

John 12 • Three Responses to Christ

1. (v.1-11) **Christ & His Friends**
 - a. Martha represents working for Christ.
 - b. Lazarus represents our walk and witness for Christ.
 - c. Mary represents worship of Christ.
 - d. Judas represents working against Christ.
2. (v.12-36) **Christ & the Gentiles**
 - a. Jews “*want to see a sign*” (Mt. 12:38), Gentiles “*want to see Jesus*”.
 - b. Gentiles were first to recognize the time of His coming (the Magi).
 - c. Gentiles were quickest during Christ’s ministry to identify Him as the Messiah the Son of David.
 - d. Moral of the Story: A right relationship with Christ must be approached on His terms.
3. (v.37-50) **Christ & the Jews**
 - a. (v.37) Although they saw the evidence of His divine Sonship they would not believe.
 - b. (v.39) Because their hearts became hard and eyes blind they were incapable of believing.
 - c. (v.40) Because they spurned God’s grace, God ultimately said, “*They could not believe*”.
 - d. Deception does not happen supernaturally but as the result of one’s personal choices where God’s Word is

concerned. The end result of disobedience is to be given over to deception.

4. **Four kinds of darkness in the Gospel of John:**

- a. **Mental Darkness** (1:5-8, 26) The minds of sinners are blinded by Satan and cannot discern spiritual truth. (See also 2 Co. 4:3-6)
 - b. **Moral Darkness** (3:18-21) The unsaved love sin and hate the light.
 - c. **Judicial Darkness** (12:35-36) If men do not obey the light, God sends darkness so as to hide Christ from them.
 - d. **Eternal Darkness** (12:46) To “abide” in darkness literally means to live in hell forever. (See also Rev. 21:8)
- “Truly, truly, I say to you, he who hears My word, and believes Him who sent Me, has eternal life, and does not come into judgment, but has passed out of death into life.”*
John 5:24
- e. The very Bible men reject today will be part of the evidence against them in judgment.