

TELL US PLAINLY

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INTRODUCTION

- A. TEXT: *"The Jews therefore came round about him, and said unto him, How long dost thou hold us in suspense? If thou art the Christ, tell us plainly."* (John 10:24).
- B. THE SETTING:
1. Jesus was in Jerusalem, near the end of His public ministry.
 2. Many miracles had been performed, "the man born blind", etc.
 3. Great teachings: The "I Am's" door, shepherd, etc.
 4. Much discussion: questions and answers among the people.
 1. "Who is this?" Christ or...
 2. John the Baptist, Elijah, Jeremiah, or one of the prophets.
 3. While others said: *"And many of them said, He hath a demon, and is mad; why hear ye him?"* (v. 20). *"Others said, These are not the sayings of one possessed with a demon. Can a demon open the eyes of the blind?"* (v. 21).
- C. THUS THE QUESTION "TELL US PLAINLY".
1. Plainly means: "Clearly, Openly; Simply."
 2. The Implication:
 1. If we are told, in so many words' we will believe.
 2. We will adjust our lives and actions, all we need is to be told "Clearly" or Simply.
- D. JESUS RESPONDED IN TWO WAYS:
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MIRACLES

- A. Miracles: "works that I do in my Father's name; these bear witness of me." 25
1. How did Jesus begin His public ministry? (Water to wine, at Cana).
 2. *Ye men of Israel, hear these words: Jesus of Nazareth, a man approved of God unto you by mighty works and wonders and signs which God did by him in the midst of you, even as ye yourselves know;"* (Acts 2:22).
 3. In answer to John the Baptist's question (Lk. 7:19).
 1. The question; *"art thou he that cometh, or look we for another?"*
 2. The answer: *"go and tell John the things which ye have seen and heard; the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, and the deaf hear, the dead are raised up, the poor have good tidings preached to them."* (Lk. 7:22).

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B. DID THEY BELIEVE HIS MIRACLES:

1. Some did.
 2. But others refused. (Luke 22:66-71).
 3. Those in our text: vs 30-31. *‘Took up stones again to stone him’.*
 4. His miracles could not be more plain...**yet they believed not!**
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HIS TEACHINGS

A. FROM THE BEGINNING THEY WERE AMAZED.

1. As a 12 year old boy in the temple. (Lk. 2:41ff).
2. Great Multitudes (Matt. 5-7; John 6. Etc).
3. *“And it came to pass, when Jesus had finished these words, the multitudes were astonished at his teachings; for he taught them as one having authority, and not as their scribes.”* (Matt. 7:28,29).

B. HE TAUGHT THEM PLAINLY.

1. From the Sermon on the Mount”, the “But I say unto you” section.
2. Matt. 5:21-48.

C. WHAT DID THEY DO WHEN JESUS TOLD THEM PLAINLY?

1. In deeds and teachings.
 2. *“For this people’s heart is waxed gross, and their ears are dull of hearing, And their eyes they have closed; Lest haply they should perceive with their eyes, And hear with their ears, And understand with their heart, And should turn again, And I should heal them.”* (Matt. 13:15).
 3. See also Acts 28:27.
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QUESTIONS

- A. Man has lots of questions today.
 - B. What we ask of God is that “He tell us plainly.”
 - C. When God answers, clearly, simply, surely man will accept what He says.
 - D. WHAT ARE SOME OF THE QUESTIONS TODAY?
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TELLUS PLAINLY

A. IS THE CHURCH IMPORTANT?

1. We hear people say:
 - a. You can be saved without being a member of the church.
 - b. The church doesn’t make any difference.

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2. JESUS ANSWERED PLAINLY.

- a. Matt. 16:16; “I will build my church”.
- b. Acts 20:7; “Purchased with His blood”.
- c. I Cor. 15:24; “then cometh the end, when he shall deliver up the Kingdom to God.”

B. IS ONE WAY JUST AS GOOD AS ANOTHER?

1. People say:

- a. We are all going to the same place.
- b. Just taking different routes.

2. Jesus Answered Plainly:

- a. John 14:6; “I am the way...no one cometh unto the Father, but by me.”
- b. Acts 4:12; Quote...Is that clear, simple, plain?

C. WHAT MUST I DO TO BE SAVED?

1. People say:

- a. It doesn't matter as long as you are sincere.
- b. Just say the “sinners prayer”.
- c. Put your hand on...take Jesus into your heart...

2. JESUS ANSWERED PLAINLY:

- a. Acts 2:38; Repent and be baptized in the name of Jesus for the remission of sins.”
- b. Heb. 5:9; author, giver of eternal salvation to all them that obey Him.

D. IS BAPTISM REALLY ESSENTIAL?

1. People say:

- a. That would be trying to earn salvation.
- b. Water salvation.
- c. I just don't see the point, the why, etc.

2. JESUS ANSWERED PLAINLY:

- a. Acts 2:38.
- b. Acts 10:48; “And he commanded them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ.”
- c. I Pet. 3:21; “the like figure even baptism doth now save you”.

E. DOES IT MAKE ANY DIFFERENCE HOW WE WORSHIP:

1. People say:

- a. Do what makes you feel good.
- b. Express yourself.

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- c. Do what sounds good to you. (If it doesn't say don't...).
 - 2. JESUS SAID PLAINLY:
 - a. John 4:24; Quote.
 - b. Christianity is not a religion of don't's - When God says do....THAT'S IT.
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CONCLUSION

A. Why Do People Have Trouble Understanding That Which Is Plainly Stated?

- 1. It is not what they expected to hear.
- 2. It is not what they have been taught.
- 3. They have already made up their minds.

B. THE BOOK OF ACTS CLOSES: *"For this people's heart is waxed gross, And their ears are dull of hearing, And their eyes they have closed; Lest, haply they should perceive with their eyes, And hear with their ears, And understand with their heart, And should turn again, And I should heal them."*

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