

DIVINE RESPONSES TO CONTRASTING REACTIONS

JOHN 2:23-3:2

I. THE RESPONSE OF THE GENERAL PUBLIC: SUPERFICIAL BELIEF (2:23-25)

- A. Many Came To Some Kind Of Faith In The Lord During That Passover Feast (2:23)
 - 1. They Had Come To The Conclusion That The Title Of Messiah Was Appropriately His
 - 2. They Responded To A Valid Basis Of Belief When They Responded To The Lord's Miracles
- B. The Lord, Nevertheless, Was Unresponsive To This General Ground Swell Of "Belief" (2:24-25)
 - 1. He Refused To Entrust Himself To Them Because He Knew The Bottom Line With Regard To Everything There Is To Know (2:24)
 - 2. He Didn't Need Anyone To Tell Him What Was Really In The Human Heart (2:25)
 - a. He Knew That Men Will Not Believe What They Can't See (John 4:48)
 - b. He Knew That Men Could See Something With Their Eyes And Still Not Really See It (John 6:15)

II. THE RESPONSE OF NICODEMUS: EARNEST INQUIRY (3:1-2)

- A. He Was A Pharisee And Member Of The Sanhedrin (3:1-2a)
- B. He Was Certain That Christ Was Divinely Commissioned (3:2b)
- C. He Was Concerned With Eternity, Not Temporal Revolution (3:4,9)