

DO INQUIRING MINDS REALLY WANT TO KNOW?

John 10:22-26

Introduction:

1. A Simple Question

A) Are you the Messiah?

> What a good question!

But it isn't a new question (John 1:19-23)

It doesn't appear that knowing the truth is a high priority (John 9:24-34)

2. A Simple Question ... With an Attitude

A) An Attitude of Aggression

> Notice that phrase in verse 24 ... "they surrounded Him."

> Notice, this is hardly the attitude of someone who suspects that Jesus might be their King

If they really thought Jesus might be the Messiah, we would see humility not aggression

B) An Attitude of Irresponsibility

> Notice the first half of their question – "How long do you keep us in doubt?" (John 10:24)

> What they are trying to do is to put the responsibility for their "ignorance" or "uncertainty" on Jesus

C) An Attitude of Deception

> With their question they feign a genuine desire to know the truth about Jesus

In fact, they have rejected the truth, are rejecting the truth, and will reject the truth

Have rejected (John 9:26-28)

Are rejecting (John 10:31-33)

Will reject (John 11:45-48)

3. The Voice of Authority

A) I've already answered your question plainly (John 10:25a)

> After the healing of a man at the Pool of Bethesda (John 5:31-40)

> During the celebration of the Feast of Tabernacles (John 8:12-18)

B) I've already answered your question powerfully (John 10:25c)

> John records seven great miracles in his gospel

Changing water into wine (John 2)

Healing the nobleman's son (John 4)

Healing the infirmed man (John 5)

Multiplying the bread / fish to feed thousands (John 6)

Walking on the water during the storm (John 6)

Healing a man born blind (John 9)

Raising Lazarus from the dead (John 11)

> Jesus says, "The works I do in My Father's Name bear witness of my identity" (John 9:30-34)

The miracles and the message line up to prove God's authority (Deut. 13:1-5)

C) You refuse to believe (John 10:25b, 26a)

> Unbelief is an illogical and destructive act of rebellion against God

> The Jews refusal to believe Jesus is the cause for their uncertainty, not His failure to speak plainly

> Key concept – they have heard Jesus speak and seen the miracles ... and refuse to believe

Who is responsible for their unbelief? They are!

They knowingly, repeatedly, and defiantly refuse to believe the truth. WHY?

D) You are not my sheep (John 10:26b)

> Contrast: Jesus' sheep will hear His voice, I know them, and they follow Me (John 10:27)

The formerly blind man hears Jesus speak and believes (John 9:35-38)

> Contrast: These Jews in John 10:24 refuse to hear His voice, believe Him, and follow Him

Not because they aren't lacking necessary information

They refuse to believe because Jesus threatens their self exalting religion

They refuse to believe because they don't hear His voice