

## I. SEEKING AND SAVING

- a. The main business of Jesus Christ
  - i. Luke 2:49 – “And he said unto them How is it that ye sought me? Wist ye not that I must be about my Father’s business?”
    - 1. There is one family business in heaven
    - 2. And we are joint-heirs with Jesus
    - 3. Made to be the sons of God
  - ii. Luke 19:10 – “For the Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost.”
  - iii. God initiated it.
    - 1. He saw us helpless.
    - 2. He saw us beyond hope.
    - 3. He saw our need.
    - 4. He saw us lost!
- b. The work gets done
  - i. We see John the Baptist point men to Jesus
    - 1. And of all the multitude of disciples
    - 2. Only John and Andrew “heard” him
  - ii. We see John and Andrew win their brothers
    - 1. Family can be some of the most difficult to win
    - 2. And yet, they both went FIRST to their own brothers
    - 3. It seems that there were many who UNDERSTOOD the Scripture
    - 4. Who waited on the Messiah, just as the book of Daniel prophesied
    - 5. These men brought their brothers to Jesus
  - iii. We now see Jesus HIMSELF win souls
    - 1. He will directly command a man to follow him
    - 2. A man who is apparently waiting on the Messiah
- c. The Fourth Day
  - i. Our text begins with the “day” following...
  - ii. The fourth after Jesus returned from His Temptation in the Wilderness
  - iii. Timeline
    - 1. Day 1 – John 1:29 (the next day)
    - 2. Day 2 – John 1:35 (again the next day)
    - 3. Day 3 – John 1:39 (that day)
    - 4. Day 4 – John 1:43 (the day following)
  - iv. Read John 1:43 – 51
  - v. If you count the men in this passage, you may only see two and Jesus
  - vi. But there are actually three

## II. PHILIP

- a. On His way to Galilee (See John 2:1)
  - i. But He had work to do first
  - ii. We don't know exactly where he found Philip
    - 1. Whether in Bethabara with the disciples of John
    - 2. Or traveling between Bethabara and Galilee
    - 3. Or in Bethsaida itself ("the city of Andrew and Peter")
  - iii. The invitation was simple – Follow Me
    - 1. We don't have to make things so complex
    - 2. Isaiah 55:11 – "So shall the word be that goeth fourth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it."
      - a. It is why we memorize Scripture
      - b. It is why we give our testimony
      - c. Simply tell what happened to you!
    - 3. And yet with the Holy Ghost
      - a. Philip left his entire LIFE behind
      - b. And followed Christ
- b. Findeth (vs. 43)
  - i. "Would go forth" means the trip was planned
  - ii. It was His will to go
    - 1. John 4:4 – "And he must needs go through Samaria."
    - 2. Why? Because of that woman at the well
    - 3. He had a longer message for her because she needed to repent
    - 4. Philip didn't need a long sermon.
  - iii. Isn't it wonderful to see our Lord about His Father's business?
  - iv. He SOUGHT Philip.
    - 1. Isn't that what it says? Findeth?
    - 2. And let me tell you, He sought me!
    - 3. The hound of heaven chased me!
- c. Saith (vs. 43)
  - i. When the Lord speaks, we have a choice
    - 1. It is a simple choice
    - 2. A binary choice
    - 3. Obey or disobey
  - ii. Well, we know the Lord does not speak with an audible voice today
  - iii. He speaks through His word (John 1:1)
  - iv. When we hear His word, we have a choice!
    - 1. Preaching vs. Teaching
    - 2. Demands a decision
- d. Philip made a decision

### III. NATHANAEL

- a. Philip emulated his Lord and Savior
  - i. It should go without saying that we should also emulate Him!
  - ii. Jesus FINDETH Philip
  - iii. Philip FINDETH Nathanael
  - iv. We should be in the business of FINDING others
- b. The message was clear
  - i. We have FOUND Him
  - ii. That means they were looking for the Messiah!
    - 1. That shouldn't have been so uncommon
    - 2. Maybe what brought these two friends to John the Baptist
  - iii. Moses told them!
  - iv. Daniel put a TIMELINE to it!
  - v. Genesis 3:15 prophesied of it FIRST
  - vi. All of the Jews should have looking for the Redeemer!
    - 1. A prophet, a priest, a king SUPERIOR to all they had ever known!
    - 2. Even greater than David!
    - 3. Psalm 110:1 – “The Lord said unto my Lord, Sit thou at my right hand, until I make thine enemies thy footstool.”
    - 4. David even said that his “Son” would be his Lord!
  - vii. If the rulers had been reading their Scriptures and watching, they would have seen the Messiah too!
- c. Israelite Indeed
  - i. Romans 9:6 – A verse that I had never noticed before in this context
  - ii. “Not as though the word of God hath taken none effect. For they are not all Israel, which are of Israel:”
  - iii. Jesus was quoting Psalm 32:2 – “Blessed is the man unto whom the Lord imputeth not iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no guile.”
- d. Under a fig tree (vs. 48)
  - i. Fig tree a type or symbol of Israel
  - ii. A man looking for the Messiah
  - iii. I can only guess he was praying – perhaps FOR the Messiah to come
  - iv. And the Lord saw in secret and rewarded OPENLY
  - v. Nathanael made a decision

### IV. JACOB

- a. The third man in this passage is the patriarch Jacob
  - i. With stones for pillows
  - ii. Dreamed a dream
  - iii. Gen. 28:12 – “And he dreamed, and behold a ladder set up on the earth, and the top of it reached to heaven: and behold the angels of God ascending and descending on it.”

- b. But that wasn't all!
  - i. God told him that he would give him children
  - ii. Gen 28:14 – “And thy seed shall be as the dust of the earth, and thou shalt spread abroad to the west, and to the east, and to the north, and to the south: and in thee and in thy seed shall all the families of the earth be blessed.”
  - iii. Of course, that is a prophecy of Jesus Christ
- c. But it is a DOUBLY TRUE
  - i. Jesus also is that ladder (John 1:51)
  - ii. Upon the Son of man!
  - iii. He is that Holy “bridge” to God
  - iv. He is the Way, the Truth, and the Life – NO MAN cometh unto the Father, but by Him.

## V. DO YOU KNOW HIM?

- a. He knew Nathanael.
- b. He knows you.
  - i. He's calling
  - ii. Come, Follow Me.
  - iii. Will you?
- c. Christian, He hears your prayers
  - i. He calls for you and me to follow Him more closely
  - ii. To have a closer relationship with Him
  - iii. But we may have to leave some things in our lives behind like Philip.
  - iv. Will you?