

John 7:32-39
May 24, 1987
Rome Georgia
July 20, 2014

Subject: The danger of failing to receive Jesus Christ as your Savior.
Theme: Our day of salvation is **NOW**. We are not promised tomorrow.

Read 31 & 32 ff.

Joh 7:31 And many of the people believed on him, and said, When Christ cometh, will he do more miracles than these which this *man* hath done?

Joh 7:32 The Pharisees heard that the people murmured such things concerning him; and the Pharisees and **the chief priests sent officers to take him.**

Contrast His PRONOUNCEMENT against those who were rejecting Him, **7:32-36** , with the PROMISE He made to those who received Him. **Jn.14:1-6**

I. CHRIST'S PRONOUNCEMENT AGAINST THOSE WHO WOULD REJECT HIM

Pharisees - "Important sect of Judaism. Numbered about **6,000**, and were most influential. They held a **strict interpretation of the Law** and embraced many oral traditions. The Pharisees were the only minor group to survive the Jewish war of 66-70 a.d., and their teachings formed the basis for Talmudic Judaism." bkc - p. 274. In other words, the teachings of this group are what have shaped Judaism for the last 2,000 years. **This is significant if we consider the overall picture that Christ painted of these men in the NT!**

SPEAKING TO THE JEWISH GROUP AS A WHOLE:**34** "ye shall seek me and not find me, and where I am, there ye cannot come."

A SAD INDICTMENT OF THE JEWISH ELITIST CLASS FROM THE KING OF THE JEWS!

Jn. 1:9-11"Jesus was the true light that lighteth every man that cometh into the world. He was in the world and the world was made by Him and the world knew Him not. He came unto His own and His own received Him not."

Matt. 23:37 "O Jerusalem, Jerusalem...." TURN HERE.

Mat 23:37 O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, *thou that killest the prophets, and stonest them which are sent unto thee, how often would I have gathered thy children together, even as a hen gathereth her chickens under her wings, and ye would not!*

Mat 23:38 Behold, your house is left unto you desolate.

ISAIAH HAD SOME GOOD ADVICE FOR HIS NATION:**Is. 55: 6-8.**

"Seek ye the Lord while He may be found, call ye upon Him while He is near: Let the wicked forsake his way and the unrighteous man his thoughts, and let him return unto the Lord, and He will have mercy upon Him; and to our God; for He will abundantly pardon.
For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the Lord."

THIS IS WHY THE JEW COULD NOT UNDERSTAND THE WORDS OF JESUS. **BECAUSE THEIR WAYS WERE NOT GOD'S WAYS!** IN FACT CHRIST CHIDED THEM IN **Jn. 7:28** "...WHOM YE KNOW NOT."

7:28 Then cried Jesus in the temple as he taught, saying, **Ye both know me, and ye know whence I am: and I am not come of myself, but he that sent me is true, whom ye know not.**

BUT JESUS CAME SO THAT THEY MIGHT INDEED KNOW THE FATHER. **John 1:17-18.**

Joh 1:17 For the law was given by Moses, *but* grace and truth came by Jesus Christ.

Joh 1:18 No man hath seen God at any time; the only begotten Son, which is in the bosom of the Father, he hath declared *him*.

****12:35-36** TURN AND READ **35-36** ...while ye have light, believe in the light that ye may be the sons of light....

Joh 12:35 Then Jesus said unto them, **Yet a little while is the light with you. Walk while ye have the light, lest darkness come upon you: for he that walketh in darkness knoweth not whither he goeth.**

Joh 12:36 **While ye have light, believe in the light, that ye may be the children of light.** These things spake Jesus, and departed, and did hide himself from them.

Jesus made the statement of **John 7:33-4** to two widely divergent groups of people.

Here in **Jn. 7** In an atmosphere of hatred and mistrust, amid men who desired to slay Him as expeditiously as possible, amid those who were His avowed enemies Jesus tells those very men who sought to take His life and claim His inheritance for themselves that He will not be in their midst much longer and that when He leaves, they will be unable to go with Him.

But He also made a similar statement in the upper room discourse. To those who were the closest to Him. Those who had only His best interest at heart. Those who were willing to lay down their lives for Him.

II. CHRIST'S PROMISE TO THOSE WHO WOULD RECEIVE HIM

****13:33**as I said to the Jews, where I go, ye cannot come; so now say I unto you.

BIG DIFFERENCE - he told the Jews that where he went, they would **not know**. (see the speculation in **7**). He said also they would **SEEK HIM AND NOT FIND HIM**.

BUT in **13:33** it says only "ye shall seek me...where I go ye cannot come.

13:36 Peter didn't like that Idea! SEE **36** "but thou shalt follow me afterwards."

Joh 13:36 Simon Peter said unto him, Lord, whither goest thou? Jesus answered him, **Whither I go, thou canst not follow me now; but thou shalt follow me afterwards.**

16:16-22 ... little while..20..ye shall weep and lament, but the world shall rejoice; AND YE SHALL BE SORROWFUL BUT YOUR SORROW SHALL BE TURNED INTO JOY."

And then some words of comfort ****14:1-3**

Joh 14:1 **Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me.**

Joh 14:2 In my Father's house are many mansions: if *it were not so*, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you.

Joh 14:3 And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, *there ye may be also*.

But he also said in 14:4 "WHERE I GO YE KNOW! AND THE WAY YE KNOW!"

Joh 14:4 And whither I go ye know, and the way ye know.

FOR THOSE WHO RECOGNIZE AND RECEIVE JESUS - THERE IS HOPE NOT ONLY IN THIS LIFE - BUT ALSO IN THE LIFE TO COME.

JESUS HAS MADE A PROVISION FOR THOSE WHO WILL TRUST IN HIM.

III. CHRIST'S PROVISION FOR THOSE WHO WOULD BE REGENERATED

Joh 7:37 In the last day, that great *day* of the feast, Jesus stood and cried, saying, **If any man thirst, let him come unto me, and drink.**

37 "if ANY MAN thirst, let him come unto me, and drink."

Many there were who came unto Jesus, who recognized Him, asked Him for instructions on how to have eternal life, and then turned away from the very FOUNTAIN OF LIFE and went away disappointed and bitter.

The key is not only RECOGNITION BUT RECEPTION. COME AND DRINK.

Many come. Few drink. How about you?

2Co 6:2 (For he saith, I have heard thee in a time accepted, and in the **day of salvation** have I succoured thee: behold, now *is* the accepted time; behold, now *is* the **day of salvation**.)

Luk 19:41 And when he was come near, he beheld the city, and wept over it,

Luk 19:42 Saying, **If thou hadst known, even thou, at least in this thy day, the things which belong unto thy peace! but now they are hid from thine eyes.**

Luk 19:43 For the days shall come upon thee, that thine enemies shall cast a trench about thee, and compass thee round, and keep thee in on every side,

Luk 19:44 And shall lay thee even with the ground, and thy children within thee; and they shall not leave in thee one stone upon another; because thou knewest not the time of thy visitation.

What Is This Iron Dome That Is Protecting Israel From Hamas Rockets?

A missile is launched by an 'Iron Dome' battery on July 11, 2014 in the southern Israeli city of Ashdod. Three Gaza rockets were shot down over the Tel Aviv area as Hamas militants claimed they had fired M75 missiles at the Israeli city's airport. (Photo: AFP Photo/David Buimovitch/Newscom)

Commentary By

As Hamas launches rockets from the Gaza Strip into Israel, casualties are kept at a minimum thanks to Israel's superior air defense system. In the current conflict, up to 90 percent of the rockets engaged by the "Iron Dome" are intercepted as they approach high-value Israeli targets. The Rafael-Raytheon air defense system has held a high rate of success since it first intercepted a Gaza rocket in April 2011. What is the Iron Dome and how does it operate? Heritage policy analyst Michaela Dodge answers these questions and more.

What is the Iron Dome?

The Iron Dome is an Israeli air defense and a short-range defense system designed to destroy enemy rockets, mortars, and artillery shells.

>>> The U.S. Must Do Everything Possible to Undermine Hamas

How does it work?

Each Iron Dome battery is comprised of interceptors (Tamir), radars, and command and control systems. The system shoots down incoming rockets mid-air before they hit the target. The system only intercepts rockets that would hit targets of value (population centers, military facilities, etc.). This allows the system to preserve interceptors and save more resources than if it were shooting down every single rocket. In April 2011, the Israelis found out that they needed to launch an interceptor against only about 20 percent of the rockets launched by Hamas.

How often is it activated?

This depends on the threat level. The Iron Dome is deployed close to population centers. It is mobile so it can be deployed to different parts of the country depending on where the threat is coming from. Once radars get information about incoming rockets, the interceptors are fired in a manner that increases the probability of the intercept.

Since it's a short-range air defense system, what type of capabilities does the IDF have for countering long- and medium-range threats?

Israel is building a layered missile defense system, which means that it is developing a range of systems for different ballistic missile threats. Arrow 3 is designed to intercept short- and medium-range ballistic missiles. David's Sling, currently under development, will be designed to intercept short-range ballistic missiles.

What role did the US play in developing the system?

The U.S. is contributing funds toward developing the Iron Dome system. In the fiscal year 2014, the Department of Defense requested more than \$220 million to fund the system. Raytheon, U.S. defense contractor, is under contract for co-producing the system's components and interceptors.

How effective is it? What percentage/number of incoming rockets has it intercepted?

In the current conflict, the Iron Dome has intercepted up to 90 percent of rockets that it engages. Note that it does not engage every single rocket, but only the ones that would actually target valued areas.

What other countries have the Iron Dome technology?

Other countries (for example, Russia, the U.S., Japan, South Korea) have air defense systems and while they are conceptually similar, other air defense systems are based on different technologies that the Iron Dome uses. No other country in the world has the Iron Dome system today.

Can you briefly address the criticisms of the system?

Critics have argued that the Iron Dome is too expensive, since limited numbers of interceptors (about \$60 000 apiece) are fielded against large numbers of cheaper offensive rockets (about \$500 to \$1,000 apiece). These critics miss the point. What matters is the value of defended area and what would costs of a successful attack. The damage in blood and treasure caused by a successful attack could be much larger than a cost of an interceptor.

Critics also argue that the system does not work based on a “visual analysis” of rockets’ contrails. This argument simply does not stand. Blurry videos from cameras and smartphones are not sufficient to make a judgment whether a threat was destroyed or not. The IDF uses different types of radars to confirm intercepts.

There are other significant benefits that the critics of the system often omit from their analysis. Until the deployment of the Iron Dome system, the Israelis faced a stark choice: They could absorb the attacks or escalate the conflict by conducting retaliatory offensive operations against their enemies. Escalation, for justifiable reasons, is what the Israelis chose to do both against Hezbollah in 2006 and against Hamas periodically. To the extent the Israelis used these retaliatory strikes in attempts to destroy enemy rocket launchers—itsself a fundamentally defensive purpose—they found the offensive counterstrikes themselves to have limited effectiveness and cost effectiveness. The Iron Dome system provides the Israeli leadership with the political, policy, and military options as well as the space and the time to make the right decision in order to prevent an escalation.

The use of the Iron Dome system permits Israel to draw an even clearer distinction between itself and its enemies as to which side is the aggressor (not that there should be much doubt by anyone making an honest assessment). Nevertheless, there is considerable, albeit intangible, value in depriving an enemy of plausible arguments against an effective defensive military system. For Hamas and Hezbollah to argue against Iron Dome, they will have to assert that Israeli use of this defensive system is an aggressive measure. The argument is implausible.