
"You were completely born
in sins, and are you teaching
us?" – John 9:34



Introduction

“You are the light of the world...Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.” (Matt. 5:14,16)

“If the world hates you, you know that it hated Me before it hated you. 19 If you were of the world, the world would love its own. Yet because you are not of the world, but I chose you out of the world, therefore the world hates you.” (Jn. 15:18-19)

Facing the Opposition

6th Sunday of the Great Fast

Forms of Oppositions

1. Cast Doubt

“This Man is not from God,
because He does not keep
the Sabbath.” (Jn. 9:16)





Forms of Oppositions 2. Threats

- “His parents said these things because they feared the Jews, for the Jews had agreed already that if anyone confessed that He was Christ, he would be put out of the synagogue.” (Jn. 9:22)

Forms of Oppositions 3. False Accusations

“This Man is not from
God, because He does
not keep the Sabbath.”
(Jn. 9:16)



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Forms of Oppositions

4. Isolation

- “You were completely born in sins, and are you teaching us?” (Jn. 9:34)
- “Give God the glory! We know that this Man is a sinner.” (Jn. 9:24)

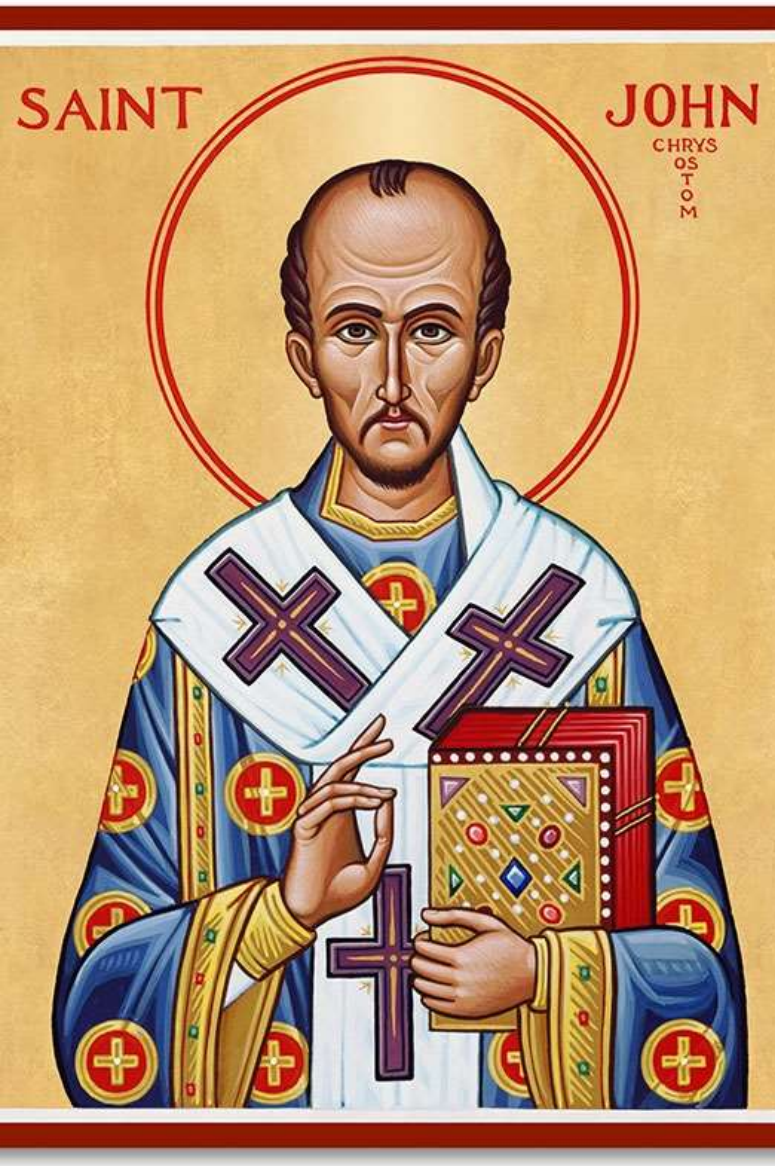


Responding to Opposition

1. Witness to the Truth

- “He put clay on my eyes, and I washed, and I see.” (Jn. 9:15)
- Do not compromise the truth
- EX: The Cross
- “For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.” (1 Cor. 1:18)





Responding to Opposition

1. Witness to the Truth

"So strong is truth, so weak is falsehood. Truth, though she take hold of ordinary men, makes them to appear glorious; the other, even though it be with the strong, shows them weak."
(St. John Chrysostom)



Responding to
Opposition

2. Make your
allegiance to God clear

- He answered them, "I told you already, and you did not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become His disciples?" 28 Then they reviled him and said, "You are His disciple, but we are Moses' disciples." (Jn. 9:27-28)



Responding to Opposition

3. Do not fear

- “Why, this is a marvelous thing, that you do not know where He is from; yet He has opened my eyes! 31 Now we know that God does not hear sinners; but if anyone is a worshiper of God and does His will, He hears him. 32 Since the world began it has been unheard of that anyone opened the eyes of one who was born blind. 33 If this Man were not from God, He could do nothing.” (Jn. 9:30-33)



Responding to Opposition

4. God is your comfort and support

- Jesus heard that they had cast him out; and when He had found him, He said to him, "Do you believe in the Son of God?" (Jn. 9:35)
- EX: Three Holy Youth

What are some forms of opposition?

- Cast doubt
- Threats
- False Accusations
- Isolation

How can we respond to the opposition?

- Witness to the Truth
- Make your allegiance to God clear
- Do not fear
- God is your comfort and support