Crossroads International Church Matthew Lyle

Series: Believing Christ: Responding to John’s Gospel 2024-04-21

**Unyielding Unbelief to Eternal Rewards**

***John 12:37-50***

**Problem: Most People do not Respond to the Gospel**

I. Unbelief was expected: Why some refuse to believe (37-41)

A. John’s quote from Isaiah’s Servant Songs identifies Jesus as the “suffering servant”

(Isaiah 42:1–4, 49:1–6, 50:4–11, 52:13–53:12)

B. Those with hardened hearts made their own choices

1) Pharoah hardened his own heart multiple times (Exodus 7-11)

2) Humanity's suppression of truth and rejection of God leads to moral decay and idolatry

(sinful desires, shameful lusts, and a depraved mind). (Rom 1:18-32)

II. Shallow Faith: Why some hide their faith (42-43)

A. Consequences for the Jews for following Jesus (John 7:13, 9:22, 20:19)

B. The cost to anyone for following Jesus (1 Tim 3:12, Phil 1:29)

C. The reward outweighs the cost.

D. Demonstrate, don’t hide faith (John 13:15, 35)

**Solution: Embrace Faith and Reap Eternal Rewards**

III. Embracing Faith: The reason to believe (44-46)

A. A final exhortation at the conclusion of Jesus’ public ministry

B. Jesus emphasizes unity and identity with God the father

C. Jesus is the light of the world

IV Reaping eternal rewards: Consequences of belief (47-50)

A. Become children of God (1:12)

B. Leads to eternal life

**Despite witnessing Jesus' signs, some people remain spiritually blind due to their unbelief, while those who accept Jesus' words find eternal life through obedience.**