

John 10:19-29

John 10:19-21 – *“(19) There was a division therefore again among the Jews for these sayings. (20) And many of them said, He hath a devil, and is mad; why hear ye him? (21) Others said, These are not the words of him that hath a devil. Can a devil open the eyes of the blind?”*

A. Division occurs again among the Jews over what Jesus was teaching (**John 7:40-43** and **John 9:16**).

1. When the truth is taught, division is inevitable (**Acts 14:1-4**).
2. Jesus certainly would make no apology for His teaching being the source of division (**Luke 12:51**).

B. Some charged Jesus of having a devil (**Matthew 9:32-34**, **John 7:20**, **John 8:48**, and **John 8:52**).

1. Jesus spoke in a way that indicated He did not have a devil (**John 14:6** and **John 18:37**; cf. **John 8:44**).
2. Also, the works of Christ testified that He did not have a devil (**John 5:36**).
 - a. This point is true in that you know someone by their fruit (**Matthew 7:15-20**).
 - b. However, the argument that Jesus did not have a devil because he opened the eyes of the blind was not a concrete argument (**Matthew 24:24**, **II Corinthians 11:13-15**, **Revelation 13:11-14**, and **Revelation 16:13-14**).
3. In addition to charging Jesus of having a devil, they charged Him as being mad. Paul will later have the same charge made against him (**Acts 26:24-25**).

John 10:22-25 – *“(22) And it was at Jerusalem the feast of the dedication, and it was winter. (23) And Jesus walked in the temple in Solomon's porch. (24) Then came the Jews round about him, and said unto him, How long dost thou make us to doubt? If thou be the Christ, tell us plainly. (25) Jesus answered them, I told you, and ye believed not: the works that I do in my Father's name, they bear witness of me.”*

A. It is unclear what the “feast of the dedication” was at this time in Jerusalem.

1. There were such feasts for dedicating things like the altar (**II Chronicles 7:9**).
2. The Jews could have even been dedicating something like a rebuilt wall (**Nehemiah 12:27**).
3. This dedication feast could have been something the Jews did as a tradition (**Mark 7:7-9**).
4. These events could have also been something honoring a ruler (**I Peter 2:17**).

B. The Jews came to Jesus in the temple and wanted Him to plainly declare if He was the Christ or not (**Matthew 11:1-6**).

1. Clarity is a good thing (**I Corinthians 2:1-5** and **II Corinthians 3:12**).
2. Jesus was not always clear (**John 16:25**).

3. The problem is this; He had been clear about who He was (**John 5:17-18** and **John 8:23-30**).
4. Even when He clearly said who He was, they did not believe Him (**Luke 22:67**).

John 10:26-29 – *“(26) But ye believe not, because ye are not of my sheep, as I said unto you. (27) My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me: (28) And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand. (29) My Father, which gave them me, is greater than all; and no man is able to pluck them out of my Father's hand.”*

- A. They weren't sheep, so they didn't believe the Shepherd (**John 8:47** and **I John 4:4-6**).
 1. To be sheep of God, you have to be hearers (**Psalms 95:7-8**).
 2. Sadly, these lost individuals did not realize that Jesus wanted to be their Shepherd (**Matthew 9:36-38** and **I Peter 2:25**).
- B. God's people are figuratively in His hand (**Psalms 31:5**). Someone cannot come and take us from His hand (**II Timothy 1:12** and **I Peter 1:3-5**).
 1. Sin, not people, is what removes one from the Lord (**Isaiah 59:1-3**, **John 9:31**, and **I Peter 3:12**).
 2. Anyone can fall away (**Luke 8:13**, **I Corinthians 10:12**, **Galatians 5:4**, **Hebrews 10:38-39**, and **II Peter 2:20-22**), but this is your choice not someone else's choice (**James 1:13-16**).