

“The Gospel of John”

Lesson #37 - John 12:37-50

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I. Introduction

II. John’s Commentary v.37-43

A. Signs

B. Mystery

“If, then, we must be far from thinking that there is unrighteousness with God, this can be our only conclusion, that when he gives his aid in believing, he acts mercifully; and when he withholds it in hardening, he acts righteously.” Augustine

“This hardening is, however, a punishment for sin. God is love. His invitations, warnings and admonitions are always sincere and earnest. However, when man rejects him and his word, dire punishment results. God hardens the man who has hardened himself.” Hendricksen; NTC John, pg. 212.

“God’s sovereign action is never a violation of our moral responsibility, for such determinism would turn us into robots and preclude love and relationship.” Whitacre; IVP New Testament Commentary Series, pg. 323

“The same sun that melts wax hardens clay.” Origen

C. Glory

III. Jesus Commentary v.44-50

A. Words

B. Judgement

C. Jesus

IV. Conclusion

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Deut.29:3-4 ³ the great trials that your eyes saw, the signs, and those great wonders. ⁴ But to this day the Lord has not given you a heart to understand or eyes to see or ears to hear.

Isa. 53:1 Who has believed what he has heard from us? And to whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed?

Isa. 6:10 ¹⁰ Make the heart of this people dull, and their ears heavy, and blind their eyes; lest they see with their eyes, and hear with their ears, and understand with their hearts, and turn and be healed.”

Ex. 7:3,4^a ³ But I will harden Pharaoh's heart, and though I multiply my signs and wonders in the land of Egypt, ⁴ Pharaoh will not listen to you.

Rom. 9:17,18 ¹⁷ For the Scripture says to Pharaoh, “For this very purpose I have raised you up, that I might show my power in you, and that my name might be proclaimed in all the earth.” ¹⁸ So then he has mercy on whomever he wills, and he hardens whomever he wills.

Eph. 1:11 ¹¹ In him we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to the purpose of him who works all things according to the counsel of his will,

John 1:1 ¹ In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

John 3:17 ¹⁷ For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.

John 3:16 ¹⁶ “For God so loved the world,^[1] that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.

John 6:63 ⁶³ It is the Spirit who gives life; the flesh is no help at all. The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life.

John 7:16 ¹⁶ So Jesus answered them, “My teaching is not mine, but his who sent me.

John 8:19 ¹⁹ They said to him therefore, “Where is your Father?” Jesus answered, “You know neither me nor my Father. If you knew me, you would know my Father also.”

John 10:30 ³⁰ I and the Father are one.”

John 10:38 ³⁸ but if I do them, even though you do not believe me, believe the works, that you may know and understand that the Father is in me and I am in the Father.”

John 3:11 ¹¹ Truly, truly, I say to you, we speak of what we know, and bear witness to what we have seen, but you do not receive our testimony.

John 5:47 ⁴⁷ But if you do not believe his writings, how will you believe my words?”

John 8:31 ³¹ So Jesus said to the Jews who had believed him, “If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples