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The Message of Works

John 10:22-42 ²²At that time the Feast of Dedication took place in Jerusalem. It was winter, ²³and Jesus was walking in the temple courts in Solomon's Colonnade. ²⁴So the Jews gathered around Him and demanded, "How long will You keep us in suspense? If You are the Christ, tell us plainly." ²⁵"I already told you," Jesus replied, "but you did not believe. The works I do in My Father's name testify on My behalf. ²⁶But because you are not My sheep, you refuse to believe. ²⁷My sheep listen to My voice; I know them, and they follow Me. ²⁸I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one can snatch them out of My hand. ²⁹My Father who has given them to Me is greater than all. No one can snatch them out of My Father's hand. ³⁰I and the Father are one." ³¹At this, the Jews again picked up stones to stone Him. ³²But Jesus responded, "I have shown you many good works from the Father. For which of these do you stone Me?" ³³"We are not stoning You for any good work," said the Jews, "but for blasphemy, because You, who are a man, declare Yourself to be God." ³⁴Jesus replied, "Is it not written in your Law: 'I have said you are gods'? ³⁵If he called them gods to whom the word of God came—and the Scripture cannot be broken— ³⁶then what about the One whom the Father sanctified and sent into the world? How then can you accuse Me of blasphemy for stating that I am the Son of God? ³⁷If I am not doing the works of My Father, then do not believe Me. ³⁸But if I am doing them, even though you do not believe Me, believe the works themselves, so that you may know and understand that the Father is in Me, and I am in the Father." ³⁹At this, they tried again to seize Him, but He escaped their grasp. ⁴⁰Then Jesus went back across the Jordan to the place where John had first been baptizing, and He stayed there. ⁴¹Many came to Him and said, "Although John never performed a sign, everything he said about this man was true." ⁴²And many in that place believed in Jesus. (BSB)

I. Here are the details of this passage.

- A. This happened during the Feast of the Dedication, which we know it as the Feast of **Hanukkah**. V.22
- B. Jesus was in one of the few places that was still in existence of the original Temple that was built by **Solomon**. V.23
- C. The Jews asked plainly for Jesus to state whether He was the **Messiah** or not. V.24
- D. Jesus made it clear that His **works** declare Him to be the One whom prophecy said would come. V.25
- E. Jesus made it clear that His **sheep** will understand who He is and what He is about. V.26-30
- F. Jesus clearly states His **Deity** and they want to kill Him for it. V.31-33

- G. Jesus referred to the Old Testament to show that other men were called 'gods'.
V.34-36
- H. The supernatural works that Jesus was doing verified that He was the Son of God.
V.37-38
- I. Many believe in Jesus! V.39-42

II. What can we learn from this?

- A. Celebrating cultural holidays are not evil within themselves. Jesus celebrated Hanukah even though it is not mentioned in the Old Testament.
- B. Having a building that we meet in is not unbiblical! Jesus had a building that He used as a meeting place.
- C. Our works should verify that we are who we claim to be.
- D. The real sheep of Jesus hear His voice and follow Him. What is God telling us for this generation?
- E. Never let opposition deter you from obedience to the Shepherd.
- F. Our works will lead to conversations, be ready for them and make the most of every opportunity!