

A CHRISTIAN FOR APPEARANCE'S SAKE

John 7:14-31

From: Scott Carlson

December 5, 2021

INTRODUCTION: WHY DID YOU BECOME A CHRISTIAN?

? Why did you become a Christian?

? Why don't most people become Christians?

"Jew" in the Gospel of John:

We are going to see this in two words and two ideas that come from this passage.

I. AMAZED, V. 15

This is a word that could mean amazed in a good way. "Wow, this teaching is amazing, I love it!"

But it could also be amazing in a bad way, as with skepticism, incredulity or astonishment. "Who does this guy think He is?"

The context determines whether we are to take it as being a good amazement or a bad amazement. The word shows up six times in the Gospel. Five of the six times it is to be taken negatively.

Matthew 7:28, 29

? Why were they amazed at Jesus' teaching?

II. ASTONISHED, V. 21

III. ACCEPTING, VV. 25-31

A. WHY THEY STRUGGLE TO BELIEVE

Malachi 3:1-4

B. HOW THEY FINALLY COME TO BELIEVE

IV. APPEARANCE, V. 24

CONCLUSION: A DISCOURSE ON UNBELIEF

? Why did you become a Christian?

? Why don't most people become Christians?

1 John 2:19

They went out from us, but they were not really of us; for if they had been of us, they would have remained with us; but they went out, so that it would be evident that they all are not of us.

The most damned person is the one who has scripture but can't see Jesus for who He is.

The true believer, who has been truly born again, whose heart has been opened to the truth of God, who has been drawn by the father, who will never be cast out; the true believer at some comes to the conclusion, "How could I do otherwise?"

? Do you have true faith or are you saved for the sake of appearance?

John Macarthur

The sinner is weary of his sin and his fallenness and his wretchedness, of nature of it and the consequence of it; becomes a seeker. And he's not looking for personal fulfillment. He's not looking for personal benefits and blessings. That's what the crowd was looking for...What he wants is to do the will of God.

John Piper

The mark of true faith is god exaltation at the expense of humiliation.

2 Corinthians 5:14, 15