



SERIES: September 2022 – February 2023 Believe

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Monday, November 28, 2022

Scripture: John 8:21-24

TITLE: Too Much Sin

Recently my wife asked me to pick up soup because we were out. I asked her, "Are you sure? I swear I just bought soup." "Nope," she said. "I looked. We are out."

I ran to the store, bought our supplies, opened up the pantry, and staring back at me was soup. I thought to myself, "How did you miss this can? It's right here. You looked but didn't see it, so you just kept looking."

Many people have been looking for the Savior but looked right past Him. Jesus does not want this to be you.

Let's listen to His words from John 8:21-24 as we continue our study of the Book of John.

So he said to them again, "I am going away, and you will seek me, and you will die in your sin. Where I am going, you cannot come." So the Jews said, "Will he kill himself, since he says, 'Where I am going, you cannot come'?" He said to them, "You are from below; I am from above. You are of this world; I am not of this world. I told you that you would die in your sins, for unless you believe that I am he you will die in your sins."

Jesus is speaking to the Jewish leaders. He has been very clear: I am God. I am the light of the world. I come from Heaven. God the Father and I affirm this. And then He continues here. He echoes what he said in John 7:34. "I am going away, where I am going you, cannot come." But here he builds on this in shocking fashion. He says, "I'm going away, and you will seek me and die in your sin. Where I am going, you cannot come."

Jesus is slapping the religious leaders in the face. They thought they were saved because of their piety. But instead of Heaven, they are doomed to hell because of their sin. Jesus said, "You will seek me." What does He mean? He is saying, "That Messiah you've been looking for, it's me. I'm right here. I will go to the cross soon and die for all mankind's sins. I will rise from the dead and conquer sin. But you will look right past me. You will keep looking for your Messiah but won't find him. I'm already here."

The Bible tells us that no one seeks after God. They are spiritually dark and love their sin. No one in their natural state looks for God. But they do look for rest for their souls. They look for peace. The problem is they try everything from religion to spirituality, to fame and fortune, to approval, to material items, and so on. Nothing works. Nothing satisfies. Jesus says, "I'm right here. I'm the thing your soul needs."

Jesus says, “you will die in your sin.” It’s not sin. It’s sin – the sin. It’s the sin of disbelief. There’s not a tipping point in the sin scale that condemns people to hell. It’s any and all. One or a million. No one goes to hell because they sinned too much. It’s because they’ve rejected the Savior: Jesus Christ.

These religious elite looked the part but fell short. Jesus was from Heaven and was without sin. He was God in the flesh. They were born of the world. They were subscribed to the schemes of Satan. Jesus and the world are in different dimensions.

Jesus says, “unless you believe that I am he you will die in your sins.” That’s the deal. It’s not about what you can do. It’s about seeing yourself clearly: a sinner in need of Savior. It’s about turning from your sin and turning to Jesus as your only hope. It’s believing in His death, burial, and resurrection. That’s the deal.

If you believe, what difference does this truth make? What practical difference is it having on how you live and approach the people around you? Put it in the comments below.

If you’re not a Christian, what is it about Jesus’ words that cause you pause or cause your heart to stir?

Jesus came so that you might have spiritual life. All you have to do is believe.