was Jesus when Martha met Him? Jesus had not yet come into the village of Bethany when Martha met Him.

Martha apparently left her house in Bethany and went out to meet Jesus. The first thing Martha said to Jesus was that Lazarus would not have died if Jesus had been there.

Martha obviously wanted to see Jesus as quickly as possible. She knew that Jesus had great powers to heal people and Martha believed that Jesus was the Son of God. She also believed that God the Father would give Jesus whatever He asked.

Mary went out to meet Jesus because He was still in the place where Martha met Him. He had not yet arrived in the village of Bethany. Jesus would arrive at just the right time.

The Village

1. **Bethany.** Mary, Martha and Lazarus lived in the village of Bethany, near Jerusalem.

2. **Details.** Historical details still matter. You may recall that in Luke 7, Jesus went to the home of a Pharisee that lived in a city and was anointed.

3. **Distinguished.** Luke distinguished the village of Bethany where Lazarus lived from the city where Jesus was anointed in Luke 7.

4. **Anointed.** We have already read that Mary, the sister of Lazarus, anointed Jesus with perfume (John 11:2). She lived in the village of Bethany, not the city in Luke 7. Jesus was anointed twice, at different times.

5. **Eager.** Like Martha, her sister, Mary was eager to see Jesus.

6. **Accuracy.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we know details in the Bible really matter. Jesus recorded the truth with detailed accuracy.

7. **Good.** We rejoice today because it is always a good thing to be eager to see Jesus and talk with Him.

Summary for Today

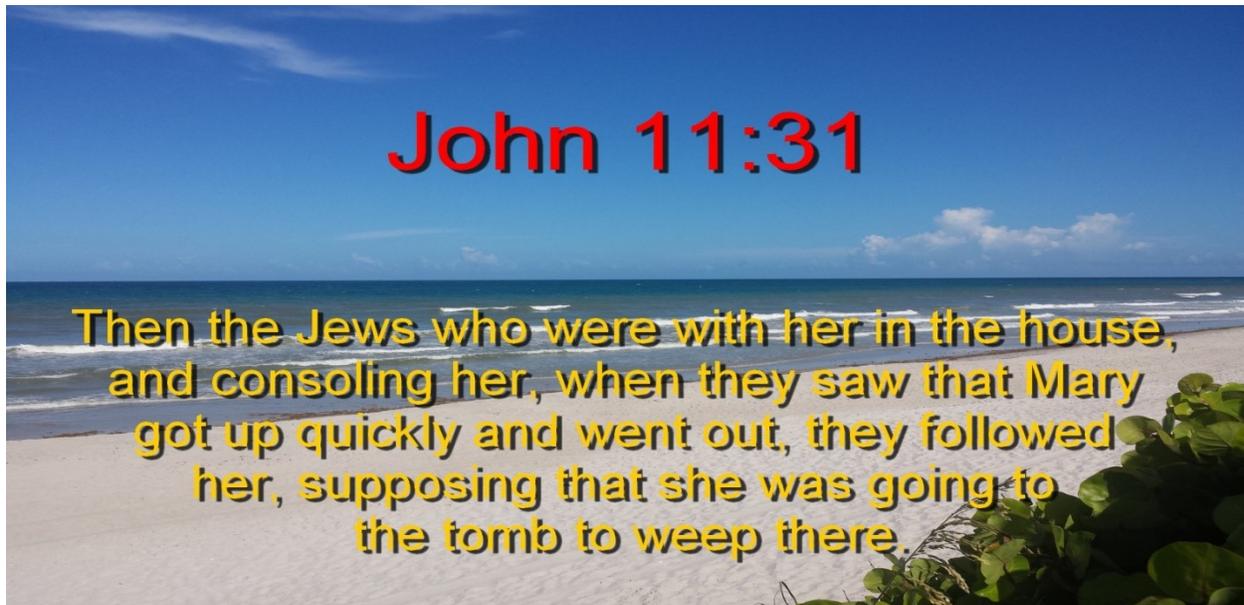
- **We live Godly in the family of God by being eager to see Jesus.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we make time to see Jesus and spend time with Him.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we count upon Jesus having time to talk with each one of us one at a time.**

Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by looking forward to seeing Jesus and going out to meet Him. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by listening to the call of Jesus and spending special time with Him?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Four Hundred Ninety Six Followed Her Today



Why were the Jews following Mary? They thought she was going to the tomb to weep there.

Martha told Mary that Jesus called for her. Some Jews were in the house consoling Mary over the loss of Lazarus. He had been in the tomb four days at that point.

Upon hearing the news, Mary quickly got up and went out to see Jesus. Mary moved quickly because she wanted to see Jesus even before He came to her. She knew that Jesus could always provide help.

The Jews assumed that Mary was going to the tomb to weep there. They did not know that they all had a meeting with Jesus. He was going to show them that the sickness of Lazarus was not going to end in death. In fact, Jesus was going to show all saints from all ages that physical sickness does not end in death, but demonstrates the glory of God because saints have eternal life today and look forward to resurrection tomorrow.

Weep There

1. **With Her**. Some Jews were in Mary's house to console her. They apparently kept an eye on her.

2. **Quickly**. Mary got up quickly. This caught the attention of the Jews. Mary's speed also indicates her desire to see Jesus immediately, because she has Lazarus on her heart.

3. **Followed**. The Jews followed Mary out of the house. They were all going to meet Jesus, except the Jews did not know that yet.

4. **Supposing**. Supposing may lead to unexpected consequences at times. The Jews supposed that Mary was going to the tomb to weep some more, even though Lazarus had been dead for four days by this time.

5. **Tomb**. In some ways, the tomb becomes the focal place of this account. Lazarus was in the tomb, and everyone knew where he was and why he was there. Jesus would also head to that tomb.

6. **Weep**. Living Godly in the family of God means that the old association of tombs with death and weeping shall be replaced with Lazarus raised from the dead and the promise of resurrection to life for all saints.

7. **Expectation**. We rejoice today because we have an expectation of resurrection on the last day when Jesus resurrects our bodies into incorruptible, immortal and glorious bodies, spiritual and wonderful.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by moving toward Jesus when we hear Him calling us.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we expect Jesus to bring help.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we comfort one another with the power of Jesus to help all those who weep over the death of loved ones.**

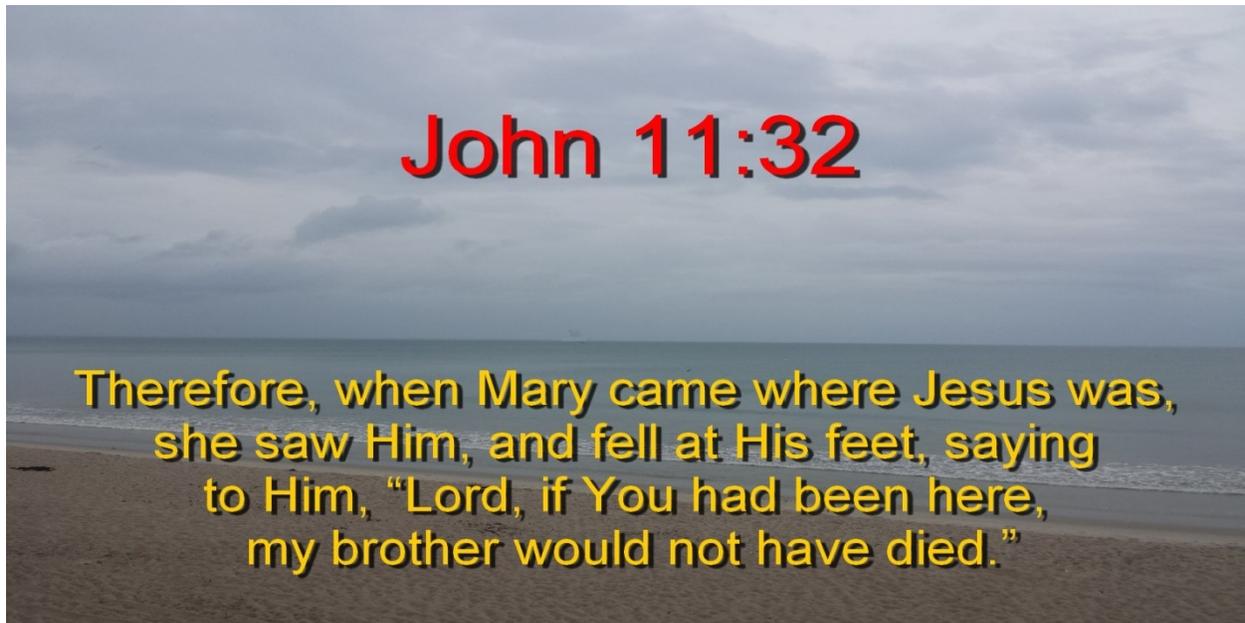
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by looking to Jesus and listening to Him calling us as we weep for people we love. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by remembering that Jesus binds up the brokenhearted?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Four Hundred Ninety Seven

His Feet Today



What did Mary say when she met Jesus? Mary said that Lazarus would not have died if Jesus was there.

Mary and Martha said the same thing. They thought the same thing about Jesus. If Jesus had been there, Lazarus would not have died. They had faith that Jesus could heal sickness.

Mary fell at the feet of Jesus. She honored Him by bowing down before Him. She moved quickly to fall down before Jesus. In her grief, she still knew that Jesus could help.

Like Mary we should always fall at the feet of Jesus and tell Him all that is in our hearts. Mary expressed both her faith and her sense of loss to Jesus. Lazarus had died because Jesus was not there. Now He was there and she wanted to see Jesus and moved quickly.

Fell

1. **Meet.** Mary went to meet Jesus because Martha, her sister, had told her that He wanted her to come to Him.

2. **Posture.** At times, the posture of a person can communicate volumes.

3. **At the Feet.** In this case, Mary fell at the feet of Jesus. The posture of falling down at His feet says a lot.

4. **Submission.** Mary had something very important to say to Jesus, but she wanted to demonstrate her submissiveness and obedience to Him by first falling at His feet.

5. **Power.** Just like Martha, Mary said if you had been here, my brother would not have died. Mary understood that Jesus had the power to heal Lazarus, her brother, but did not yet understand that Jesus is the resurrection and the life.

6. **Learn.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we learn from Jesus as He takes us through very important events in our lives. We should always remember to fall at His feet when we are talking to Him.

7. **Fall.** We rejoice today because Jesus always loves it when we talk to Him, falling at His feet.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by falling at the feet of Jesus when we need help with grief.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we move quickly to talk with Jesus and share our thoughts with Him.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God by encouraging one another with the presence of Jesus always in us and with us.**

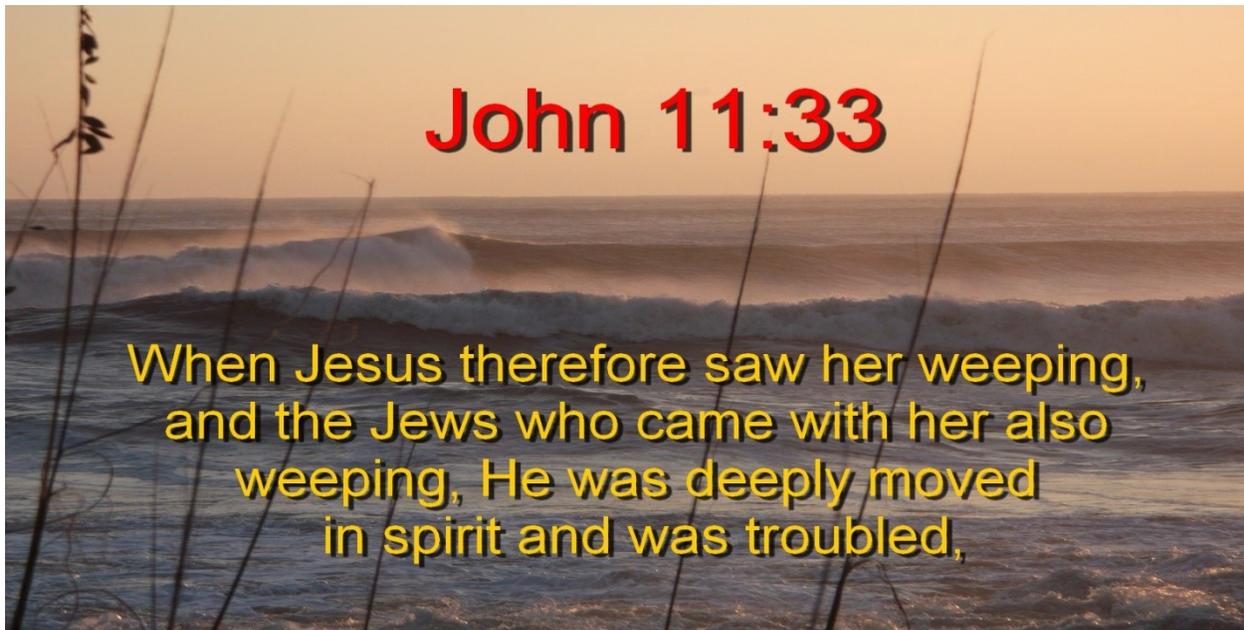
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God as we go through grief and loss, knowing we fall before Jesus and seek help from Him. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by falling before Jesus and seeking His help?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Four Hundred Ninety Eight

Weeping Today



Why was Jesus deeply moved in spirit and troubled? Jesus was deeply moved in spirit and troubled because He saw Mary weeping.

Jesus was not a pillar of rock when Mary wept at His feet. He not only cared for Mary, but also for all the Jews who came with her. What Jesus saw mattered to Him.

Jesus did not come immediately to Bethany when He heard that Lazarus was sick. He came at the right time to build faith and to demonstrate the works of God to the glory of God.

Jesus was not indifferent to the pain and suffering of people who had a loved one die. Jesus reacted deeply and wept Himself.

Moved in Spirit and Troubled

1. **Observed.** Jesus observed Martha and the Jews weeping. The sight deeply moved Jesus in spirit and also troubled Him.

2. **Troubled.** As a real human being, Jesus had real human emotions. The weeping of people around him moved Him and troubled Him.

3. **Real.** Some people seem to think that real Christians do not have real emotions. As God in the flesh, Jesus had and displayed real human emotions.

4. **Emotions.** Even so, the emotions of Jesus did not drive him or control Him.

5. **Notice.** Please notice that the text does not describe what it meant to be moved in spirit or troubled. Obviously, Jesus loved Mary, Martha and Lazarus.

6. **Experienced.** Living Godly in the family of God means that Jesus fully understands our emotions and experienced them firsthand.

7. **Felt.** We rejoice today because Jesus never let His emotions cause Him to sin, but He felt real human emotions, like you and I experience.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by weeping with those who weep and sharing their loss with them.**

- **We live more Godly in the family of God by remembering that Jesus is deeply moved over the weeping of people He loves.**

- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God by trusting Jesus to provide His loving presence as we grieve over the loss of loved ones.**

Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by believing that Jesus always works the works of God so that God will be glorified, even through the loss of loved ones. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by supporting saints going through a time of grief by reminding them of the loving presence of Jesus?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Four Hundred Ninety Nine

Where Today



Where was Lazarus laid? They told Jesus that He should come and see where Lazarus was laid.

The Jews told Jesus to come and see where Lazarus had been laid. Jesus had promised that the sickness of Lazarus would not end in death, but people with faith would see the glory of God.

Jesus had plans for everyone that day, and they were not all the same plans. Some people trusted Jesus as the Son of God, and others did not. Mary and Martha thought that Lazarus would not have died if Jesus had been there.

Jesus intended to glorify God by raising Lazarus from the dead. In doing so, Jesus also intended to strengthen faith and expand faith.

Come and See

1. **Said.** Jesus was moved and troubled seeing Mary and the Jews with her coming to Him. He began talking with Mary and the crowd.

2. **Where.** Jesus wanted Mary and the crowd to know that Jesus wanted to see the tomb in person.

3. **Laid Him.** Jesus used the plural term for laid him. He understood that the group had laid Lazarus in the tomb. They would all see the glory of God, if they believed.

4. **Lord.** People in the crowd called Jesus Lord. Mary had faith in Jesus and perhaps others in the crowd also had faith. Jesus was certainly Lord, in the sense of Lord of lords.

5. **Come.** Mary and the crowd wanted Jesus to come to the tomb. They did not understand that Jesus would raise Lazarus.

6. **See.** Living Godly in the family of God means that Mary and the crowd also wanted Jesus to see the tomb. Jesus had great plans for Lazarus, but He also had great plans for people to know that Lazarus was in the tomb when Jesus arrived, but not when Jesus left.

7. **Glory.** We rejoice today because Jesus walked among men to give glory to God. He is Lord of both the living and the dead. He can raise the dead and give life to whomever He wishes. He also gives eternal life to every saint.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by trusting Jesus to see every person in every tomb.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God by believing Jesus will resurrect every believer on the last day.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God by always expecting Jesus to come and see all of us one day.**

Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by trusting Jesus to come and see; He never misses a thing. Will you live Godly in the family of God today and that Jesus always sees everything?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Five Hundred

Jesus Today



What did Jesus do after the Jews invited Him to come and see where they laid Lazarus? Jesus wept.

Jesus was deeply moved in spirit and troubled when He saw Mary and the Jews weeping. Jesus loved people and did not delight in their suffering. Jesus was not there when Lazarus died and Mary and Martha both declared that Lazarus would not have died if Jesus had been there. Jesus intended that Lazarus would die so that God may be glorified.

At times in our lives we do not focus upon Jesus, but upon emotional things. God seeks to command our emotions. God made us to weep and to feel strong emotions, just like He does. The Holy Spirit produces emotions in us, just like our sinful flesh produces emotions in us.

Jesus wept and it was the perfect response to others weeping. He knew the future, but wept in the present. People watching Jesus knew that He wept.

Wept

1. **Reveals.** Jesus wept. Truly an easy verse to memorize. This verse, however, reveals a lot about Jesus.

2. **Moved.** We have already seen that Jesus was deeply moved in spirit and troubled as He witnessed the people weeping over the death of Lazarus.

3. **Emotions.** Jesus had real emotions. He also wept in public.

4. **Grieve.** We know that we grieve the Holy Spirit with our sin.

5. **Weep.** Jesus wept without sin. Loving people also means that you will weep with people. In fact, God commands us to weep with those who weep and rejoice with those who rejoice.

6. **Publicly.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we weep with those who weep and, at times, we even weep in public.

7. **Care.** We rejoice today because Jesus wept, demonstrating His loving care for people, especially His children.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by remembering that Jesus wept.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we weep with those who weep.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we let Jesus direct our emotions, including our joy and our weeping.**

Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by weeping with those who weep. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by remembering that Jesus wept?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Five Hundred One

See How Today



Why did the Jews think that Jesus loved Lazarus? The Jews thought Jesus loved Lazarus because Jesus wept.

People draw many conclusions from behavior. If they see you weep at a funeral, they may conclude that you loved the deceased. If they see weep at a wedding, they may conclude you loved the bride or groom.

The Jews concluded that Jesus loved Lazarus because He wept. Jesus certainly loved Lazarus, Martha and Mary. He may have wept because of His love, but He may also have wept because of His love for the people weeping. He knew that Lazarus would be raised from the dead, but others did not know. Jesus came to glorify God using the death of Lazarus.

Jesus sought to glorify God by raising Lazarus. The mourning would be turned to joy shortly.

Loved Him

1. **So.** Jesus saw Mary the Jews weeping as He arrived. Mary came quickly to meet Jesus and the Jews followed her.

2. **Jews.** Jesus was Jewish. Salvation is from the Jews. The Jews here were consoling Mary and Martha over the death of Lazarus.

3. **Saying.** We can always expect that religious people will have opinions and jump to conclusions. Sometimes people jump to sound conclusions, but not always. The Jews here saw Jesus weeping and concluded that He loved Lazarus.

4. **See.** The Jews drew attention to Jesus. They wanted people to look at Jesus and see His emotions. When we express our emotions in public, people often take notice.

5. **How.** The Jews also drew attention to the intensity of weeping. Because Jesus wept, they concluded that Jesus had a strong bond. The first mention of Jesus weeping here was related to Him seeing Mary and the Jews weeping. The text contains no mention that Jesus wept when He talked first with Martha. Individuals have different emotional reactions to the same events.

6. **Loved.** Living Godly in the family of God means that some people recognize our brotherly love for others. They understood that Jesus had brotherly love for Lazarus. People often judge by appearance and emotions.

7. **Him.** We rejoice today because Jesus loved Lazarus, and He loves us too. Jesus allowed Lazarus to die to show people to this day the love of God in action. God builds His plans around His love for His children.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by trusting God to love us through all kinds of events in our lives.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God by recognizing that God builds His plans around His love for us.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God by knowing that God loves all of us, and His loving plans include all of us.**

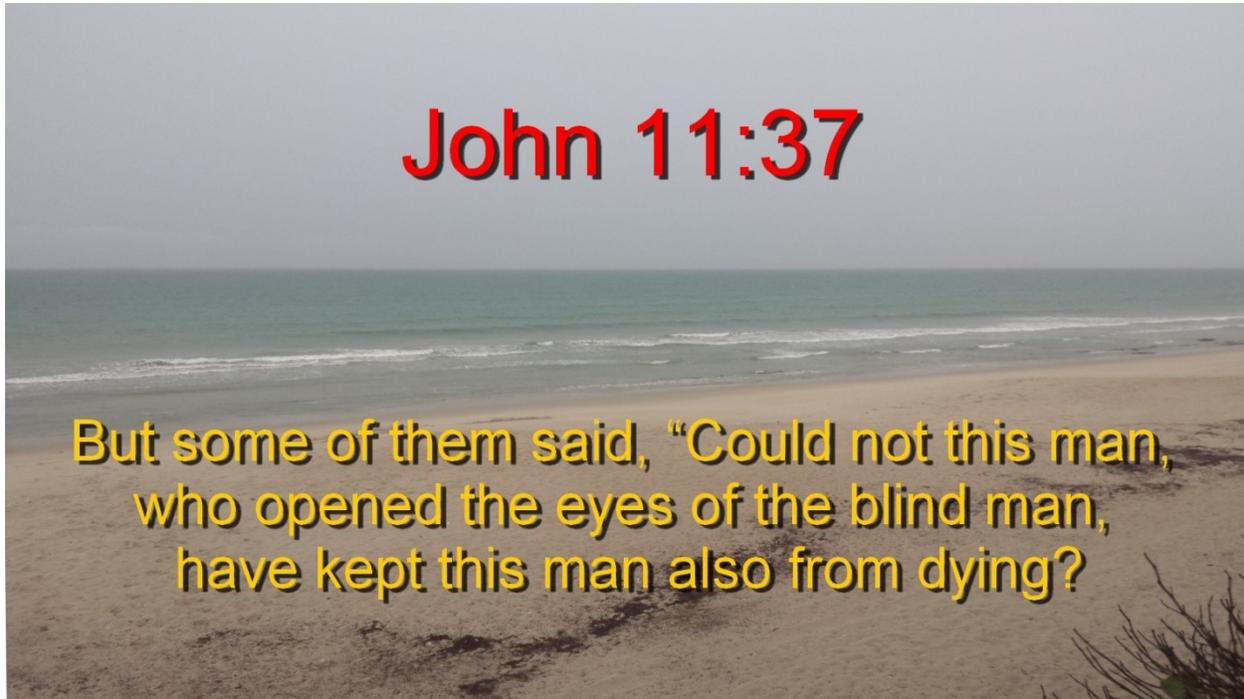
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by trusting the plans of God built around His love for us. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by trusting the love of God today?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Five Hundred Two

Could Not Today



How did some of the Jews sound just like Mary and Martha? Mary, Martha and some of the Jews said that if Jesus had been there, then He could have kept Lazarus from dying.

Jesus had no intention of keeping Lazarus from dying. Jesus planned on Lazarus dying so that He would glorify God and raise Lazarus from the dead. Of course, everyone must know that Lazarus was truly dead and buried. Then they would believe when Jesus raised Lazarus from the dead.

Jesus worked to glorify God by doing the works of God. Jesus wanted people to know that God loved Lazarus. By raising Lazarus from the dead, Jesus would also expand the faith of all the people who thought Jesus could have prevented the death of Lazarus. Those people had no idea that Jesus

could raise the dead. He wanted everyone to understand that as God in the flesh, Jesus had the power to raise the dead to the glory of God.

Kept This Man

1. **Some**. Some Jews recognized the power of Jesus to heal people.
2. **Could**. Some Jews then considered the possibility that Jesus could have kept Lazarus from dying. Notice that was the only possibility they mentioned. They sounded like Mary and Martha.
3. **Opened**. Some Jews recognized that Jesus opened the eyes of Man Born Blind. They understood that Jesus had unique power to do something no one had done before when Jesus opened the eyes of a man born blind.
4. **Kept**. Some Jews thought of Jesus having power to keep someone from death. They did not realize that Jesus does not have to be present to keep someone from dying. He healed some people from a distance. He also has power beyond death and over death.
5. **Dying**. Some Jews thought death was the final end. Jesus had power over the living, but they did not consider He also has power over death.
6. **Glory**. Living Godly in the family of God means that Jesus loves to reveal His power over all things, including death, at just the right time to just the right people.
7. **Manifest**. We rejoice today because Jesus has revealed His absolute, unlimited power over all things. Death poses no issues to Jesus.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by remembering that Jesus can keep people from dying, even if He is not physically visible there.**

- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we believe that Jesus can raise the dead, to the glory of God.**

- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we join together to worship Jesus because He will raise saints from the dead the on the last day.**

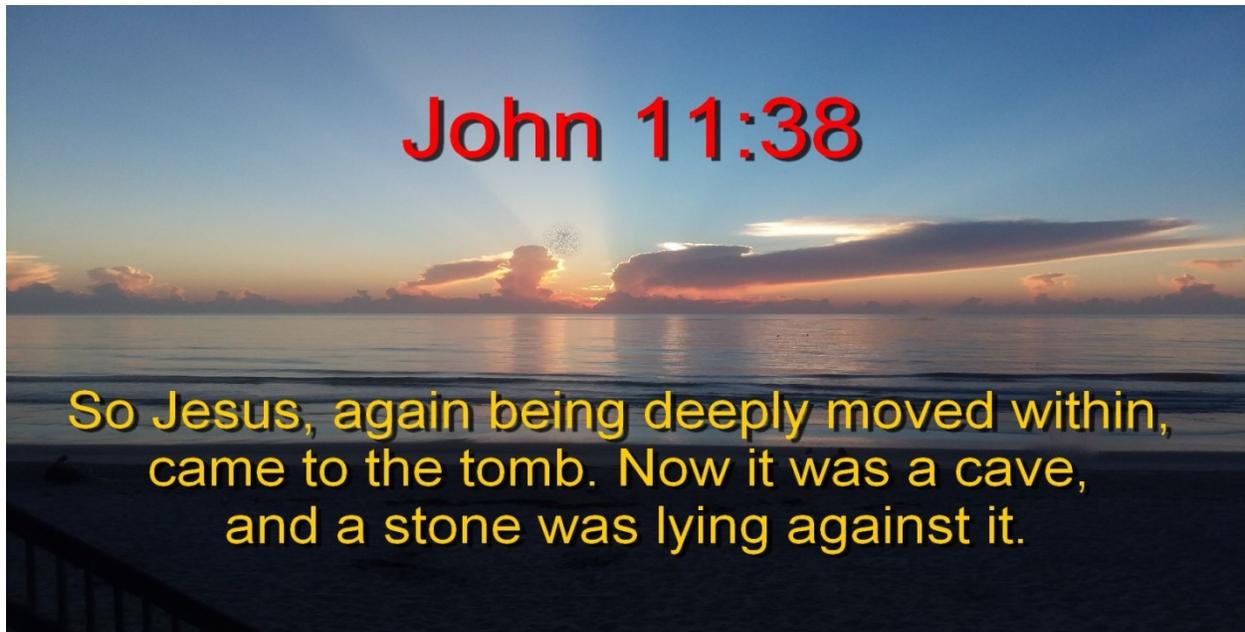
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by believing that Jesus raises people from the dead for the glory of God. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by praising Jesus that He raises the dead to the glory of God?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Five Hundred Three

Deeply Moved Today



How was Jesus feeling when He came to the tomb of Lazarus? Jesus was deeply moved again within as He came to the tomb of Lazarus.

Jesus was deeply moved the first time when He saw Mary and the Jews weeping. Jesus expressed His emotions like a real human being. He was like us, but without sin.

Jesus came to the tomb for a very special purpose. No one around Him knew His plans, although He had told the disciples that He was going to awaken Lazarus, who was dead. The disciples did not always understand the spiritual truths that He shared with them.

Jesus found a stone rolled against the tomb. Later a stone would be rolled against the tomb where Jesus was laid. In both cases, a stone did not hinder Jesus.

The Tomb

1. **Inquired.** Jesus inquired where they had laid Lazarus.
2. **Deeply Moved.** John emphasized that Jesus was again deeply moved within.
3. **Arrived.** At this point Jesus has arrived at the tomb of Lazarus. Jesus has talked with both Martha and Mary and the Jews had assembled.
4. **Cave.** John again provided careful detail. The tomb was a cave with a stone lying against it. It sounds like the same kind of tomb where Jesus was laid after His crucifixion.
5. **Reveal.** Jesus had already prophesied that the sickness of Lazarus would not end in death, but in the glory of God. Jesus was now ready to reveal that glory.
6. **Display.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we really enjoy watching Jesus display His glory by doing wonderful things in the lives of people He loves.
7. **Glory.** We rejoice today because Jesus brought forth Lazarus from that tomb to the glory of God.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by expressing our emotions under the control of God.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we recognize that God commands our emotions, and Jesus expressed His emotions.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we rejoice together in the power of Jesus to raise the dead.**

Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by expressing our emotions under the control of God. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by looking past stones and seeing glory to follow?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Five Hundred Four

Remove the Stone Today



What did Jesus say when he reached the tomb of Lazarus? Jesus said to remove the stone.

Martha loved Jesus and Lazarus. She was focused upon earthly things when she told Jesus that Lazarus had been buried for four days. After four days, the body of Lazarus should have been undergoing decay and would have a stench.

Some people tell Jesus the reasons that His command should not be followed. When Jesus commanded to roll away the tomb, people should realize that every word Jesus said came from God the Father. Jesus was not just talking, but commanding the will of God.

At times in our lives we tell Jesus about problems we see and we think we should tell Jesus about those problems. Jesus sees and smells the entire picture always, and does not need any counselors, especially us.

Stench

1. **Remove**. Jesus issued a simple command: Remove.
2. **Stone**. The stone sealed the tomb where Lazarus lay. In our lives, we need to obey Jesus and remove the stone that seals up our fear of death.
3. **Martha**. Martha feared the stench of death and decay. Jesus looked forward to everyone seeing the glory of God. She told Jesus things He already knew, but she was about to learn things Jesus already knew.
4. **Lord**. Martha was always respectful in her address to Jesus calling Him Lord. She loved Him, but He would always be her Lord, even when she told Him things He already knew.
5. **Time**. Jesus knows about all time. Martha knew about four days in the tomb and the stench of decaying bodies. She assumed the body had decayed.
6. **Dead**. Living Godly in the family of God means that we need to trust Jesus with death. Martha knew about death. She had never seen Jesus raise someone from the dead. The disciples and another crowd had seen Jesus resurrect a son from his coffin outside Nain.
7. **Four**. We rejoice today because Jesus has no problem raising the bodies that died thousands of years ago. Four days poses no problem whatsoever for Jesus. He is the God of the living, not the dead, for all live to Him.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by trusting Jesus to know all things.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God by avoiding all efforts to guide God to do the right thing.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God by accepting the commands of Jesus as perfect and lacking nothing.**

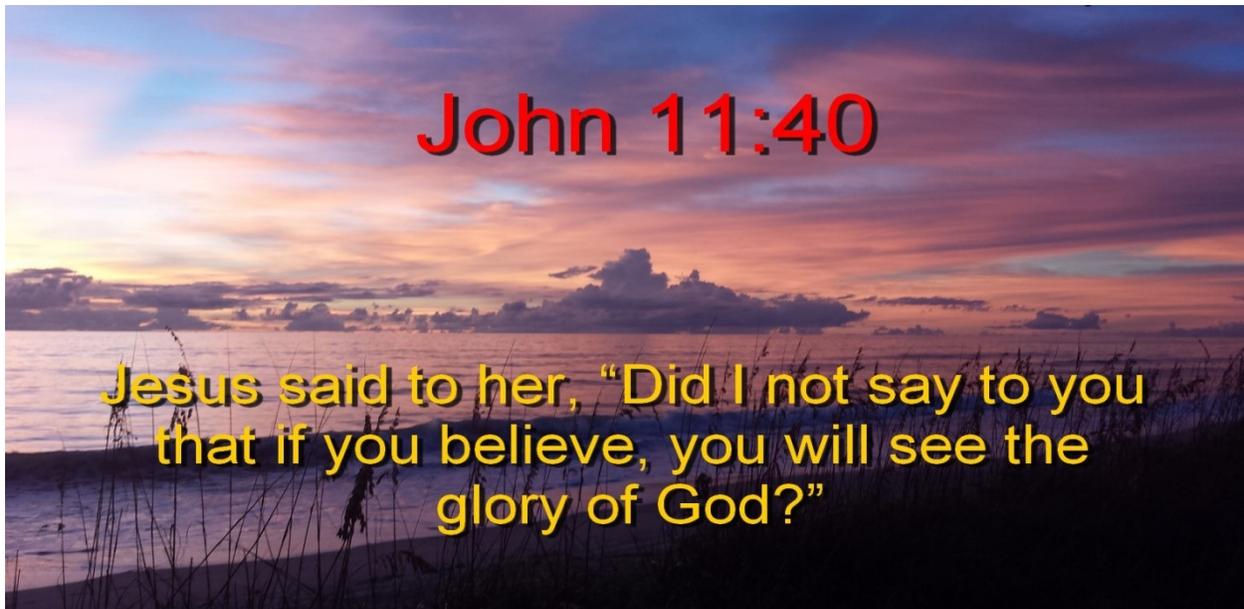
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by obeying Jesus, and not posing reasons for not obeying Him immediately. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by instantly obeying Jesus, even when it may seem that Jesus has overlooked something?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Five Hundred Five

If You Believe Today



What will you see if you believe? Jesus said that if we believe, then we will see the glory of God.

When Martha told Jesus that Lazarus had been in the tomb for four days, what was her problem? She did not have faith that Jesus knew exactly what He was doing, even if she did not have the faintest idea. She thought Jesus may have wanted to see the body or the tomb.

Martha had to learn that Jesus wanted to show everyone the glory of God. Jesus had already started the process of raising Lazarus. He continued the process by commanding the stone to be rolled away. Jesus removed the stone, in part, so that everyone could witness the miracle. People could see and hear Jesus orchestrating the miracle of raising Lazarus.

Jesus used very few words raising Lazarus from the dead. He used far more words in talking to the people as He prepared to raise Lazarus from the dead.

You Will See

1. **Jesus**. Jesus talked with people and told them wonderful things. He often reminded people of things He already told them.

2. **Her**. Martha worried about the stench, but Jesus focused her attention upon faith and glory. We all need to remember how Jesus loves to focus our lives upon faith in Him and then we will see His glory.

3. **Did**. Jesus repeated Himself to Martha: Did I not say? Jesus loves to make the same points to us so that we no longer forget what He said, because every word of Jesus means something important for our lives.

4. **Believe**. Jesus taught Martha about the believe and see principle. We must believe what Jesus said will come true and then we will see the glory of God. What Jesus said will always come true, but we may not see the glory of God in what Jesus has done except that we have faith to see the glory.

5. **Glory**. Living Godly in the family of God means that we see the glory of God by faith. Other people may see the works of God, but they cannot see the glory of God and understand its significance without faith.

6. **God**. We rejoice today because God loves to display His glory for us to see with the eyes of faith. We will only see His glory, even in the death of loved ones, with faith He gives to us.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by believing and then seeing the glory of God.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God by expecting to see the glory of God manifested in our lives.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God by praising God for the many ways God manifests His glory in our lives.**

Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by believing and then seeing the glory of God in our lives. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by believing that Jesus works in your life each day and draws glory to God each day?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Five Hundred Six

The Stone Today



What did Jesus do first after the stone was removed from the tomb of Lazarus? Jesus first gave thanks publicly to His Father.

Jesus commanded that the stone be rolled away from the tomb of Lazarus. Martha had warned him that the body of Lazarus would stink because it had been in the tomb for four days. Even so, Jesus had the stone rolled away.

Then Jesus lifted His eyes. Jesus then prayed publicly to God the Father. Jesus thanked His Father that He heard Jesus, indicating that Jesus had already been praying. In fact, every word we utter God hears. Nothing is hidden from God.

Jesus wanted everyone with earshot to hear His prayer. He had not yet summoned Lazarus from the tomb, but Jesus intended to draw attention to God the Father and to glorify God the Father for the coming events.

Heard Me

1. **Believe and See.** Jesus told Martha that if she would believe, she would see the glory of God.

2. **Thanks.** The Jews removed the stone lying against the cave. Jesus was about to raise Lazarus, but He first gave thanks.

3. **Father.** Jesus frequently focused upon His relationship with God the Father.

4. **Always.** Jesus thanked the Father that the Father always heard Him.

5. **Heard.** You may recall the Psalmist saying that if he regarded iniquity in his heart, God would not hear him. Jesus never sinned and so God always heard Jesus.

6. **Grace.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we can draw near to God's throne of grace and talk to God anytime we want.

7. **Showed.** We rejoice today because we know that Jesus thanked God and showed us God in the flesh.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by counting upon God to hear our prayers.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God by remembering to thank God for hearing our prayers.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God by praying together and giving thanks together.**

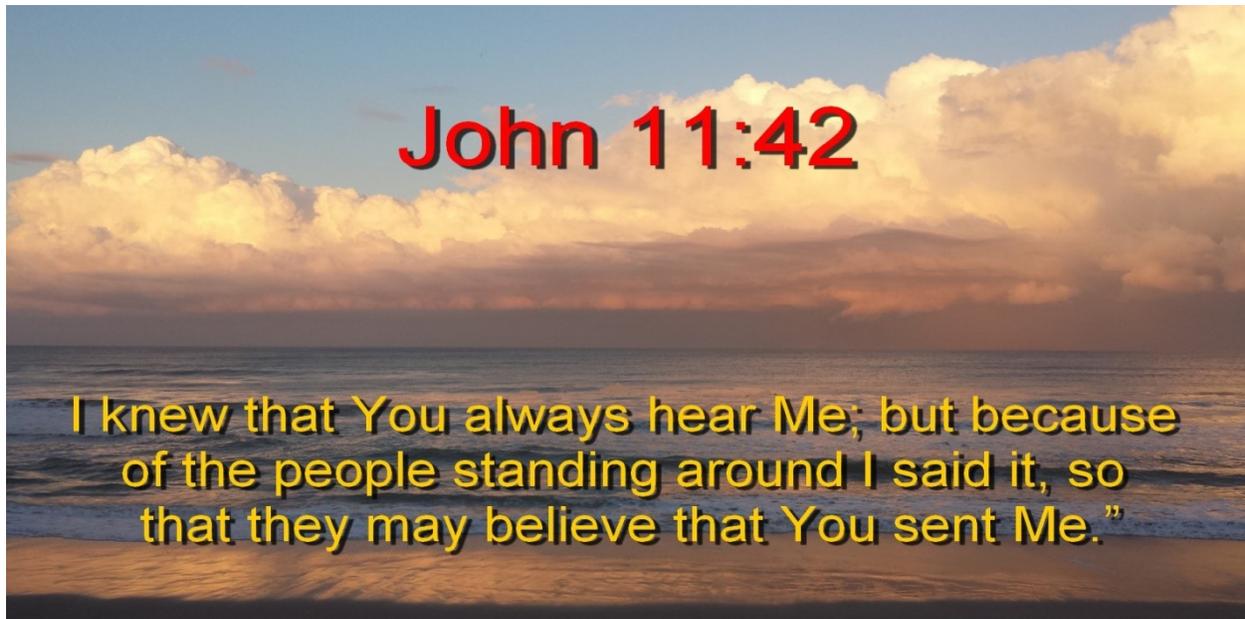
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by thanking God for hearing our prayers. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by praying with confidence?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Five Hundred Seven

Around Today



Why did Jesus pray out loud to the Father? Jesus prayed out loud so that the people standing around would know that God the Father sent him.

Jesus first thanked the Father for hearing Him. Jesus had absolute confidence that the Father heard every word prayed by Jesus. He knew spiritually that He was doing the will of the Father all day, every day. He never stepped out of the will of the Father.

Jesus also prayed so that the people standing around Him would believe that God the Father sent Him. Jesus always wanted to build saving faith in people. He prayed so that everyone would know from the prayer itself that He wanted the Father to show the people that God the Father sent Jesus.

Jesus did not want only to raise Lazarus, but to bring many people to salvation. They could witness the miracle and know God the Father sent Jesus.

The People

1. **Prayed.** As Jesus stood near the tomb of Lazarus with the stone rolled away, Jesus lifted His eyes and prayed to His Father.

2. **Heard.** Jesus thanked His Father that He always heard His prayers.

3. **People.** Jesus prayed out loud so that the people standing by Him would hear Him and believe that the Father sent Him.

4. **Faith.** Jesus did not come to the tomb just to raise Lazarus from the dead; He also came so that the people would have faith in Him.

5. **Explanation.** Jesus had taken deliberate steps in preparing to raise Lazarus. The last step was public prayer, with thanksgiving and His explanation of faith.

6. **Thanked God.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we know that Jesus always thanked God.

7. **Believe.** We rejoice today because the Father and the Son did many things so that we would believe in Them.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by always believing that Jesus did many things so that we would believe in Him.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God when we appreciate the works of Jesus which increase our faith.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we worship God for the way that the Father, Son and Holy Spirit work together.**

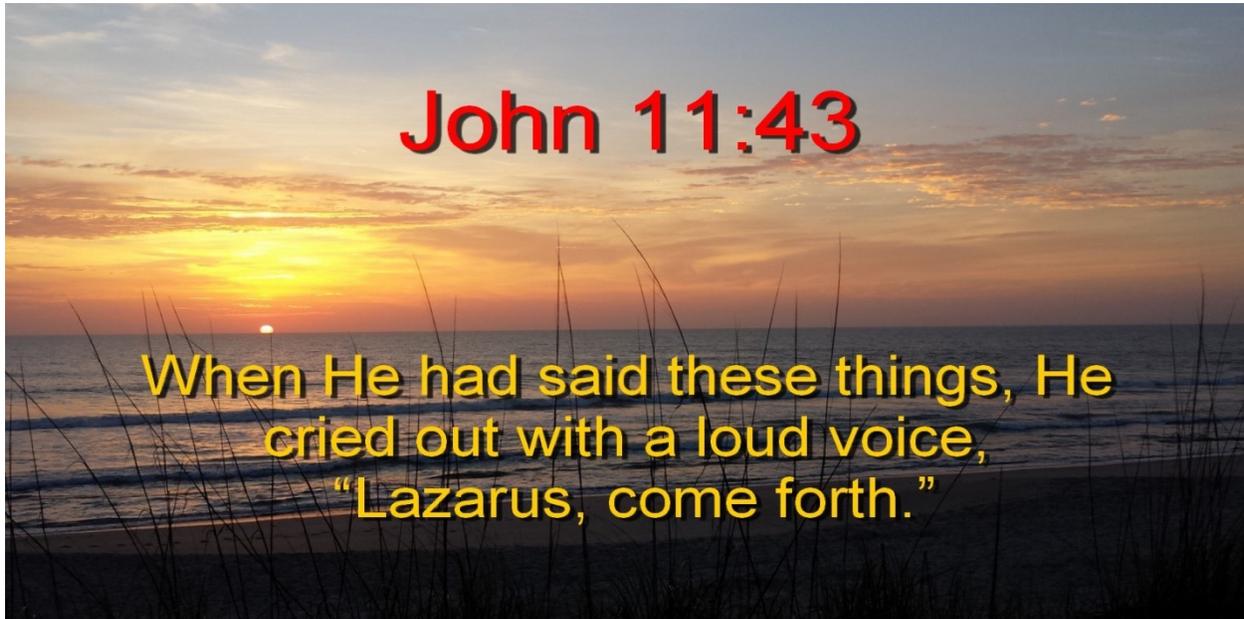
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by praying out loud with other people. Will you live Godly in the family of God today praying with other people?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Five Hundred Eight

Loud Voice Today



What did Jesus say to bring Lazarus out of the tomb? Jesus cried out: “Lazarus, come forth.”

Jesus often used very few words to do works of powers. Jesus cried out with a loud voice so that everyone, including Lazarus, would hear the voice of Jesus.

Jesus cried out because He already knew that His voice would raise Lazarus. Jesus always did the things pleasing to His Father. Raising Lazarus was part of God the Father’s plan to build faith.

Jesus issued the command. The spoken words of God created the world. What God commands always takes place. As God in the flesh, Jesus demonstrated the awesome power of God to raise the dead with simple words in one simple command. Notice that Jesus called Lazarus by name.

Come Forth

1. **Voice.** After praying out loud so everyone could hear Him, Jesus issued a simple command with a loud voice: "Lazarus, come forth."

2. **Miracles.** Jesus worked miracles in many ways: without commands, without words, with a touch, and sometimes with a loud voice.

3. **Intent.** In the Gospel of John, Jesus intended that people have faith in Him as Savior, see the glory of God, and believe that God sent Jesus to earth.

4. **Reason.** Jesus did not work miracles just to impress people for no reason.

5. **Audience.** At the tomb with an audience, it was easy to call out a command to come forth. The proof will always appear shortly, one way or another.

6. **Command.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we know Jesus issues commands every day.

7. **Joy.** We rejoice because Jesus wrote down many commands in the Bible. When we follow them, it brings us great joy.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by listening carefully to the spoken commands of Jesus in the Bible.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we obey Jesus and expect that His commands deserve full obedience.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we worship Jesus for raising the dead in public.**

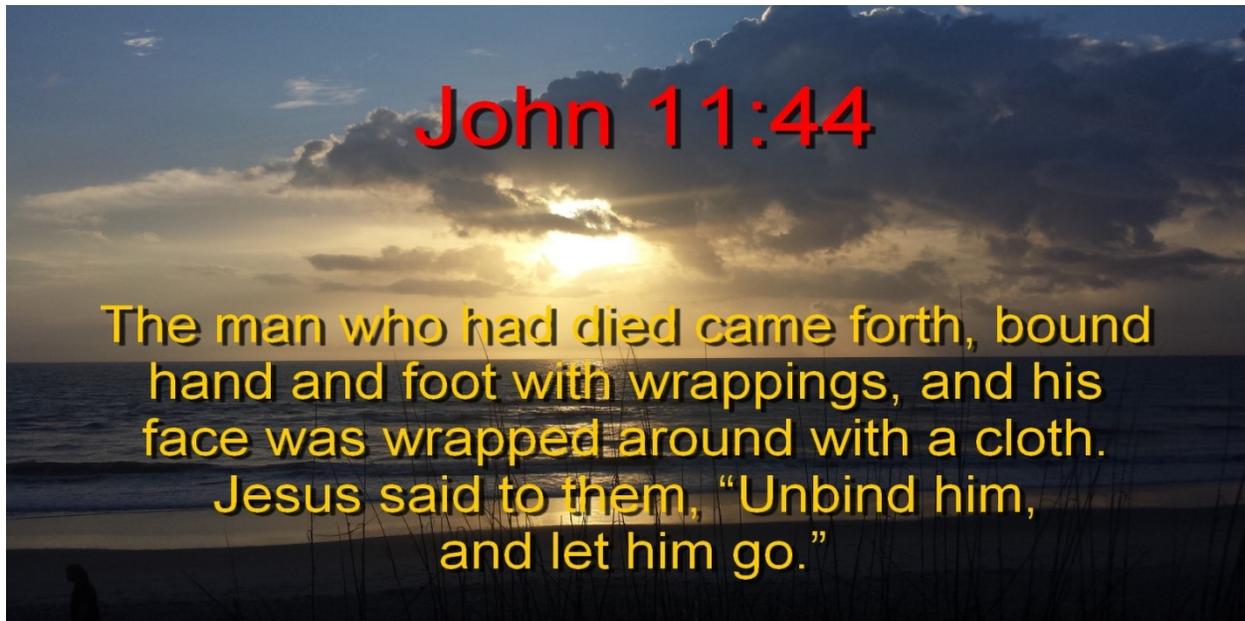
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by expecting that Jesus will always bring about His commands. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by trusting the promises of Jesus to be matched with His power so that what He commands come true?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Five Hundred Nine

Bound Today



How did Lazarus come forth from the tomb? Lazarus came forth from the tomb bound hand and foot with wrappings.

Lazarus had been wrapped for burial. His hands and feet, and his face, were all wrapped.

Jesus issued a new command: “Unbind him, and let him go.” Lazarus came forth from the dead with all his natural body, still wrapped as it was for burial. You may recall in the tomb of Jesus the wrappings remained in the tomb, but the body of Jesus was gone.

Jesus had issued a command for Lazarus to come forth and he did. Seeing Lazarus emerge from the tomb with the same wrappings certainly confirmed it was the same person wrapped for burial. All the people watching knew right away that Jesus had raised Lazarus from the dead.

Unbind Him

1. **Commanded**. In a loud voice Jesus commanded Lazarus to come forth from the tomb. He had been in the tomb, dead for four days.

2. **Prayed**. Jesus had prayed and thanked the Father that He always heard Him.

3. **Unexpected**. Based upon the statements of Mary, Martha and all the Jews gathered at that tomb, no one expected Jesus to raise Lazarus from the dead.

4. **Intended**. Even those folks lacked faith; Jesus intended that they would see the glory of God if they would believe.

5. **Glory**. Notice that Jesus gave very specific commands here: "Unbind him, and let him go." Although Jesus raised Lazarus from the dead, the people still needed to unbind him. As Jesus proclaimed earlier, the sickness of Lazarus would not end in death, but in the glory of God.

6. **Revealing**. Living Godly in the family of God means that we look beyond our doubts and our fears. By faith we see God at work around us, revealing His glory to believers.

7. **Display**. We rejoice today because Jesus loves to display His glory and His love for us.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by glorifying God for His power to raise the dead.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we praise God for raising Lazarus, so that everyone there could see the power of God at work.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we join together in spreading the news that Jesus can raise the dead and Lazarus is proof.**

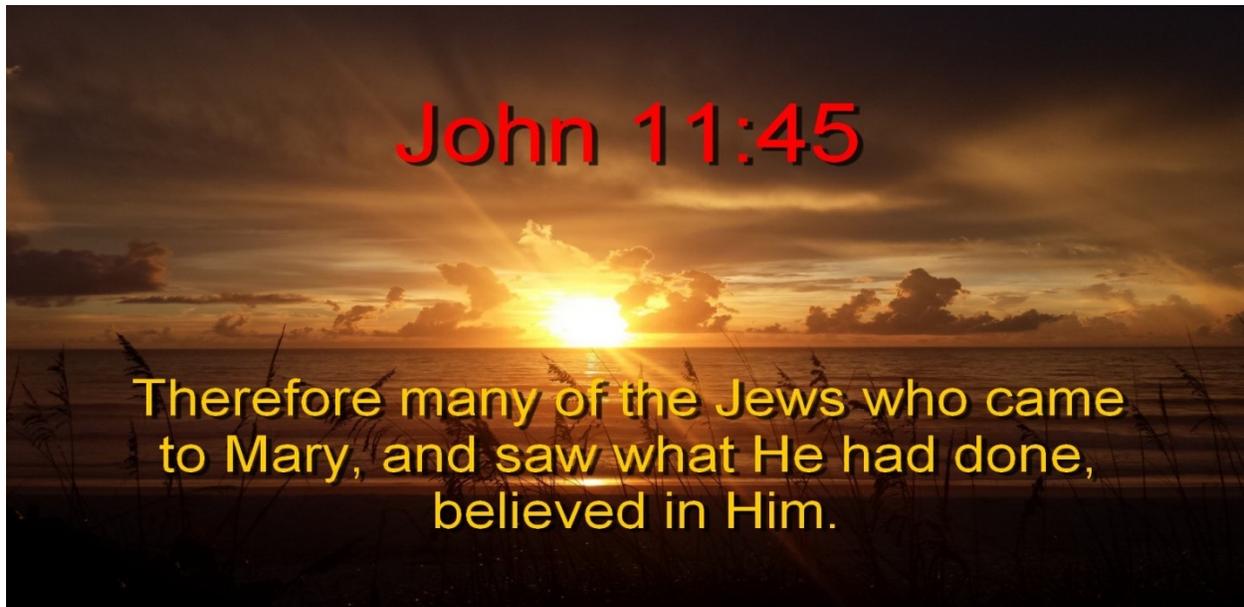
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by learning about the power of Jesus to raise people from the dead. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by remembering that Jesus said the sickness of Lazarus would not end in death?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Five Hundred Ten

Many Believed Today



What effect did Lazarus walking out of the tomb have upon people? When Jesus raised Lazarus, many of the Jews who came to Mary believed in Jesus when they saw what He had done.

Jesus had a plan to reach many Jews. He did not come immediately to Lazarus. Mary, Martha and other people thought Lazarus would not have died if Jesus had been there.

Jesus planned on raising Lazarus from the dead so that people would believe on Him for salvation. Lazarus would become a source of great interest to many people. They would come to see the man Jesus raised from the dead. Lazarus and everyone at the tomb would have a powerful testimony about Jesus calling forth Lazarus.

Jesus said the sickness of Lazarus would not end in death, but in the glory of God. Jesus fulfilled that prophecy as Lazarus came forth from the tomb.

Saw

1. **Meaning.** As we have seen in the Gospel of John, believing in Jesus does not always mean saving faith.
2. **Believe.** For example, some of the Jews who believed in Him had satan as their father.
3. **Faith.** Even so, some of the people had saving faith to believe in Him.
4. **Intention.** Jesus raised Lazarus from the dead with the intention of creating saving faith in Him.
5. **Received.** Merely believing that Jesus can work miracles does not amount to saving faith. Saving faith means that you believe that Jesus died in your place, was raised from the dead, and that you have received His free gift of eternal life by faith alone.
6. **Know.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we know we have saving faith.
7. **Resurrection.** We rejoice today because Jesus gave His life, and took it up again, so that we would believe that He is the resurrection and the life.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by seeing Jesus bring many people to Himself for salvation.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we expect that Jesus has plans for using one person to reach many people with the power and message of Jesus the Savior.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we work together to testify of the great love and works of Jesus Christ.**

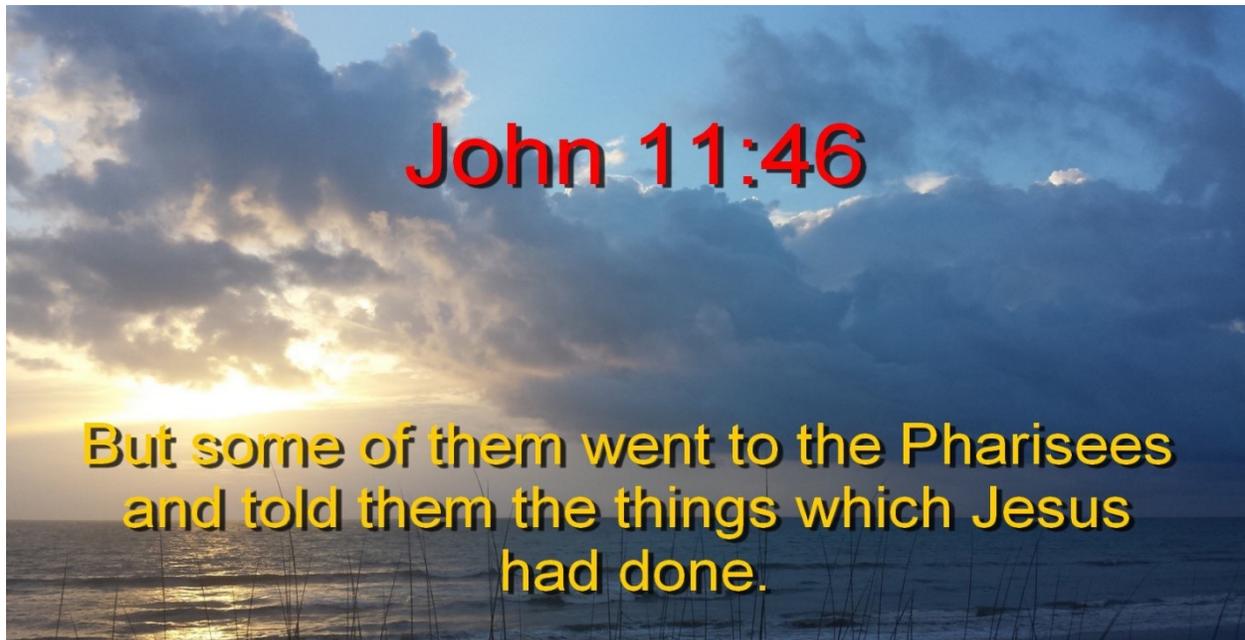
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by expecting that Jesus has plans at work to bring many people to Himself as Savior. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by trusting Jesus to make you useful in His plans?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Five Hundred Eleven

Some of Them Today



What did some of the witnesses do who saw Jesus raise Lazarus? Some of the witnesses told the Pharisees what Jesus had done.

Jesus faced opposition from many different human elements. Those humans were controlled and influenced by the devil and his minions opposing the work of God. They were the thieves, robbers, and wolves.

The Pharisees had already threatened to put out from the synagogue anyone confessing Jesus as Messiah. They had a network of informants relaying to them the activities of Jesus.

Raising Lazarus from the dead should have been a wonderful day for everyone. Like the reactions Jesus received for removing the lameness of Pallet Man and giving sight to Man Born Blind, so also the religious leaders opposed Jesus for doing the works of God the Father.

Had Done

1. **Many Believed.** Many of the Jews saw what Jesus had done in raising Lazarus from the dead and believed in Him.
2. **Some Reported.** Some of those Jews who believed went to the Pharisees and reported what Jesus had done.
3. **Miracles.** The miracles of Jesus did not lead everyone to saving faith.
4. **Witnessed.** You may recall that some people who witnessed His miracles claimed He performed them with demonic power.
5. **Glory.** Always remember that Jesus said you have to believe to see the glory of God.
6. **Opponents.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we know that some people will always tell the opponents of Jesus about the great miracles that Jesus performs.
7. **Jesus Triumphs.** We rejoice today because Jesus always triumphs over His opponents, no matter how crafty their plans may be in the short run.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by expecting that religious leaders will oppose the works of God.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we trust Jesus to do the will of God despite the opposition.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God by not letting opposition, even religious opposition, keep us from doing the will of God.**

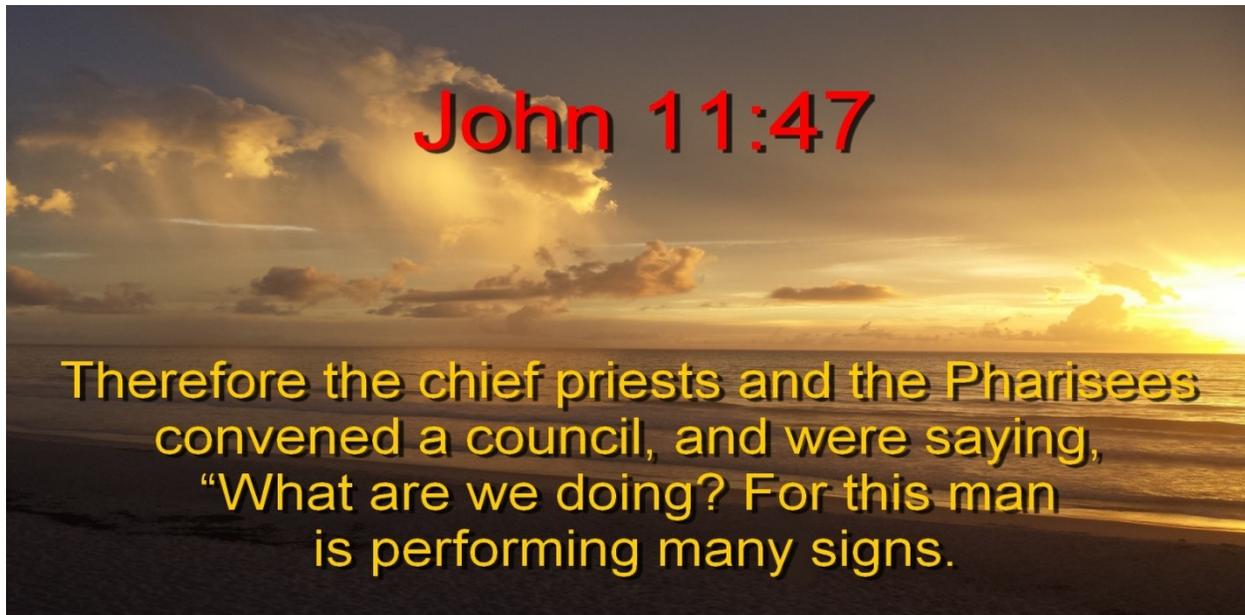
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by not letting opposition stop us from doing the will of God. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by doing what God wants and not stopping because of opposition?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Five Hundred Twelve

Council Today



Why did the chief priests and the Pharisees convene a council? The chief priests and Pharisees convened a council to find a way to stop Jesus.

When the Pharisees learned about Jesus raising Lazarus from the dead, they then convened a council to bolster their efforts to oppose Jesus. The religious leaders had already decided to kill Jesus. Their opposition was not working because Jesus continued doing great signs.

The Pharisees questioned what the council had been doing to stop Jesus. Their efforts so far did not stop Jesus. Therefore, they sought new schemes to silence Jesus, arrest Jesus, and kill Jesus.

Despite that opposition, and their concerted efforts, Jesus continued doing the will of God and the works of God. He continued healing people, giving sight to the blind, and raising the dead.

Many Signs

1. **Chief Priests.** The chief priests were religious leaders of the Jews. They had multiple chief priests, and they were often related. They were often Sadducees.

2. **Pharisees.** These religious leaders did not believe in afterlife, resurrection and angels, unlike the Pharisees. Jesus described them as the blind leading the blind.

3. **What.** You may recall that the Jewish religious leaders opposed Jesus and sought to seize Him and kill Him. They watched Him performing more signs and decided they must take further action to stop Jesus.

4. **Man.** The religious leaders saw Jesus as a man, but not as God.

5. **Performing.** Jesus performed many signs. He also repeatedly emphasized that those signs proved that His Father sent Him to earth.

6. **Many.** Living Godly in the family of God means that Jesus performed many signs, and those signs varied in many ways. Jesus raised the dead, healed the sick, taught with authority, made the blind see and the lame walk.

7. **Signs.** Jesus did physical things that were not commonplace, and those things pointed to God authenticating the worker of the signs as sent from Him.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by expecting great opposition to the works of Jesus.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God by expecting Jesus to overcome all obstacles to fulfilling God's purposes.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God by joining together to worship Jesus for the many wonderful things He does in our lives each day.**

Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by expecting opposition to the work of Jesus Christ. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by trusting Jesus to overcome organized opposition to His work in our lives?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Five Hundred Thirteen

Go On Today



What were the members of the council worried about? They were worried that the Romans would take away both our place and our nation.

The council thought that Jesus posed a threat to their political position. Jesus said that His kingdom was not of this world. He meant that He did not come to reign, but to give His soul a ransom for many.

The council worried that the Romans would see the signs of Jesus and that the Jews would rise up to follow Jesus in political rebellion against Rome. They were also concerned that they would lose their political power.

The council did not consider that Jesus was God in the flesh. They wanted to do the desires of their father the devil. They organized opposition to Jesus and His message of salvation. They could not match the works of powers that Jesus performed, but they could punish the people who confessed Him as Messiah and they did.

Place and Nation

1. **Let**. The council held themselves responsible for stopping Jesus. They had specific motives for stopping Jesus.

2. **Men**. The council also feared that all men would believe in Jesus. They actively opposed the work of Jesus and even planned on killing Him.

3. **Romans**. The Romans posed a significant burden upon the council. The council operated under authority of the Roman government. Therefore, the Roman government could use its military power to remove any elements in the land that opposed their purposes.

4. **Take**. The Romans had the specific power to take away the council altogether or limit its powers.

5. **Place**. The Romans could also remove the religious leaders from their place among the people. They feared the Roman power to remove them from power.

6. **Nation**. Living Godly in the family of God means that believers must recognize that civil governments are established by God, but they must use their power for God's purposes. The Romans had conquered Israel before and could impose its will through military power. The Romans governed Israel and surround areas. The Romans could harm the nation of Israel at any time the Romans thought it posed a significant risk to the interests of the Romans.

7. **Spiritual**. We rejoice today because the council, doing the desires of the devil, never defeated Jesus, even though they took specific actions to stop Him.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by understanding that some people oppose Jesus to keep political power.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we recognize that the opposition to Jesus has been organized to maintain political power built upon evil religious organizations.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God by joining together to follow Jesus as He opposes all people opposed to Him and He will triumph in our lives daily.**

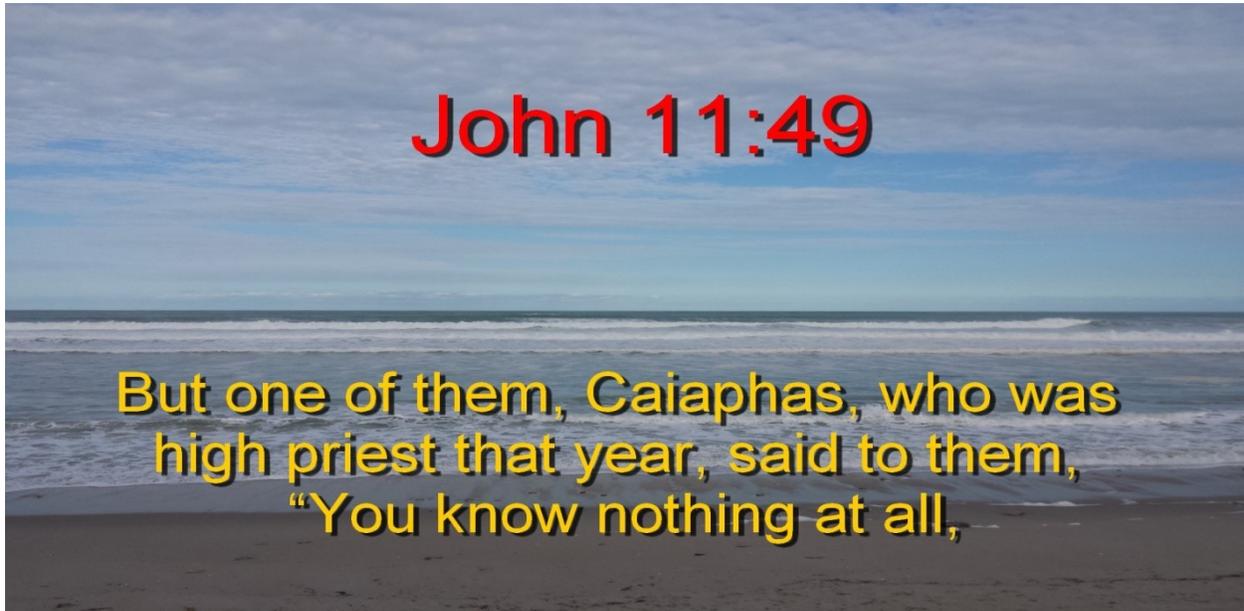
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by expecting political opposition from evil religious organizations. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by trusting Jesus to triumph over those seeking political and national power for evil purposes?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Five Hundred Fourteen

High Priest Today



What did Caiaphas say to the council? Caiaphas told them they knew nothing at all.

While the council fretted over Jesus, Caiaphas stood against them and proclaimed they knew nothing at all. They were worried about maintaining their political influence and privileges. They were also worried about the Jewish nation.

They thought that appeasing the Romans guaranteed their continued security and influence. They sought to subdue Jesus so that the people would not recognize Jesus as Messiah and King.

The council worked evil because they opposed Jesus. They were actually destroying both themselves and the nation of Israel. God created all of them and they rejected the Creator. They were the blind leading the blind.

You Know Nothing

1. **Council.** The chief priests and the Pharisees convened the council after news reached them of the miracle of Jesus raising Lazarus from the dead.

2. **High Priest.** In the Old Testament a chief priest was appointed for life. The New Testament practice, not based upon the Bible, was to appoint a high priest for one year.

3. **Caiaphas.** Caiaphas was high priest that year and he had a message for the council.

4. **Message.** Caiaphas started his message by telling the council that they knew nothing at all.

5. **Concerned.** The council was concerned about Jesus continuing to do miracles because then the Romans would take away both their place and their nation.

6. **Leaders.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we know that some religious leaders never knew Jesus as Savior.

7. **Jesus.** We rejoice today because we trust Jesus as Savior and not religious leaders like Caiaphas.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by expecting that unsaved people will say true things at times without understanding their true significance.**

- **We live more Godly in the family of God by remembering that Caiaphas told the council they knew nothing, and he was right about that statement.**

- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God by understanding that religious opposition to God takes many forms and often divides among themselves.**

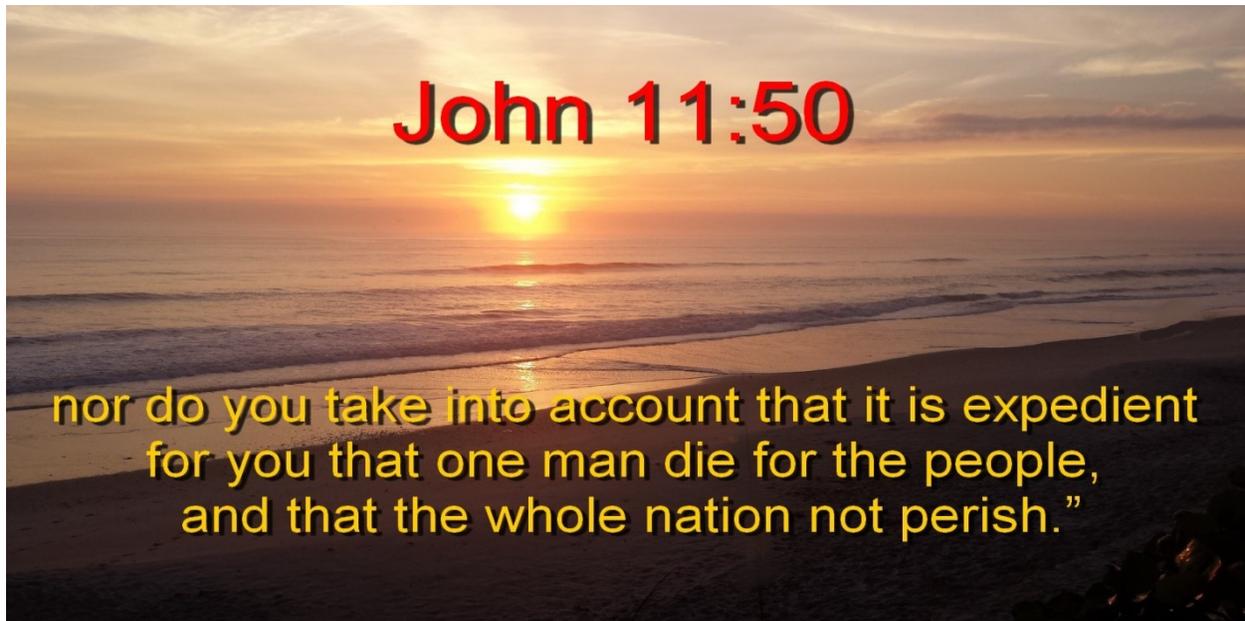
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by trusting Jesus to separate the liars from those who follow Him. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by following Jesus and not listening to the voice of liars opposing Jesus?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Five Hundred Fifteen

Expedient Today



Why did Caiaphas say it was expedient for Jesus to die? Caiaphas said it was expedient for one man to die for the people so that the whole nation would not perish.

Caiaphas spoke as high priest, without understanding the spiritual significance of his words. In fact, Jesus did come to die as one man so that the nation would not perish. Individually, people must turn to Jesus by faith for salvation. Caiaphas opposed Jesus, but he was correct that Jesus would die for the nation.

Jesus did not want the nation to perish. The nation's only hope was to return to their Creator and Savior, Jesus Christ. Yet, they refused to recognize Jesus as sent from God for the purpose of seeking and saving the lost.

One Man

1. **Account**. Caiaphas, the high priest that year, declared that the council did not take important considerations into account.

2. **Expedient**. Caiaphas also argued that it was expedient for Jesus to die. Caiaphas specifically recognized that it would be better for Jesus to die.

3. **One**. Caiaphas urged that one man would die, rather than many people die because of the Romans reacting to Jesus and His followers.

4. **Man**. The council recognized Jesus as a man, and only a man. The many signs He performed did not convince them that God the Father sent Him to earth.

5. **People**. Caiaphas also recognized that it would be more expedient for one man to die for the people. In a sense, unwittingly, Caiaphas described the mission of Jesus, that, indeed, He would give His single life for all the people.

6. **Nation**. Living Godly in the family of God means that Jesus gave His life for the life of the nation of Israel, and the entire world.

7. **Perish**. We rejoice today because Jesus gave His life so that we would live forever by faith in Him for salvation.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by appreciating the sacrifice that Jesus made to secure our eternal life.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we understand that Jesus saves every person who turns to Him by grace in faith for salvation so that they will not perish.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God by joining together in praise for the glorious works of Jesus in securing our salvation and rising from the dead with a resurrected body for our justification.**

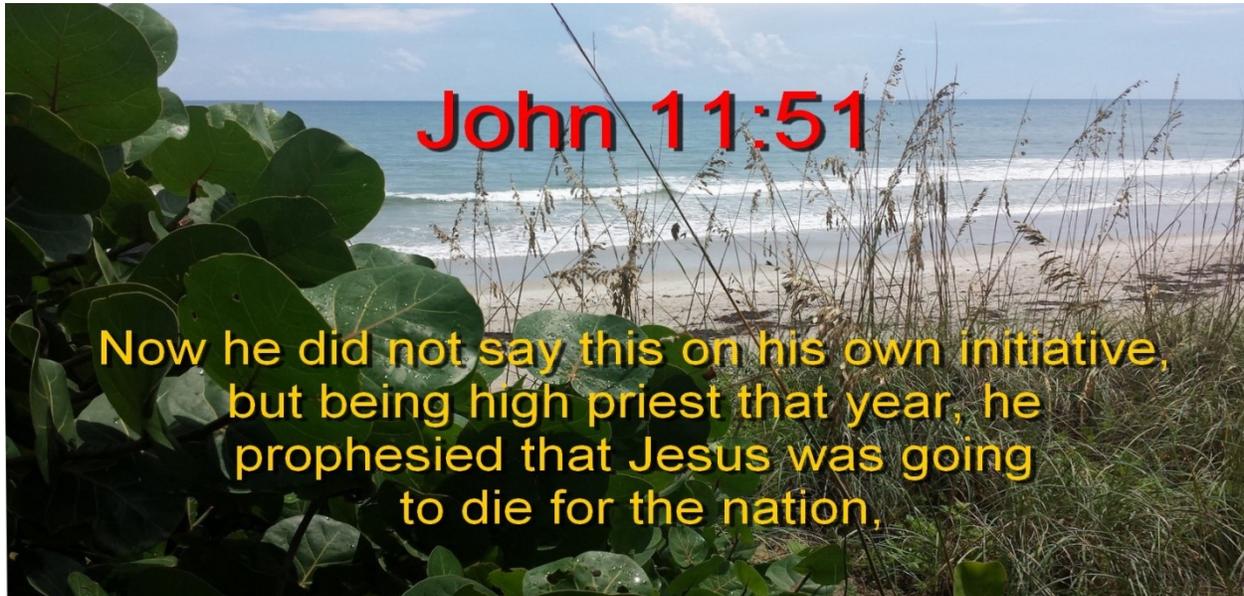
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God because Jesus died so that we might live eternally and abundantly. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by remembering that Jesus died for all people, but only some people receive the free gift of eternal life?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Five Hundred Sixteen

Initiative Today



Why did Caiaphas prophesy about Jesus? God used Caiaphas to speak His words of prophecy that Jesus was going to die for the nation.

Prophecy means a revelation from God. God chose all kinds of people to prophesy. The high priest started as an office in the Old Testament. God chose Aaron and his sons to be priests. He gave the tribe of Levi to them to serve Yahweh.

The descendants of Aaron and the tribe of Levi continued to serve Yahweh as priests. Caiaphas, being the high priest for that year, indicated that Israel had moved to a system of having more than one high priest, apparently on a yearly basis.

God used Caiaphas, an enemy of God, to prophesy concerning Jesus and His death for the nation. God can use anyone to speak words of prophecy.

Die for the Nation

1. **Caiaphas.** Caiaphas, the high priest, prophesied that Jesus was going to die for the nation.
2. **Politician.** Caiaphas was not a believer in Jesus, but a politician committed to his own welfare and power.
3. **Prophecy.** Notice that Caiaphas did not prophesy on his own initiative; God moved him to speak.
4. **Spoke.** The Bible tells us that the prophets spoke for God, but they did not always understand what the words meant that they spoke.
5. **Moved.** Caiaphas was not proclaiming his faith in Jesus, but rather the Spirit of God moved within him to say the words of God about Jesus.
6. **Unbelievers.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we understand that even unbelievers can speak for God.
7. **Died.** We rejoice today because Jesus really did die for the nation of Israel and for the Gentiles as well.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by remembering that Jesus died for the nation of Israel.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we praise God for sending Jesus to die for the nation of Israel and all those who have faith in Jesus as Savior.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we join together as Jews and Gentiles to worship Jesus, the only Savior for humanity.**

Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by worshiping Jesus as the Savior of the world, both Jews and Gentiles. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by remembering that Jesus is Jewish, and the Savior of the Gentiles?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Five Hundred Seventeen

Into One Today



Who did Jesus die for? Jesus died for the nation of Israel and for all the people who believe in Jesus for salvation.

God intended to gather all believers, Jews and Gentiles, into one body, the church, to comprise of all the children of God. They are scattered all over the world.

God never forgot about the many promises made to Israel in the Old Testament. They have their own unique heritage of restoration in the future. God also chose Gentiles who did not seek God to find God and make the Jews jealous by a people who were not a people, but became the people of God.

We live in the time of the Gentiles today, with the day of Israel's restoration to faith in Yahweh in the future. Until that day, a remnant of Israel remains faithful to God, but Gentiles dominate the Church Age. Jesus will return to the clouds one day, and everything will begin to change.

The Children of God

1. **Caiaphas.** Caiaphas the high priest prophesied concerning Jesus.
2. **Prophesied.** Caiaphas first prophesied that Jesus was going to die for the nation of Israel.
3. **Gather.** Caiaphas also prophesied that Jesus died not only for the nation, but also that He might gather into one the children of God scattered all over the world.
4. **Interpret.** God can use unbelievers to prophesy and interpret the meaning of acts on earth.
5. **Family.** By dying on the cross, Jesus provided the means of salvation not only for the people of Israel, but for every person on Earth. God only has one family.
6. **Children.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we are the children of God, having been saved by faith alone.
7. **Bought.** We rejoice today because God considers us His family, bought and paid for by the blood of Jesus Christ.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by God's plan to gather His children into one family.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we rejoice that God has only one family and we unite in Jesus our Savior.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God by worshiping God as Jews and Gentiles, yet all members of the same family of God.**

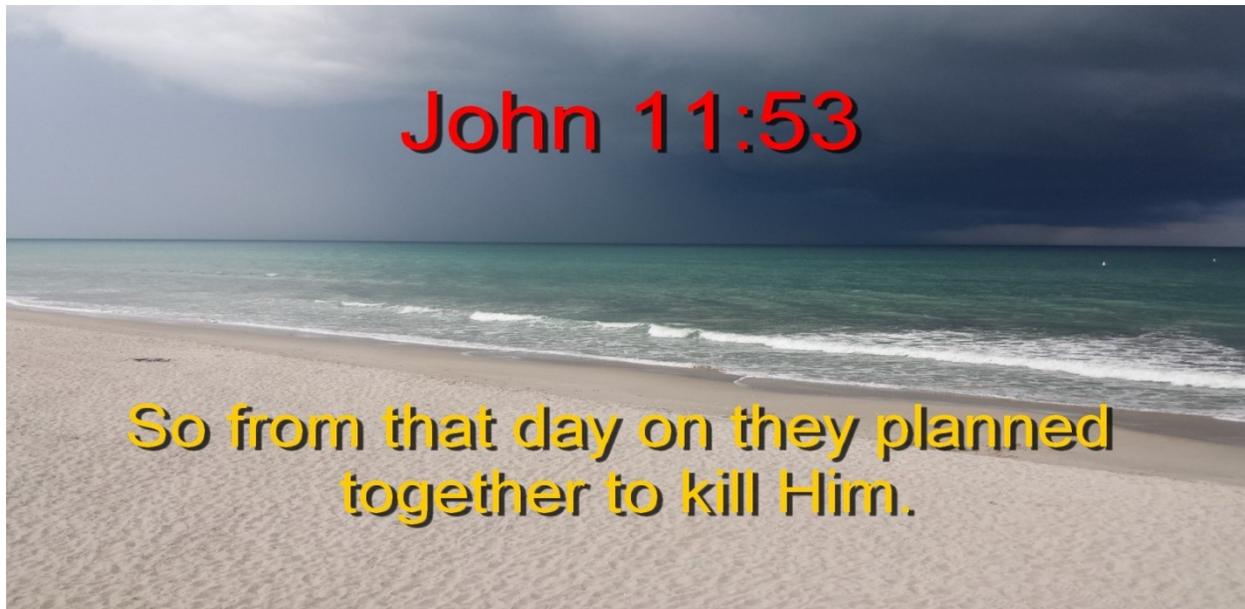
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God as children scattered abroad, but still one church. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by enjoying the diversity and unity within the family of God?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Five Hundred Eighteen

Planned Together Today



What did the council plan together to do? The council planned together to kill Jesus.

Caiaphas apparently galvanized the council to take immediate action against Jesus. The religious leaders had previously planned to kill Jesus, but now Jesus was going to be in Jerusalem and continuing to do works of powers.

The council understood that more and more people were believing in Jesus. They were afraid of losing their position and their nation. As Caiaphas prophesied, to them it was expedient that one man should die for the nation. Caiaphas unwittingly stated the plan of salvation, but he had no idea that Jesus was God and he was planning to kill God in the flesh.

The council, like evil religious leaders through the ages, often thought they were doing the will of God, but they never knew God and so did the will of their father, the devil.

Kill Him

1. **Conversion.** The Jewish religious leaders convened a council to determine what to do with Jesus. They knew about His miracle that brought the conversion of many people to faith in Him as Savior.

2. **Romans.** They were also concerned that the Romans would take away their position and their nation.

3. **Expedient.** Caiaphas, the high priest that year, prophesied that it was expedient for one man to die for the people so that the whole nation would not perish.

4. **Rejected.** The Jewish council opposed Jesus and rejected Him as Messiah and Savior.

5. **Planned.** From that day forward the religious council planned together to kill Jesus.

6. **Oppose.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we know that religious councils and religious leaders often oppose Jesus.

7. **Initiative.** We rejoice today that Jesus laid down His life on His own initiative and no one took His life from Him. Just as He laid down His life, so also He took it up again.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by remembering that people planned together to kill Jesus.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we praise Jesus for being willing to give His life for ours.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God by knowing that God's sovereign plans are not frustrated by evil plans.**

Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God knowing that God controls all things according to the kind intention of His will. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by relying upon God to overcome the evil plans of people who oppose Jesus?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Five Hundred Nineteen

Ephraim Today



Why did Jesus go to Ephraim? Jesus went to the city called Ephraim near the wilderness.

Jesus went to Ephraim because the Jews in Judea sought to kill Jesus. They even had an organized plot to kill him, organized by the religious leaders.

Because of the death plot, Jesus no longer continued walking publicly among the Jews. We should remember that Jesus did not always walk into the lion's den. At times he simply avoided the danger for a time.

Jesus would still go to Jerusalem at just the right time. He would go to the required feasts, and speak up for God the Father and do the works of His Father. Jesus did not lack courage, but had infinite wisdom on where to go and when to go there.

No Longer

1. **Jews.** Jesus never feared the Jews. Yet, when He learned that they sought to kill Him, He no longer walked about publicly among the Jews.
2. **Ephraim.** Jesus left the area of Jerusalem and went to the country near the wilderness. He stayed in a city called Ephraim.
3. **Disciples.** The disciples of Jesus went with Him to Ephraim. You may recall that He did not lose one of them.
4. **Hour.** Jesus knew His hour would come for Him to be glorified. He would lay down His life and take it again.
5. **Resurrection and Life.** Just as Jesus told Martha, He is the resurrection and the life.
6. **Retreat.** Living Godly in the family of God means at times we retreat into the wilderness or elsewhere to avoid persecution or death.
7. **Wisdom.** We rejoice today because Jesus used wisdom to avoid persecution and to keep His disciples safe.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by following Jesus into isolated places to be with Him during times of persecution.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God by using the wisdom of God to avoid the evil plans of men.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we understand that evil men with evil plans will oppose Jesus, but will not overcome Jesus or His followers ultimately.**

Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by following Jesus to Ephraim, or any place He leads us to avoid persecution. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by relying upon Jesus to lead you away from persecution at the right time and sending you to the right place?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Five Hundred Twenty

Went Up Today



When Passover was near, what did many people in the country do? They went up to Jerusalem to purify themselves for Passover.

Passover was a required attendance feast. Every male must appear in Jerusalem for three feasts. Therefore, people had to make plans to leave home and go to Jerusalem to attend the feast and to observe Passover.

Passover included the sacrifice of the Passover Lamb (Jesus). In the Old Testament, males had to offer a sacrifice, such as a lamb, commemorating the angel of death passing over the houses of the Israelites who put blood of a lamb on their lintels and door posts. When the angel saw the blood, he passed over that house and spared the firstborn son.

Jesus had to attend Passover in Jerusalem, because He kept every aspect of the Law. He did not comply with the Jewish interpretations of the Law, which placed improper burdens on people. The Law served to remind people how sinful they were and how much they needed a Savior.

The Passover

1. **Deliverance.** You may recall that God instituted the Passover feast commemorating the deliverance of the people of Israel from the death angel killing the firstborn of Egypt.

2. **Blood.** The Passover required that the Jews place the blood of a lamb on the doorposts and on the lintel of their homes so that the death angel would see it and pass over that house without killing the first born there.

3. **Observe.** Later, God required that all the tribes of Israel come to Jerusalem once each year to observe the Passover.

4. **Purified.** Before observing the Passover, the Jews purified themselves according to the Old Testament law.

5. **Many.** The Jewish council knew that Jesus would have to go to Jerusalem for Passover. Many other Jews left the country and went to Jerusalem to observe the Passover.

6. **Dangerous.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we know that God can send us to places that may be dangerous.

7. **Faced.** We rejoice today because Jesus faced every danger without fear and gave Himself up freely for us.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by remembering that Jesus always fulfilled the requirements of the Law for us, so that we were freed from those requirements.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God by trusting Jesus to lead us into dangerous places for the glory of God, according to the will of God.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we join together in supporting people God calls to very dangerous places to proclaim His word of salvation in Jesus Christ.**

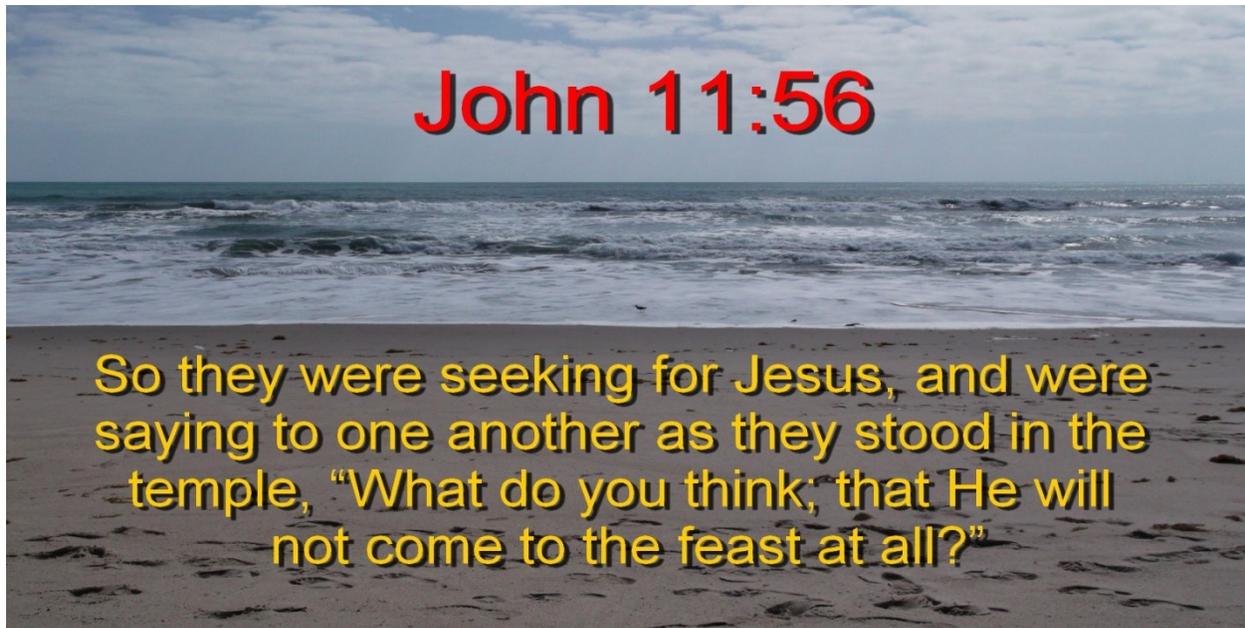
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by counting upon Jesus to help us face all dangers with the wisdom of God. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by knowing when Jesus leads you into dangerous places (Jerusalem) and when He leads you to safety (Ephraim)?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Five Hundred Twenty One

Seeking Today



What were the Jews saying to one another? They were questioning whether Jesus would come to the feast.

The council had planned together to kill Jesus. They were concerned that if people would believe in Jesus they would lose their position and their nation.

Caiaphas the high priest had prophesied that it was more expedient that Jesus would die so the nation would survive. Caiaphas did not believe in Jesus for salvation, but God spoke through him.

Jesus had faced opposition before. The Old Testament Law compelled Jesus to attend the Feast of Passover. Jesus kept the Law and so he would appear. The council of Jews was ready to seize Jesus.

You Think

1. **Seeking.** The council was seeking Jesus, because they had determined together to kill Jesus.

2. **Jesus.** Jesus had retreated to Ephraim near the wilderness. Because Jesus fulfilled the Old Testament Law, He would attend the mandatory Feast of Passover in Jerusalem.

3. **Temple.** As the Jews stood in the temple, they were questioning whether Jesus would appear. They knew that Jesus was a wanted man. The religious authorities sought to kill Jesus.

4. **Think.** Even before Jesus returned to Jerusalem, people were already thinking about Him. His mere presence would show His courage and determination to do the will of God, despite the opposition.

5. **Come.** Like the other people coming to Jerusalem, Jesus would be part of the crowd coming to celebrate Passover. Jesus did things that separated Him from every crowd.

6. **Feast.** Living Godly in the family of God means that the Lamb of God, Jesus, came to the Feast of Passover. The Feast of Passover celebrated the death angel passing over the homes where the Jews had applied the blood of a lamb to their lintels and door posts.

7. **All.** We rejoice today because Jesus came to Jerusalem, while people wondered if He would come at all. Jesus was always doing the will of God, which meant giving His soul a ransom for many.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by loving Jesus for going to Jerusalem to secure our salvation.**

- **We live more Godly in the family of God by praising Jesus for His sacrificial life that led to sacrificial death and His glorious resurrection and ascension.**

- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we join together in remembering Jesus and His great love for us at Passover.**

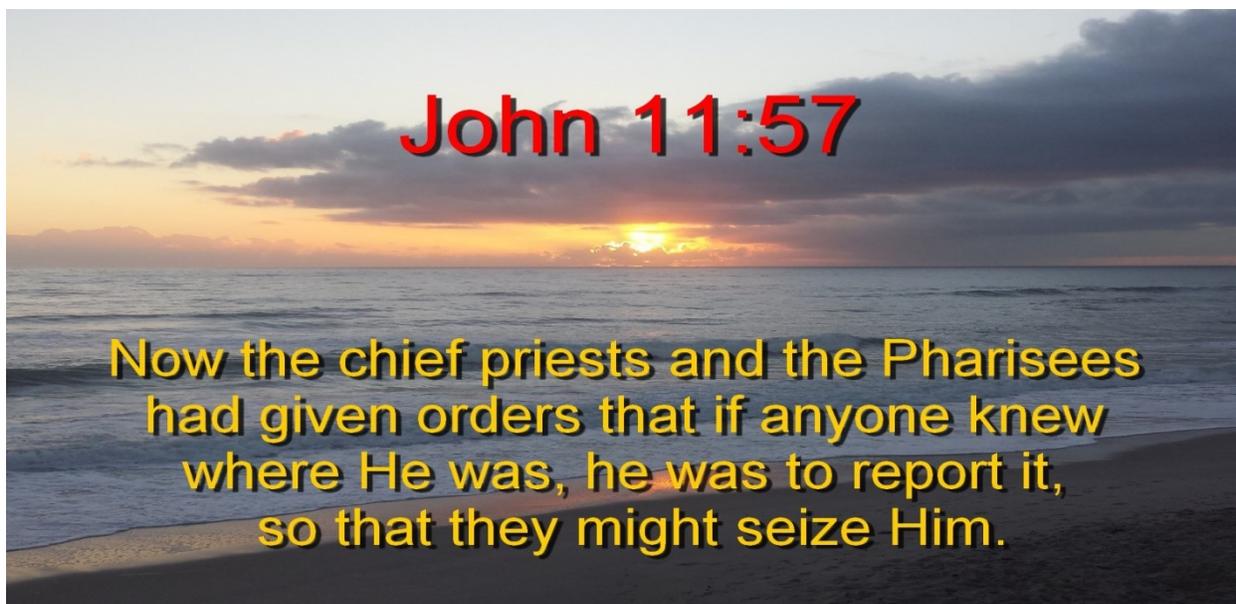
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by remembering that Jesus gave Himself for us as the Lamb of God at Passover. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by loving Jesus for giving Himself as the Lamb of God for us?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Five Hundred Twenty Two

Given Orders Today



What orders did the chief priests and the Pharisees give concerning Jesus? They ordered that if anyone knew where Jesus was, they should report it immediately.

The chief priests and the Pharisees intended to seize Jesus and kill Him. To do so, they sought to recruit an army of informants who would alert them to the presence of Jesus in Jerusalem.

Jerusalem was a dangerous place for Jesus to enter. His disciples were already concerned about His safety. They determined to go with Jesus, even if it imperiled their lives.

The chief priests and the Pharisees laid their plans and recruited their informants. Jesus had to attend the Feast or break the Law. Jesus was coming to do the will of God.

Seize Him

1. **Decision.** The Jewish council had reached the decision to seize Jesus and put Him to death.

2. **Report.** Pursuant to the council's decision, the chief priests (notice the plural of priests) and Pharisees issued orders to the people to report the presence of Jesus, so that they might seize Him.

3. **Seize.** No one could seize Jesus without His permission. He had previously eluded the attempts of people to seize Him.

4. **Prophecies.** Jesus not only acted without fear, but He also fulfilled the prophecies concerning Him.

5. **Angels.** Jesus had more than 12 legions of angels ready to intervene on His behalf upon one word from Himself to His Father.

6. **Triumphed.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we know that Jesus triumphed over all the plans and schemes of evil men.

7. **Agreed.** We rejoice today because no one could seize Jesus against His will. At the right time and place, Jesus agreed to be seized by His opponents.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by expecting that people will oppose Jesus using all kinds of means.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God by expecting that evil people will recruit informants to oppose the work of Jesus.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God by counting upon Jesus to do the works of God without fear and in complete obedience to the plans of God, despite the plans of evil men.**

Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by living in the power of Jesus Christ to lead us through danger to glory. Will you live Godly in the family of God today looking forward to glory after service on earth?

HALLELUJAH !

Conclusion

Jesus taught people that Godliness includes true freedom. Everyone who believed in Him and continued in His word was made truly free. Many of the people who believed in Him were exposed as lacking saving faith. They were doing the desires of their father, the devil, because they wanted to kill Jesus. Today, we must be sure that we all have saving faith and love Jesus and continue in His word.

Jesus also exposed the blindness of the Pharisees. They put Man Born Blind out of the synagogue for confessing Jesus. Jesus then explained to them that they were still blind because they did not recognize their own sin.

Jesus then told them about the Good Shepherd Who lays down His life for the sheep. He does not run and hide from the wolf. He calls the sheep by name and they hear His voice. He leads them into abundant life.

Jesus also demonstrated His power over death and His ability to raise a person from the dead. Lazarus, His friend, had died and Jesus was not there. When he arrived, His friends told Him Lazarus would not have died if He had been there. Jesus taught them about the resurrection and the life. He was the resurrection and the life. So, He called forth Lazarus from the tomb and he came out. Many people believed in Jesus for salvation, but others did not.

We live today because Jesus died for us. We live tomorrow because Jesus promised that everyone who dies in Him today will serve Jesus in newness of life. We look forward today because Jesus promised to raise us up on the last day. We rejoice today because Jesus has great, loving plans for our lives and the power to bring them about by faith in Him.

HALLELUJAH !