

**“Who is Jesus?”: Troublemaker**  
**John 11:45-57**

**Introduction:**

- Response to Jesus’ resurrection of Lazarus.
- **John 20:30-31**, *“30 Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; 31 but these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.”*
- **John MacArthur**, *“Believing in nothing in particular is not true faith. One theological perspective today emphasizes having faith in faith. An advocate of such a philosophy might say, “I believe in believing. I believe that God is in control.” But Faith in nothing is nothing! It doesn't mean anything to believe in believing. Such a philosophy was captured in the song “I Believe,” which says, “I believe for ev'ry drop of rain that falls, flowers grow. I believe that somewhere in the darkest night, a candle glows.... Ev'ry time I hear a new born baby cry, or touch a leaf, or see the sky, then I know why I believe!” Well, so what! If you can't believe in something substantial, then you're belief is ridiculous. Who cares whether you believe a candle glows or flowers grow? That's unimportant. God will not say to you someday, “Enter into My Kingdom because you believed a candle glowed!”...Faith is nothing unless it is placed in Jesus Christ.”*

**THE ACCOUNT**

A) The Response (vv.45-46)

- a. Belief
  - i. John 7:23-25
  - ii. John 11:4
  - iii. John 11:52
- b. Report to Authorities
  - i. Report the work
  - ii. Chief Priests & Pharisees

c. Disbelief

- i. The “other” Lazarus
- ii. **Luke 16:29-31**, *“29 But Abraham said, ‘They have Moses and the Prophets; let them hear them.’ 30 And he said, ‘No, father Abraham, but if someone goes to them from the dead, they will repent.’ 31 He said to him, ‘If they do not hear Moses and the Prophets, neither will they be convinced if someone should rise from the dead.’”*

B) The Problem (vv.47-48)

- a. The Parties
  - i. High Priest
  - ii. Sadducees
  - iii. Pharisees
- b. The Troublemaker, Jesus
  - i. Many signs
  - ii. Threatened authority (public and politics)

C) The Solution (vv.49-53)

- a. Caiaphas
  - i. Man’s Math
  - ii. Self-preservation
  - iii. **Matt.26:63-65**, *“63 But Jesus remained silent. And the high priest said to him, “I adjure you by the living God, tell us if you are the Christ, the Son of God.” 64 Jesus said to him, “You have said so. But I tell you, from now on you will see the Son of Man seated at the right hand of Power and coming on the clouds of heaven.” 65 Then the high priest tore his robes and said, “He has uttered blasphemy. What further witnesses do we need? You have now heard his blasphemy.”*
- b. The Cross (what man intended, God intended)
  - i. God’s Plan
  - ii. **Genesis 50:20** (Joseph), *“As for you, you meant evil against me, but God meant it for good, to bring it about that many*

*people should be kept alive, as they are today.”*

- iii. Prophetic Salvation
  - 1. Jews
  - 2. Gentiles
  - 3. John 10 (sheep of other fold)
- iv. Only Death will Satisfy

D) The Preparation (**vv.54-57**)

- a. Time with disciples
- b. Time away from people
  - i. Ceremonial cleansing
  - ii. No need for Christ (Heb.4)
- c. Time for plotting

**THE DOCTRINE**

A) Christology

- a. Humanity
- b. Deity
  - i. Sovereign over all Authorities
    - i. Individuals (**John 10:17-18**)
    - ii. Government (**Rom.13:1**)
    - iii. Religious
  - ii. His plan for Calvary encompasses all the means with the end (**Acts 4:23-31**)
    - i. Means
      - a. Creation
      - b. Scriptures
      - c. Rulers
      - d. Signs
    - ii. End: Worship
      - a. Praise
      - b. Proclamation

B) Soteriology

- a. The Atonement
  - i. For Sinners (**Romans 5:6-11**, *“6 For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. 7 For one will scarcely die for a*

*righteous person—though perhaps for a good person one would dare even to die— 8 but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. 9 Since, therefore, we have now been justified by his blood, much more shall we be saved by him from the wrath of God. 10 For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, now that we are reconciled, shall we be saved by his life. 11 More than that, we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.”*

- ii. For Sheep (2 folds, **John 10:11,16**)
  - iii. As a Substitute (“in the stead of”
- b. End of Salvation: Worship

**THE APPLICATION**

- A) Caiaphas’ Perspective... Break God’s laws to enjoy earthly peace.
- B) John’s Perspective... Jesus died in the place of His own, believing you are His by His death, kept His by His resurrection, willing to live at odds with the world to be at peace with Him.
- C) What’s your response?
  - a. Belief
  - b. Report / questions
  - c. Disbelief and hatred