

GOSPEL PEARLS

Their paucity

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The Jews fetched stones to stone him, so Jesus said to them, 'I have done many good works for you to see, works from my Father; for which of these are you stoning me?' The Jews answered him, 'We are not stoning you for doing a good work but for blasphemy: you are only a man and you claim to be God.' Jesus answered: 'Is it not written in your Law: I said, you are gods? So the Law uses the word gods of those to whom the word of God was addressed, and scripture cannot be rejected. Yet you say to someone the Father has consecrated and sent into the world, "You are blaspheming," because he says, "I am the son of God." If I am not doing my Father's work, there is no need to believe me; but if I am doing it, then even if you refuse to believe in me, at least believe in the work I do; then you will know for sure that the Father is in me and I am in the Father.' They wanted to arrest him then, but he eluded them. He went back again to the far side of the Jordan to stay in the district where John had once been baptising. Many people who came to him there said, 'John gave no signs, but all he said about this man was true'; and many of them believed in him. (John 10, 31-42)

The pride of Jesus' adversaries became even more evident when the Lord did not fall into their traps, making their pettiness evident. Furthermore, until Jesus decided that the hour of His sacrifice had come, no one was able to capture Him and this too bothered them because He again demonstrated their inadequacy. And do you think you are so outstanding or do you recognise that only God can make you great?