

Believers, Observers and Haters

John 11:45–57

Intro: When Jesus' signs and wonders were performed, three different groups can be observed: God fearers, Informants, Haters of Christ.

I. What two groups of people were formed upon seen Jesus raise up Lazarus?

John 11:45-46 *"Therefore many of the Jews who came to Mary, and saw what He had done, believed in Him. 46 But some of them went to the Pharisees and told them the things which Jesus had done."*

A. Many became believers -v45.

1. These are the God fearers – those that walk in obedience.

B. Some became informants -v46.

1. What kind of spiritual condition would informants be?

C. The rest became Observers.

D. What is the difference between God fearers and observers:

1. The God fearers will see, hear and believe on the Lord Jesus Christ.
2. The observers will see, hear, and not believe so as to be saved.

II. The fourth group - The hater of Christ.

John 11:47-48 *"⁴⁷Therefore the chief priests and the Pharisees convened a council, and were saying, 'What are we doing? For this man is performing many signs. ⁴⁸ 'If we let Him go on like this, all men will believe in Him, and the Romans will come and take away both our place and our nation.'"*

A. What did the haters do that distinguished them?

B. Observation: How is politics used by evil men? (Pharoah, Haman, Rome, Anti-Christ)

C. What commandments were these religious leaders willing to break because of Politics?

John 11:49-50 *"⁴⁹ But one of them, Caiaphas, who was high priest that year, said to them, 'You know nothing at all, ⁵⁰ nor do you take into account that it is expedient for you that one man die for the people, and that the whole nation not perish.'"*

1. How were they able to excuse the use of murder -v50? (when serving expedient ends)

II. How does God still use the politics of evil men -v51-53?

51 Now he did not say this on his own initiative, but being high priest that year, he prophesied that Jesus was going to die for the nation, 52 and not for the nation only, but in order that He might also gather together into one the children of God who are scattered abroad. 53 So from that day on they planned together to kill Him.

A. The Apostle John who is narrating this conspiracy, reveals some important truths:

1. God has his own informants in the council of the wicked.
2. God is always sovereign over the plans of evil men to fulfill His word:
 - a. **Isaiah 53**- to suffer and make redemption for mankind.

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