

[32] HE BEARS WITNESS TO WHAT HE HAS SEEN AND HEARD, YET NO ONE RECEIVES HIS TESTIMONY. [33] WHOEVER RECEIVES HIS TESTIMONY SETS HIS SEAL TO THIS, THAT GOD IS TRUE. [34] FOR HE WHOM GOD HAS SENT UTTERS THE WORDS OF GOD, FOR HE GIVES THE SPIRIT WITHOUT MEASURE.

- **Jesus came to speak God's words: No matter how hard, Jesus speaks the truth. And we must either accept it or reject it. If we accept it, then we recognize that...**

- **He speaks as God.** He speaks the truth, for truth is rooted in His divine nature.

[35] THE FATHER LOVES THE SON AND HAS GIVEN ALL THINGS INTO HIS HAND.

- **Jesus rules over all and God and Creator:** There is a mutual love of the Father and Son, a perfect unity in love. B/c JC is one with God has authority over all things.

- **Jesus rules over all as the Lord!** Our destiny in His hands

- **"Jesus Christ is not valued at all until He is valued above all."** - Augustine

TRUTH REPLACES THE WRATH WE DESERVE

[36] WHOEVER BELIEVES IN THE SON HAS ETERNAL LIFE; WHOEVER DOES NOT OBEY THE SON SHALL NOT SEE LIFE, BUT THE WRATH OF GOD REMAINS ON HIM.

Eternal life with Christ means daily fight with sin: "The distinguishing mark of saving faith is not perfection. The mark of faith is not that I never sin...The mark of faith is that I fight. I fight anything that dims my sight of Jesus as my glorious Savior. I fight anything that diminishes the fullness of the lordship of Jesus in my life. I fight anything that threatens to replace Jesus as the supreme Treasure of my life. Anything that stands between me and receiving Jesus is what faith fights—not with fists or knives or guns or bombs, but with the truth of Christ." – John Piper

The final phrase is a call to repent and reorganize priorities: are you going to see life through Faith in Christ, or are you going to have the wrath of God upon you?

- Reorganized priorities demands a shift in your perspective:

Which Disturbs You Most?

1. A soul lost in Hell...or a scratch on your new car?
 2. Your missing the worship service...or missing a day's work?
 3. A sermon ten minutes long ... or lunch a half hour late?
 4. The church's not growing ... or the garden not growing?
 5. Your Bible being unopened ... or your newspaper not read?
 6. Your children being late for school ... or late for Sunday school?
 7. The offerings decreasing ... or your income decreasing?
 8. Your church work being neglected ... or your housework being neglected?
 9. Missing a good Bible lesson ... or missing a favorite T.V. program?
- (written by C.F. Banner)

Closing Challenge: JESUS IS WORTH TRUSTING (36).

- **Trust Jesus...** yes, He is controversial and He is supposed to be—for He is not only the dividing line of history, He is the dividing line for those who will believe.
- **Trust Jesus...for He is the fulfillment of history**—He is the Promised One, the Anointed One, the Son of God, the With-Us God—the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.
- **Trust Jesus...for He is Lord**—King of kings and Lord of lords who loves you more than you can ever know; whatever you are facing today—He is worth trusting.

APPENDIX:

A-1 – Story of the people martyred in North Korea

The young brown-eyed girl looked up at her mother. What would she decide?

Earlier that morning, the young girl's mother, their pastor, and twenty-six others in her North Korean village of GokSan were bound and taken before a screaming crowd of Communists.

One of the guards ordered Pastor Kim and the other Christians, "Deny Christ, or you will die." The words chilled her. How could they ask her to deny Jesus? She knew in her heart he was real. They all quietly refused.

Then the Communist guard shouted directly at the adult Christians, "Deny Christ, or we will hang your children." The young girl looked up at her mother. She gripped her and knowing how much her mom loved her. her mother then leaned down. With confidence and peace she whispered, "Today, my love, I will see you in heaven."

All of the children were hanged.

The remaining believers were then brought out onto the pavement and forced to lie down in front of a huge steamroller. The Communists gave them one last chance. "Deny this Jesus or you will be crushed." The Christians had already given up their children; there was no turning back.

As the driver started the heavy piece of equipment, the singing from the villagers started softly. "More love, O Christ, to thee, more love to thee."

A-2, The Shopkeeper and His Jealousy

Two shopkeepers were bitter rivals. Their stores were directly across the street from each other, and they would spend each day keeping track of each other's business. If one got a customer, he would smile in triumph at his rival.

One night an angel appeared to one of the shopkeepers in a dream and said, "I will give you anything you ask, but whatever you receive, your competitor will receive twice as much. Would you be rich? You can be very rich, but he will be twice as wealthy. Do you wish to live a long and healthy life? You can, but his life will be longer and healthier. What is your desire?"

The man frowned, thought for a moment, and then said, "Here is my request: Strike me blind in one eye!"

Warren W. Wiersbe, *The Integrity Crisis*, Thomas Nelson Publishers, 1991, p. 22.