



John: The Great "I AM" Gospel
John 10:22-30
From Sermon 5.12.24

Read *John 10:22-30*

Overview from Sunday's sermon: The drama of the man born blind is concluded. With verse 22, the entire scene has changed. Although Jesus is back in Jerusalem, several months have passed. However, even though the calendar has changed, the attacks on Jesus keep coming. In this exchange, Jesus continues with His shepherd/sheep analogy, but He adds four jaw dropping truths that further indict His critics.

1. What is this Feast of Dedication Jesus attends? Hanukkah or the Feast of Lights.

[History: In the "intertestamental period"—between Malachi to Matthew—400 years pass. Israel went from Persian to Greek rule. After Alexander the Great's death, harsh Syrian governors/generals persecuted Judaism. The rebuilt Temple and all its articles were desecrated. A revolt ensues. One undamaged jar of olive oil is found. It's enough oil to burn a lamp for one day. It lasts a miraculous 8 days.]

2. Halfway through the Gospel (and 3+ years into His earthly ministry), Jesus' enemies demand further testimony and more evidence. Discuss the mountain of evidence already provided.

- Testimony: God the Father, God the Holy Spirit, God the Son. Scripture. John the Apostle, John the Baptist, the rest of the Apostles. Woman at the well, Nicodemus, crippled man, blind man, wedding party. 20,000 lunch guests.
- Evidence: Water into wine, knowing thoughts, hearts, and minds. Spiritual supremacy. Power over nature. Creating food. Miraculous healings.

3. What is the problem with God-given evidence which is spiritually discerned? Quantity is never the issue. The lost/unregenerate will never understand. God must do the work of granting life and gifting faith. Only a living, resurrected spirit can accept and believe. See 1 Corinthians 2:12-14 & Mark 4:11-12

4. With His "Father's hand/Son's hand" teaching, Jesus now covers the "P" in tulip = Perseverance of the Saints. We prefer the better "Preservation by the Spirit". What does that doctrine teach? Once saved always saved. A genuinely saved person cannot lose or forfeit their salvation. See also Philippians 1:6 & Romans 8:38-39

4a. Last week, we discussed the Arminian view of atonement. Now, discuss their view on security. ≡ Salvation can be forfeited or lost. There is no eternal security. [Issues with that view: what sins cause forfeiture? How much of any sin...carrying it out, entertaining it in the mind (*Matthew 5:28*)? No one could ever have peace or assurance. It is a sin to not be as holy as God. Not just "positionally", but practically. See *1 Peter 1:15-16*]

5. When Jesus says: "I and the Father are one", what is He NOT saying? What is He stating? He's not saying they are the same person. That is called modalism/oneness theology/Arianism. He's stating they are one in essence, nature, purpose, and mission. If the Father were at this trial, He'd testify for Jesus.