

Come and See: Barriers to Believing
John 12:31-50

Our God Is a Covenant-Making God

- God initiates relationship with Himself
- Aim: two parties function together as one
- Ground: God's nature of love

Barriers to Believing

- Be a materialist - Jo 12:29
 ...insist upon sensory validation before relying upon God - II Cor 5:7; II Cor 1:22-23
 (Every believer must lay down the demand for proof before proceeding) - Heb 11:3
- Be religious - Jo 12:34; 5:37
 ...require revelation to fit into your religious grid/tradition - Rev 21:5
 (Every believer must be ready to lay down the teaching of man to know Christ)
 - Mk 7:8,9; Col 2:8
- Be a people pleaser - Jo 12:43
 ...look for the agreement of others before confessing what God says - Jo 12:42
 (Every believer must forsake the approval of others to live in God's approval) - Jo 5:44
- Prefer the darkness - Jo 12:35,46
 ...seek "my will" over "Thy will" - Jo 1:5; 3:19
 (Every believer must lay down self-determination for God's determination) - Jo 5:30; 6:38

The Gateway to Believing: Looking to Jesus Christ - Jo 1:1-4; Heb 1:1-3; Jo 14:6

- Believing in a Person, not just propositions - Jo 12:44
 ...Who He is, what He has done
- All true knowledge of God comes by believing in the Person of Jesus Christ - Jo 12:44-46