

## THE BOOK OF JOHN

### THE JEWS CONTINUE IN THEIR UNBELIEF

*Even after Jesus had done all these miraculous signs in their presence, they still would not believe in him. This was to fulfill the word of Isaiah the prophet: "Lord, who has believed our message and to whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed?" For this reason they could not believe, because, as Isaiah says elsewhere: "He has blinded their eyes and deadened their hearts, so they can neither see with their eyes, nor understand with their hearts, nor turn—and I would heal them." Isaiah said this because he saw Jesus' glory and spoke about him. Yet at the same time many even among the leaders believed in him. But because of the Pharisees they would not confess their faith for fear they would be put out of the synagogue; for they loved praise from men more than praise from God. Then Jesus cried out, "When a man believes in me, he does not believe in me only, but in the one who sent me. When he looks at me, he sees the one who sent me. I have come into the world as a light, so that no one who believes in me should stay in darkness. "As for the person who hears my words but does not keep them, I do not judge him. For I did not come to judge the world, but to save it. There is a judge for the one who rejects me and does not accept my words; that very word which I spoke will condemn him at the last day. For I did not speak of my own accord, but the Father who sent me commanded me what to say and how to say." I know that his command leads to eternal life. So whatever I say is just what the Father has told me to say."*  
JOHN 12:37-50 NIV

#### Why do we live in Darkness?

##### 1. We would not believe [Doubt]

*Even after Jesus had done all these miraculous signs in their presence, they still would not believe in him. JOHN 12:37 NIV*

- We seek to understand
- We forget
- We doubt

##### 2. We could not believe [Confusion]

*This was to fulfill the word of Isaiah the prophet: "Lord, who has believed our message and to whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed?" JOHN 12:38 NIV*

*For this reason they could not believe, because, as Isaiah says elsewhere: "He has blinded their eyes and deadened their hearts, so they can neither see with their eyes, nor understand with their hearts, nor turn—and I would heal them." Isaiah said this because he saw Jesus' glory and spoke about him. JOHN 12:39-41 NIV*

- We have been given over to our sin
- We reap the consequences of our sin
- Bondage keeps us from moving

##### 3. We would not confess [Fear]

*Yet at the same time many even among the leaders believed in him. But because of the Pharisees they would not confess their faith for fear they would be put out of the synagogue; for they loved praise from men more than praise from God. JOHN 12:42-43 NIV*

- We want praise
- We fear the outcome

##### 4. We would not change [Control]

*Then Jesus cried out, "When a man believes in me, he does not believe in me only, but in the one who sent me. When he looks at me, he sees the one who sent me. I have come into the world as a light, so that no one who believes in me should stay in darkness. JOHN 12:44-46 NIV*

*As for the person who hears my words but does not keep them, I do not judge him. For I did not come to judge the world, but to save it. There is a judge for the one who rejects me and does not accept my words; that very word which I spoke will condemn him at the last day. For I did not speak of my own accord, but the Father who sent me commanded me what to say and how to say it. I know that his command leads to eternal life. So whatever I say is just what the Father has told me to say. JOHN 12: 47-50 NIV*

- We lie - ignore
- We hide - procrastinate
- We blame - scheme

### **Application**

*For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Live as children of light... for the fruit of the light consists in all goodness, righteousness and truth. EPHESIANS 5:8-9*

- We must come before God not caring what others think
- We must be like the woman in John chapter 12