INTRODUCTION

- Jesus continued teaching and preaching and working most of his healings & miracles in unrepentant towns of all places.

John the Baptist Has Questions
- Was John the Baptist exhibiting doubt about Jesus being the expected one? Probably so. Wouldn’t we all?
- What proof did Jesus provide to John that He was the Expected One? Did Jesus provide verbal confirmation?
- Jesus provided confirmation of Scripture. Should we expect anything more or less when we seek proof?
- In essence, John’s disciples reported back how the healings they saw lined up to Scripture, confirming that Jesus was the “Expected One”.....Isaiah 35:4-6

John The Baptist ➔ Prophet ➔ Messenger ➔ Elijah
- What made John the Baptist (JTB) so great?
- After all, he never worked one healing or miracle
- All he did was preach and baptize and walk around in strange clothes eating strange food
- ...and he ended up in jail because he disagreed with the alternative lifestyles of the rich and famous
- v11. What would make someone greater than JTB?
- Would one need to work more works or dress more bizarre or eat even stranger cuisine?
- Consider this. JTB lost his head over the issue of marriage. Are we willing to put our careers or lives on the line to speak up what is right in God’s eyes?
- Do we have ears to hear and will we be bold?

We Can Never Please Some People
- When dealing with fools we enter in a no-win situation (we’re damned if we do or don’t) ......Prov 26:4.5; 29:9
- How is wisdom vindicated by her deeds or children?
- It takes time. Jesus took 3 years for some wisdom to sink in & he worked countless wonders for reflection

Unrepentant Recipients of Healings and Miracles
- Recall that Sodom was utterly destroyed ....Genesis 19 ...and history tells us Alexander the Great destroyed Tyre and Sidon c. 332 BC, and this was in fulfillment of biblical prophecy.........................Jeremiah 47
- Jesus made a remarkable statement that these cities, which practiced sexual perversion, idolatry, and/or sought destruction of Israel, would not have been destroyed if the wonders He performed in Chorazin, Bethsaida, and Capernaum were done in them
- Begs the questions why God didn’t perform similar wonders in those destroyed cities and why He isn’t performing similar wonders today to save other cities
- The only answer that seems reasonable, is His ways are not our ways ..............................................Isaiah 55:8

CONCLUSION / APPLICATIONS

- Like John the Baptist we can go through periods of doubt. Is Christ everything He promised to be? If Christ didn’t do anything to stop JTB, the greatest in the Kingdom, from being beheaded, can we expect the same? What would give us proof of His Lordship?
- If we need proof outside of Scripture we are on shaky ground. Our faith should be rooted solely in Scripture. That’s all JTB needed to faithfully endure to the end – Trust in God’s word, not experiences.

NEXT WEEK: Matthew 12. The Lord of the Sabbath continues to heal everyone of everything to fulfill Scripture and to tick off the establishment who ask for one more sign to prove His deity