

Week of September 25, 2016

This Week's Focus: Jesus is the true and better consecrated one sent from God the Father to proclaim and accomplish the work of redemption for sin-enslaved blasphemers.

This Week's Text: John 10:32-41

"Say to those who have an anxious heart, "Be strong; fear not! Behold, your God will come with vengeance, with the recompense of God. He will come and save you." Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; then shall the lame man leap like a deer, and the tongue of the mute sing for joy." Isaiah 35:4-6

Observations and Questions for Discussion:

- What are your general impressions about this week's passage of Scripture?
- What is the setting of this week's passage? What time of year is it? What is the Feast of Dedication and what does it commemorate? Reference verse 36.
- What evidence had Jesus given the religious leaders that he is one with God the Father? What does Jesus mean when he claims that he and God the Father are one? Is he simply referring to plans and purposes or more than that? Reference verses 25-30 and 34-38.
- In your own words, summarize Jesus' response to the charge of blasphemy (verses 34-36). What does the term "gods" mean in Scripture when it refers to men? Reference Psalm 82:6 and Exodus 7:1.
- What authoritative weight does Jesus give to Scripture? What role does God's word have in your life?
- How does the Feast of Dedication (Hanukah) point to Jesus? Explain how Jesus is the true and better consecrated one from God.
- What are some examples of the works that Jesus refers to in verses 37-38? What was the purpose of the miraculous works? Why did the religious leaders of Jesus' day, and why do people today reject the reality of Jesus' miracles? Why is simply witnessing Jesus' miracles insufficient to save us from our sins?
- How does the passage encourage you to declare and demonstrate the gospel in your community and spheres of influence?