

## 20190609 – UNEXPECTED CONTRASTS

Sunday AM – John 1:6-14

### I. THE INTRODUCTION OF JOHN THE BAPTIST

- a. We meet a man sent from God
  - i. We will learn more about him over the next few weeks
    - 1. We will learn of his witness
    - 2. We will learn of his record
    - 3. We will learn what he saw
  - ii. Today – we know three things about John (vs. 6)
    - 1. We know his name (meaning “gracious”)
    - 2. We know that he was a man (a real man)
    - 3. We know that he was sent from God
  - iii. He was a witness. A messenger.
    - 1. His message and mission given by God
    - 2. His credentials and instructions given by God
    - 3. Scripture records no miracles
    - 4. Scripture records no visions or revelations
    - 5. A single-minded focus
- b. A prophet foretold
  - i. Mal. 3:1 - Behold, I will send my messenger, and he shall prepare the way before me: and the Lord, whom ye seek, shall suddenly come to his temple, even the messenger of the covenant, whom ye delight in: behold, he shall come, saith the LORD of hosts.
  - ii. He came for one reason only
  - iii. For a TESTIMONY
    - 1. The Tabernacle was a testimony
    - 2. The Ark was a testimony
    - 3. The Law was a testimony
    - 4. And Jesus Christ is a testimony!
  - iv. A testimony, bearing WITNESS of that Light! (vs. 7)

- c. He was not that light (vs. 8)
  - i. But came to point to the TRUE light (vs. 9)
  - ii. Not that John the Baptist was a false light
  - iii. But that Christ is the Light (i.e. Sun and Moon)
  - iv. John the Baptist REFLECTED that light
  - v. And so should we!
  - vi. He did not speak about himself
    - 1. I Cor. 1:23-24 – We preach Christ crucified, unto the Jews a stumbling block, and unto the Greeks foolishness; but unto them which are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God, and the wisdom of God.
    - 2. Preaching is the plan!
- d. I am struck by three statements in this passage
  - i. And the world knew Him not (vs. 10)
  - ii. And His own received Him not (vs. 11)
  - iii. But of God (vs. 13)

## II. AND THE WORLD KNEW HIM NOT

- a. Last week we spoke on the subject of Light
  - i. I John 1:5 – This then is the message which we have heard of him, and declare unto you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all.
  - ii. There is no light outside of Jesus
    - The whole world was lost in the darkness of sin;*
    - The light of the world is Jesus!*
    - Like sunshine at noonday, His glory shone in;*
    - The light of the world is Jesus!*
    - Come to the light, 'tis shining for thee;*
    - Sweetly the light, has dawned upon me;*
    - Once I was blind, but now I can see;*
    - The light of the world is Jesus!*

- iii. He is IT! There is NONE else!
  1. After many of the unbelievers left, Peter had this answer
  2. John 6:67 – Then Simon Peter answered him, Lord, to whom shall we go? Thou has the words of eternal life.
- b. It is Condemnation
  - i. John 3:19 – And this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil.
  - ii. Condemnation - The act of condemning; the judicial act of declaring one guilty, and dooming him to punishment.
    1. Condemnation implies a judgement
    2. Judgement implies a JUDGE!
    3. The world like the quote only one verse in the Bible
      - a. Matt. 7:1 – Judge not, that ye be not judged.
      - b. No need to judge what God has already determined!
      - c. God is the Judge!
      - d. His Word is full of judgements! 😊
      - e. We must simply obey what He has said already.
- c. The World Cannot Comprehend Him
  - i. “Knew” (vs. 5 / 10)
    1. Not that they doubt His existence
      - a. They know He lived
      - b. They accept historical facts as they want to see them
      - c. But they do not “know” Him
    2. Caves

- a. If you are looking for a light, you will see it
- b. If you refuse to open your eyes, you will stumble in darkness
- ii. He is the Light, and the World does not see Him

### **III. HIS OWN RECEIVED HIM NOT**

- a. Isaiah 9:6 – For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given...
  - i. He was sent unto God’s people
  - ii. And they refused Him!
- b. John 19:13-15
  - i. We have no King but Caesar!
- c. They tried to trick Him
  - i. They tried to ridicule Him
  - ii. They tried to trap Him
  - iii. They tried to mock Him
  - iv. They tried to stone Him
  - v. They NEVER tried to RECEIVE HIM!

### **IV. BUT OF GOD**

- a. Many did not receive Him (maybe “most”)
  - i. But Praise God SOME did!
  - ii. To all that did, He ADOPTED
  - iii. I was once an orphan to sin...
  - iv. But HE made me a SON of GOD
  - v. He came looking for me
    - 1. He loved me when I was unlovely
    - 2. He loved me when I was doomed in sin
    - 3. He loved me when I was a rebel from righteousness
    - 4. He loved me when I was hopeless and helpless

## 5. He loved ME

- b. How did they receive Him? (vs. 12)
  - i. They believed on His name!
    - 1. Simple as that
    - 2. Plus nothing and minus nothing
  - ii. Romans 10:9 – That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved.
- c. Born not by... (vs. 13)
  - i. Not of blood
    - 1. No one is saved because of their family
    - 2. God has no grandchildren
  - ii. Not by the will of the flesh
    - 1. No good works (so called)
    - 2. Not by the strength of human acts
  - iii. Not by the will of man
    - 1. No one can will themselves to be saved
    - 2. A desire is not enough (a wish without repentance)
  - iv. Only of GOD
    - 1. He is the only one that can save!
    - 2. The opposite of all of those things! (Look at this!)
      - a. By HIS blood
      - b. By HIS acts
      - c. By HIS will
- d. How did He do it?
  - i. The Word was made flesh (vs. 14)
  - ii. He was full of grace and full of truth

## V. HOW HE SAVES

- a. The Bible there tells us of His grace and truth

- b. Both are needed
  - i. His truth (the Bible) tells us that we are all sinners
  - ii. His grace makes a way for all sinners to be saved
- c. It won't be from your pedigree, your practices, nor your prerogatives
- d. It will be only through His truth, and by His grace.
- e. He is the light, will you know Him?
- f. He wants you for His own, will you receive Him?