Jesus’ Public Ministry Concludes with Two Explanations about the Unbelief of the People

(John 12:37-50)

1. The fundamental reasons for the responses of unbelief (vv.37-43)
   1. The unbelief of the Jews was rooted in prophecy (vv.37-41)
      1. The content of Isaiah’s prophecy (vv.38-40)
         1. Their unbelief was to fulfill the promised reaction to the Isa. 53 Servant (v.38).
         2. Their unbelief was due to God’s judgment of hardening promised in Isa. 6 (vv.39-40).
      2. The reason for Isaiah’s prophecy (v.41)
   2. The unbelief of the Jews was rooted in a love affair with the world (vv.42-43)
      1. An essential ingredient in true faith was lacking (v.42; e.g., 1 Jn. 2:23; 4:2, 3, 15)
      2. An idolatrous lust was dominating (v.43; e.g., 5:41-44)
2. The fundamental reasons for the seriousness of unbelief (vv.44-50)
   1. What one does with Christ’s person one does with the Father because Christ was sent by the Father (vv.44-45)
   2. What one does with Christ’s words one does with the Father because Christ speaks the words of the Father (vv.46-50)