

PROBLEMS OF UNBELIEF AND UNFAITHFULNESS

UNBELIEF

11:14 – 36

The Lord condemns rejection of Him despite clear evidence of His deity

- Context: After the Lord cast out a demon from a man → the man who was mute was able to speak again.
 - Two reactions of unbelief:
 - ① **Attributed Jesus' power to the prince of demons**
 - ② **Tested Jesus by persistently asking for a sign from heaven**
- 11:17 – 26 Jesus' response to group ①
- 11:29 – 36 Jesus' response to group ②

11:37 – 54

The Lord condemns rejection of God's truth despite pious practice of religion

- 11:37 – 44 The Lord rebukes Pharisees for their hypocrisy
- 11:45 – 52 The Lord rebukes the lawyers for their legalism
- 11:53 – 54 The Light is shining but the people would not see

UNFAITHFULNESS

12:1 – 59

The Lord prepares His disciples for the mission

12:1 – 12 On issue of persecution

12:13 – 34 On issue of possessions

12:35 – 48 On issue of His coming again

Questions to ponder...

- How has the true condition of an unbelieving heart help you appreciate God's salvation work in your life?
- How are we prepared for God's mission in the areas of
 - Difficulties (namely opposition to the Christian faith) – how much are we prepared to suffer opposition? how are we/would we prone to act hypocritically?
 - Possession – how have we been selfish or rich toward God?
 - The Lord's coming – how is our way of life evident of one waiting for the Lord's coming again? What would affect our being ready to do God's will?