Antigo Community Church – February 11, 2024

Title: Biblical Belief – Personal and Public

Text: John 12:37-50

The joy, wonder, and thankfulness in the sure and certain fact that Jesus is the Resurrection and the Life – death does not win!

John 12:23

“The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified.”

John 12:31-32

“Now is the time for judgment on this world; now the prince of this world will be driven out. But I, when I am lifted-up from the earth, I will draw all men to myself.”

Scripture Reading

John 12:37-50 (NIV)

Deuteronomy 29:2-4

“Your eyes have seen all that the Lord did in Egypt to Pharaoh, to all his officials and to all his land. With your own eyes you saw those great trials, those miraculous signs and great wonders. But to this day the Lord has not given you a mind that understands or eyes that see or ears that hear.”

Isaiah 6:9-10

“Go and tell this people:

Be ever hearing, but never understanding;

be ever seeing, but never perceiving.

Make the heart of this people calloused;

make their ears dull and close their eyes.

Otherwise they might see with their eyes,

hear with their ears,

understand with their hearts,

and turn and be healed.”

The Jews did not believe, therefore they could not believe.

John 6:37, 40

“All that the Father gives me will come to me, and whoever comes to me I will never drive away… For my Father’s will is that everyone who looks to the Son and believes in him shall have eternal life, and I will raise him up at the last day.”

God will not coerce anyone to come to repentance nor will He turn away anyone who comes to Him. Biblical belief is personal.

John 12:44, 46

“When a man believes in me, he does not believe in me only, but in the one who sent me… I have come into the world as light, so that no one who believes in me should stay in darkness.”

He wants them and us to know such secret faith will not do. Biblical belief is public.

The same message that proclaims life and forgiveness to the believer proclaims condemnation and wrath to the unbeliever.

Biblical Belief is both Personal and Public