

February 8, 2010

SERMONS FOR SUNDAY

February 14, 2010

a.m. "*Distracted by Good*"

Scripture: Luke 10:38-42

p.m. *Getting Personal with Our Missionaries*

Scripture: Mark 16: 15, 16

Jesus of Nazareth

Don Hatch

Jesus of Nazareth, King of the Jews was the title placed on the cross of the Lord (Jn 19:19). Jesus Christ is the extraordinary designation of the incarnate Son of God and Saviour of mankind. Importance of this name can be illustrated in two illustrious individuals in Jewish history. Joshua was the successor of Moses who led the children of Israel into the land of promise (Ex 24:13) The high priest who along with Zerubbabel (Zech 3:1) and took an active role in re-establishing the civil and religious community upon the return from Babylonian captivity was Jehoshua. It is often written *Joshua* and in the Greek it appears as *Jesus*. Joshua, the son of Nun is twice mentioned in the New Testament by the name of *Jesus* (Acts 7:45; Heb 4:8). Other men known as Jesus (Hebrew Joshua) lived in the first century. Therefore, to distinguish Jesus Christ from all other men named Jesus, a distinction was made concerning His place of habitation.

The name of Jesus is a name above all other names when it is related to Jesus Christ (Phil 2:10). The supreme dignity and authority which the Father gave Him should bring forth homage when His name is pronounced. Jesus' name displays the exertion He made in the cause of divinity and human's salvation upon the cross of Calvary. Jesus' name should bring forth inward awe and willingness to submit to Him as the Lord and King. Jesus' name is neither an accidental nomenclature nor ordinary family name. It was a divine order (Lk 1:31; Mat 1:21). This name indicated salvation (Matt 1:18-20; Rom 1:1-5; 9:5).

Jesus Christ of Nazareth was the founder of Christianity. He fulfilled every prophecy concerning the Messiah. Beginning at His conception by a virgin, birth in Bethlehem, royal dependency from David to innumerable other certifiable events that can only be attributable to Jesus Christ of Nazareth, He was the Saviour of the world.

The founder of Christianity was born of a virgin named Mary who was betrothed to Joseph, a carpenter and descendent of King David. At the time of Augustus Caesar, Joseph and Mary

were required to enroll for tax purposes. Cyrenius was governor of Syria (Lk 2:1, 2). Joseph and Mary traveled from Nazareth to Bethlehem, the city of David, because of their ancestry to David. Soon after His birth Jesus and his parents were compelled to flee the murderous designs of Herod the Great, fleeing to Egypt (Mat 2). During the time of their departure Herod ruthlessly killed male children two years and under, thus fulfilling Jeremiah's prophecy (Mat 2:16-23; Jer 32:16). Immediately after Herod's death the family returned to settle in Bethlehem but Archelaus, Herod's son, was on throne. Being warned in a dream they settled in Nazareth of Galilee (Mat 2:23). Jesus grew in stature, wisdom, in favor with God and man (Lk 2:52). At his twelfth year Jesus demonstrated uncommon religious intelligence which astonished the doctors of the law (Lk 2:41-52). Jesus' early life concludes with Him beginning His ministry at age thirty (Lk 3:23). He fulfilled all righteousness by being baptized of John the Baptizer (Mat 3:13-17). His sojourn in the wilderness and temptation of the devil was extraordinary. Following these temptations Jesus entered into three years of preaching and teaching. He earnestly summoned His countrymen to repent. Jesus made and baptized more disciples than John ("though Jesus himself baptized not, but his disciples" Jn 4:1-3).

The only trustworthy accounts of Jesus' ministry are the biographical accounts by Matthew, Mark, Luke and John. Jesus is quoted and represented by them as the Messiah. They seized every opportunity to impress upon their readers that Jesus fulfilled every prophecy concerning Himself (over 300), and give the only inspired account of Jesus Christ of Nazareth. They gave expositions of His doctrine in noble and practical ways which carefully allowed Jesus' disciples to recall and apprehend the clear, simplistic and illustrative instructions of the Messiah.

Jesus' wonderful deeds and teachings were filled with charity and love exactly as was expected of the Messiah. Yet, He was straight forward on all matters of moral purity, not allowing compromises. Jesus with eminent and clear maxims, axioms, parables and doctrine reproved and uttered teachings against all corrupt teachings of the Jews (Mk 12:38-40). Their sanctimonious lives were challenged. Hypocritical punctiliousness was denied. He manifested that all must subordinate their lives to the Father. By gathering about Him a considerable company of believers and true adherents to the faith He selected twelve men who would be His witnesses, starting in Jerusalem, Judea and into the uttermost parts of the world (Mat 28:18-20; Mk 16:15-16; Lk 24:44-49; Act 1:9-11). Jesus did not fulfill the Jew's expectations of the Messiah because without the slightest regard for their statutes he showed no respect of person (Jn 4).

At last His adversaries succeeded, by the assistance of traitor Judas Iscariot, to seize His person. They took Him in the capital, following the Passover feast and engaged in a mock trial wherein the laws of God and man were suspended in order that they might crucify Him. He had openly proclaimed to His disciples that He was to die and with calm resignation He went to trial and death. He died. He was laid in the tomb of Joseph of Arimathea and raised by the glory of the Father on the third day. His resurrection set the stage of time for the redemption of mankind. There was never a man like Jesus Christ of Nazareth.

FAMILY CARE: A Message from Our Shepherds

Belt Line Road continues to be a blessed congregation and continues to be a shining light in this community and elsewhere. Thanks be to God for every member who pitches in and does many good things in his service. Mission Printing continues to be a well supported work with many participants, but we always need more help in Mission Printing. If you have a few minutes and willing to pitch in and help with this great work (Jr. Auditorium) on Sunday afternoon between 4 and 5:45PM you are welcomed and encouraged.

Brother Dorris and Sister Janie Walker supervise this area of work and would be most happy to guide you into this wonderful work. You will feel good with the opportunity to serve others.

Our Bible study teachers continue to do an outstanding work. It takes love and dedication to make things run smoothly. We have love at Belt Line and we continually hear from visitors that Belt Line is a friendly congregation. This is a great compliment, and you have earned this impression by doing good.

In our society today there is more misunderstanding over the meaning of the Spirit's indwelling of Christian hearts than any other doctrine in the New Testament "Ye are the temple of the living God" (1 Cor. 3:16; 6:16). "For it is God that worketh in you" (Phil. 2:13). "God abideth in us ... we abide in him and he in us ...God abideth in him and he in God ... he that abideth in love abideth in God and God abideth in him" (1 Jn. 4:11-16). The entire Thessalonian church was said to be "in God" (1 Thes. 1:1). From the previous statements there is no way to avoid the truth that Christians are in God, and God is in them.

If any man is in Christ, he is a new creature (2 Cor. 5:17). Paul's writings alone contain 169 references to being "in Christ, in Him, in the Lord, in the beloved, etc." If Christ is in you ... the spirit is life (Rom. 8:10). It is Christ that liveth in me (Gal. 2:20). "That Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith" (Eph. 3:17).

We can't avoid that Christians are in Christ, and Christ is in Christians. "The Spirit of God dwelleth in you" (1 Cor. 3:16). "The Spirit ... dwelleth in you" (Rom. 8:10). "God sent his Spirit of his Son into our hearts" (Gal. 4:6). "I was in the Spirit on the Lord's day (Rev. 1:10). "Walk in the Spirit" (Gal. 5:16). "If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit" (Gal. 5:25). From the teaching above in the New Testament it is clear beyond any imagination that the Spirit is in Christians and that Christians are in the Spirit.

We want to remember our sick and shut-ins in our public and private prayers. Some are getting better and others are being added to the ongoing list. We sorrow with many of our members and their families who are having extreme health difficulties, and some have recently lost loved ones. We pray that God will comfort and strengthen these wonderful families especially during this winter season of the year and beyond. Have a great week serving God! Dean Webb

"And Jehovah said unto Moses, Hew thee two tables of stone like unto the first: and I will write upon the tables the words that were on the first tables, which thou brakest. And be ready by the morning, and come up in the morning unto mount Sinai, and present thyself there to me on

the top of the mount. And no man shall come up with thee; neither let any man be seen throughout all the mount; neither let the flocks nor herds feed before that mount. And he hewed two tables of stone like unto the first; and Moses rose up early in the morning, and went up unto mount Sinai, as Jehovah had commanded him, and took in his hand two tables of stone. And Jehovah descended in the cloud, and stood with him there, and proclaimed the name of Jehovah. And Jehovah passed by before him, and proclaimed, Jehovah, Jehovah, a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abundant in lovingkindness and truth, keeping lovingkindness for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin; and that will by no means clear the guilty, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children, and upon the children's children, upon the third and upon the fourth generation" (Ex 34:1-7).

Moses needed to know that God was gracious, slow to anger, abundant in loving kindness, forgiving and able to clear the guilt and iniquities from those who sinned. This comforting news gave Moses hope. The children of Israel were frequently engaged in worldly pursuits and carnal lust. Their shameful actions were a point of great distress. His brother Aaron had built a golden calf and the people had reveled in sin at the foot of the mount. Moses honored Jehovah. The burden of leading the Israelites was overwhelming. This specific revelation from God gave Moses the courage to press on to the goal. Jehovah always helps His leaders find courage in the difficult tasks He assigns them.

The name of "The Lord, Jehovah" was significant and reflected the eternal and unchanging character of God. This established a reason for confidence and trust (Hos 12:6). The aspects of God's nature as a self-existing all powerful God, who was willing to receive adoration from mankind who had sinned and clear their guilt were the most comforting words Moses could hear. Pardoning offences committed against God removes any aptitude for permanently or incurable continue in sin. Any ill or injuries against God requires remorse and a desire to free the soul from its stain. God promised Moses that He would do this. Mercy was the hope and forgiveness a constant prayer. Forgiveness is an act of love with the ability to not hold it against the sinner again. Repentance and confession were indispensable to the restoring of fellowship. The forgiveness of sin is an act of God's free will wherein He dispenses grace [unmerited favor]. The penalty for sin was paid by Christ (Rom 5:1-12). By the atonement of Christ, God's own provision, mankind can be restored to fellowship with Him.

Being freely justified by God's grace through the redemption that is in Christ is the theme of the New Testament. From the earliest sermon which taught sinful men to repent and be baptized in the name of Jesus and throughout the New Testament mankind is reminded that God is merciful, gracious, slow to anger, abundant in lovingkindness forgiving iniquity, transgression and sin (1 Jn 2:1-5). Jesus means Saviour. Jesus was crucified and raised from the dead, He is the Saviour and there is no other name under heaven, which is given to men, wherein they must be saved (Acts 4:5-12). The name of the Lord is precious and wonderful.

GREETER ASSIGNMENTS

Sunday, February 14, 2010

Front foyer: Richard & Carolyn Renfro

Back foyer: JC & Dessie Ross

Sunday, February 21, 2010

Front foyer: Robert & Betty Ruckman

Back foyer: Mike & Elizabeth Garrison

Family News:

MISSION PRINTING

Mission Printing will meet **Sunday** at 4:00 p.m. in the Jr. Auditorium.

SINGING SESSION

The **Sunday afternoon** singing session will meet in room #116 at 5:15 p.m.

MENS' GATHERING/DEVOTIONAL

The **Monday morning** devotional will meet at 6:00 a.m. in the Annex.

LADIES

Ladies' Bible Class will meet on **February 16th** at 9:30 a.m. with a lesson by Beverly McKey on Godliness/Holiness.

OPERATION TEDDY BEAR

Bear work in the Annex will take place every 2nd & 4th Tuesday of the month immediately following Ladies' Bible class.

AUDITORIUM CLASS

The main auditorium class has started a study in 1 & 2 Thessalonians.

39'er BREAKFAST

Please sign up on the sheet located on the table in the front foyer if you plan to come and/or bring a friend to the breakfast on **March 6th** at 8:00 a.m. in the Annex.

CHRIST'S HAVEN

The van will be here next **Tuesday, February 16th** to pick up our groceries.

RESPONSE

Beverly Sweat requests our prayers for forgiveness as she has been away from worship.

NEWS OF THE SICK

•**Evelyn Armstrong** has an aneurism & blood clots and remains in Baylor/Grapevine, room # 629.

•**Ilene Ashworth** will have a procedure done on February 25th at Presbyterian Hospital in Dallas.

•**Jamie Little** is home recuperating from surgery & doing well.

•**Kati Mimms** learned that she is having vascular headaches; changes in diet seem to be helping.

•**Everett Newton** is back in Baylor/Dallas, room #1516 with pneumonia.

•**Leo Townsend** was able to be in worship yesterday.

•**Penny Reagan** (Taylor Reagan's daughter-in-law) is in Baylor/Dallas ICU in critical condition with leukemia & pneumonia.

Former member **Betty Watson** underwent surgery last week in Lubbock; she was to go home on Friday.

Continuous Prayer Concerns:

Grady Fowler, Fauna Garrett, Billie Gilliam, Don & Judy Hancock, Jean Kelly, Jack & Frances LaFerney, Garldean Latham, Tom Prince, Leo Townsend, Thomas West, Brad Anderson (Bill Paschall's friend), Charlie & Mary DiPalma (missionaries), John Williams (Bobbie Williams' son).

Scripture Corner:

“Grace to you and peace be multiplied in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord; seeing that his divine power hath granted unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that called us by his own glory and virtue; whereby he hath granted unto us his precious and exceeding great promises; that through these ye may become partakers of the divine nature, having escaped from the corruption that is in that world by lust. Yea, and for this very cause adding on your part all diligence, in your faith supply virtue; and in your virtue knowledge; and in your knowledge self-control; and in your self-control patience; and in your patience godliness; and in your godliness brotherly kindness; and in your brotherly kindness love. For if these things are yours and abound, they make you to be not idle nor unfruitful unto the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ...” (2 Pet 1:1-11)

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Be sure and mark your calendar -

- February 12: Shenandoah Lectures
- February 14: Mission Printing in the Jr. Auditorium at 4:00 p.m.
- February 14: Singing session in room #116 at 5:15 p.m.
- February 16: Ladies' Bible class at 9:30 a.m.
- April 24: Ladies' ½ Day
- June 2: Begins Summertime Series
- June 14-16: Vacation Bible School

LORD'S TABLE/MORNING

Front Table

- Mike Batot
- James Gilliam
- Denzil Myers
- Stan Selby
- Jerry Baker
- Marvin Brown
- Grady Fowler
- Rob Farmer

Rear Table

- JC Ross
- Robert Taylor
- Max Melton
- Keith Vaughn
- Derrol Allen
- Brandon Howard

SUNDAY A.M. PRAYERS

- Dean Webb
- Bill Matthews
- Thomas Rathbun

A.M. SCRIPTURE READING

- John Mayer
- Luke 10:38-43

A.M. SONG LEADER

- Garl Latham

SUNDAY P.M. PRAYERS

- Mike Garrison
- Darrell Allen

P.M. SCRIPTURE READING

- Nathan Allen
- Mark 16L 15, 16

P.M. SONG LEADER(S)

- Jerry Baker

LORD'S TABLE/EVENING

- Marvin Brown
- Glen Kelly

COMMUNION TO SHUT-INS

- Mike Batot

FOR THE RECORD: WEEK ENDING ATTENDANCE & BUDGET

	<u>Last Week</u>	<u>This Week</u>	<u>YTD Avg.</u>	<u>Goal</u>
Sun. Class	88	81	86	125
A.M. Worship	151	148	145	210
P.M. Worship	86	74	79	112
Wed. Class	79	70	76	110
Ladies Bible Class	27	19	22	35
Contribution	\$5823	\$6192	\$5690	\$5433

MISSIONS

- Charlie & Mary DiPalma - Malaysia
- Willie & Del Gley – Ghana/Togo, Africa
- Roland & Rose Mohsen – France
- Gary & Nadya Workman – Ukraine
- Glen & KuinTattersall – Australia

Oleg & Natasha Yakimenko - Russia
Wil & Telanda Sadler – Military Missions
Christ's Haven Children's Home - Keller, TX
Foster's Home for Children – Stephenille, TX
Bitragunta Church of Christ, Bitragunta, India
Dan Keele – Bear Valley School of Preaching
Ian & Mabel McPherson – Tasmania Australia
Wayne Jackson – Christian Courier on the Web
Ted Lingren - Sisophon Bible School – Cambodia
Mission Printing Worldwide Literature Distribution
Terry & Pam Laurence – Ft. Defiance, Arizona – Navajo Nation
Dennis & Beth Johnson - Chennai Teacher Training School – India