

November 22, 2010

SERMONS FOR SUNDAY

November 28, 2010

a.m. "*Love a Ray of Reflection*"

Scripture: 1 John 4:12-21

p.m. "*Look and Live*"

Scripture: Numbers 21:4-9

Jesus-The Mighty Son Of God

Don Hatch

There is strong evidence that Jesus was divine and that this uniqueness gave Him the right to start Christianity. Crowning proofs of His divinity are His miraculous birth and peerless life. He lived a life so unique that none has lived like He did. Defying conventional thinking, His sinless life, gracious words (defining spiritual living) and unique holiness, provide an unparalleled claim that He was the Son of God He was characteristically attentive to every detail of His life. The writers of His biography (Matthew, Mark, Luke and John) described His words and deeds manifesting that He had a purpose which was divinely directed. Everything, even when considered incidental, contributed to the proof that He was the Son of God. Remarkable restraint was apparent in that He did not place importance on His appearance. His purpose was to be the Master of all situations, demonstrating moral correctness and holiness. He took the exact right action to fit any circumstance with an aim of converting and saving. Absolute purity was never marginalized. The type of person He spoke of was the one He demonstrated. It is true that His enemies disagreed with Him but they only saw from human eyes and were unduly rash and unreasonable. They could never find a single fault to illuminate Him as a hypocrite. He condemned hypocrisy in others, giving them a way to "remove the beam from their own eye". They responded by deepening their hatred and ultimately crucifying Him. Without being told the reader of His life is impelled to conclude that Jesus Christ was the perfect pattern, the example that could be continually followed, even unto death (Rev 2:10). All mankind is without excuse, however, since He attained righteousness He lovingly died that mankind might find righteousness in Him (2 Cor 5:18-20; 1 Cor 1:30, 31). However, He as the Son of God was man as God intended mankind to be. Jesus made it abundantly clear that those who should wear His name would aspire to maintain a sense of holiness, perfecting their lives daily, looking towards the goal of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus the Lord (Phil 3:12-16). The disciples fully accepted that His apostles' claims were valid and provable. Jesus was the one man in human experience that claimed and lived the life expected of mankind. He provided guidance so amazing that even His critics were astonished.

Jesus was the perfect human and was the **Son of Man**. He called Himself "Son of Man" over 80 times. Such a title does nothing to diminish His divinity. No man could claim to fully represent mankind. He was the representation of the first man Adam and became a life giving

spirit (1Cor 15:4-47). He was man and heir of all of man's promises. As the perfect man, mankind saw vision of what "could be"! The incarnate in a human body died on the cross, laid in a borrowed tomb and was raised by the glory of the Father to the newness of life (Rom 6:1-11). Stephen, as he was being martyred, said "...behold, I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing on the right hand of God" (Act 7:56). Thus, the perfect man is our Mediator (1 Tim 2:1-7). He has all power and glory on earth and in Heaven (Mat 28:18-20).

Jesus is the Son of God. This claim gave His enemies opportunities to condemn Him on the basis that they said He had blasphemed (Lk 22:70-75). The Old Testament prophesied that the Messiah would come as the "Son of God" (Psm 2:7-9; Act 13:33; Heb 1:5; 5:5; Psm 21:1, 2). The "harbinger", John the Baptizer, who was to identify the Messiah said "...and I have seen, and have borne witness that this is the Son of God" (Jn 1:34). Peter by inspiration said, "Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God" (Mat 16:16). Martha, Paul and disciples identified Him as the "Son of God" (Jn 11:27; Act 9:20; Mat 14:33; Mk 15:39). Even Satan acknowledged Him as the Son of God (Mat 4:3-6). Jesus was not the Son of God in the same sense as other men. Jesus was the only begotten Son of God (Jn 1:14; 3:16; 1 Jn 4:9). He was the effulgence [express image] of God (Heb 1:1-5). He was from everlasting to everlasting, God the Creator (Eph 1:3-15; Jn 1:1-17). God, the Father, raised Jesus Christ from the dead and said "thou art my Son..." (Act 13:32, 33; Psm 2:7-9). Jesus was declared the Son of God by His resurrection from the dead (Rom 1:1-5). Jesus as the Son of God inherits all things from His heavenly Father (Heb 1:2; Gal 3:24-29). God gave His Son the dispensation [rule] over His house (Heb 3:1-19). Jesus Christ did the works of His Father and these proved He was the Son (Jn 10:34-38).

The teachings of Jesus, by common consent, were the greatest ever given (Mat 7:28, 29; Jn 7:46). He was to be "Wonderful Counsellor" and all who heard Him bore witness to the gracious teachings which proceeded from Him (Lk 4:22, 23). This man of Galilee, from Nazareth, a city of no importance, son of a carpenter with no education, astonished all who heard Him. The multitudes heard and were impressed. The explanation was that He was a teacher come from God (Jn 3:1-16). He spoke from the Father (Jn 12:47-50). An itinerant preacher such as this did the impossible unless God was with Him (Mat 3:13-17; 17:1-5; Jn 12:27-29).

God by design and purpose placed Jesus Christ in the crucible of time fulfilling the foreordained plan from the foundation of the world (Eph 1:3-15). The influence of Jesus Christ as the Son of God can be confirmed by countless passages. It is irrefutable, as the Bible teaches, Jesus Christ is God's Son and Savior of the world.

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. Our Bible Study teachers continue to do outstanding work. We have a wonderful group of teachers that prepare interesting and needful lessons each week for all of us. We commend them for their outstanding love and effort to share with us more of God's true

Word. We have ongoing love at Belt Line and continually hear from visitors that Belt Line is a very friendly congregation. This is a great compliment, and you have earned this impression by doing good.

The Gospel is truth: In the Ephesians epistle Paul said, "Wherefore putting away lying, speak every man "truth" with his neighbor: for we are members one of another" (Eph 4:25). Christians are admonished to put away falsehood and speak that which is truth (real & complete). Paul also said, "to whom we gave place by subjection, no, not for an hour; that the truth of the Gospel might continue with you" (Gal. 2:5). This Gospel (truth) is God's Word. Jesus said, "Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth" (John 17:17). The truth is God's word active which must be obeyed as first century Christians obeyed according to I Peter 1:22, where Peter said, "Seeing ye have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit unto unfeigned love of the brethren". Jesus said if a man desires to enter the Kingdom of God, he must be born again" (John 3:5). James tells us that we are begotten (born again) by the word of God, "Of his own will begat he us with the Word of truth" (James 1:18). We are to walk in the truth as Gaius, "For I rejoiced greatly, when the brethren came and testified of the truth that is in thee, even as thou walkest in the truth" (John 3:3).

We must remember the responsibility of not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together (Heb. 10:25). When we do our part, we are obeying the Lord's commands. Mark 12:30-31 says, "and thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength: this is the first commandment". "And the second is like, namely this, thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. There is no other commandment greater than these".

Have a great "HAPPY THANKSGIVING" week serving God! We want to remember our sick and shut-ins in our prayers. Some have gotten better while others are being added to the list. Pray for all of them!

~ Dean Webb

"Make a joyful noise unto Jehovah, all ye lands. Serve Jehovah with gladness: Come before his presence with singing. Know ye that Jehovah, he is God: It is he that hath made us, and we are his; We are his people, and the sheep of his pasture. Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, And into his courts with praise: Give thanks unto him, and bless his name. For Jehovah is good; his lovingkindness endureth forever, And his faithfulness unto all generations" (Psm 100:1-5).

ANOTHER GOSPEL

"I marvel that ye are so soon removed from him that called you into the grace of Christ unto another gospel: Which is not another; but there be some that trouble you, and would pervert the gospel of Christ."(Gal 1:6, 7).

The process of turning away from something given by divine decree was that the Galatians had accepted the "Gospel" and found that it could be lived and enjoyed. Afterwards, some rejected it and denying the divine by inserting human commands called "another gospel". This

is not another gospel! Divine authority does not abrogate human responsibility. Individuals who have embraced the “good news” proclaimed by the apostle of Christ are accountable to maintain its integrity. This problem was that some thought God’s grace was irresistible. Such a doctrine is called “once saved always saved”. This false doctrine makes it impossible to fall from grace, even if you rewrite the “gospel”. It should be obvious that such could not be the case (Gal 5:4). Paul calls to task this very thing asserting that it brings about a curse.

Paul uses the Greek word *heteros*, which implies something of a totally different sort altogether-something diametrically opposed to the one to which it is compared. In verse 7 he uses the word *allos*, which implies a comparison of two items of the same sort. The thought conveyed is that they have removed the true gospel and made a totally different system of belief. The two were so dissimilar that they were abandoning God’s salvation for something contrived by man. “Another gospel” was different to the gospel preached by Paul. Such a “gospel” is a perversion of the true gospel. Instead of bringing salvation it brought loss and ruin. It was so bad there was a curse upon anyone who would proclaim it. This teaching was throwing the brethren into confusion. It upset their minds and hearts. Paul condemns the troublemaker, remonstrating and warns the brethren from moving away from the **One** who loved them and died to save them. Wolves were entering in among the flock of God to devour them (Acts 20:17-35). The brethren merited a reproof because they had previously embraced the gospel seeing the power of divine grace and salvation in their own lives. Thus, there was a repudiation of the all “sufficiency of Christ’s redemption”. What was being taught was like drops of poison added to the healthful and refreshing “living water” of salvation. Paul considered the “gospel” indispensable to salvation and was so enthusiastic about it that he called it “my gospel” (Rom 2:16; 1:16; 1 Cor 1:17; 9:16)

The theme of Galatians is salvation by grace through obedient faith in Christ, as opposed to salvation by works and law. No man is justified by the Mosaic Law in the sight of God. The just shall live by faith (Gal 3:11). This good news had been denied by many, but Paul had received his message of grace "by the revelation of Jesus Christ" (Gal 1:12). Any admixture of a different teaching constituted a perversion of God’s scheme of redemption. Any who would teach such perversion warranted strong condemnation from Paul. "If any man preach any other" is from the Greek words meaning contrary gospel, than that received, let him be accursed" (Gal 1:9).

~ Don Hatch

GREETER ASSIGNMENTS

Sunday, November 28, 2010

Front foyer: Robert & Betty Ruckman; Thomas Rathbun

Back foyer: Bill & Linda Matthews

Sunday, December 5, 2010

Front foyer: Richard & Carolyn Renfro

Back foyer: Stan & Doris Selby

Family News:

MISSION PRINTING

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

SINGING SESSION

The singing class will meet **Sunday** 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.

Also, all men are invited to "Breakfast with the Preacher" on **Saturday, December 4th** at 8a.m. in the Annex. Don will be cooking! Please call Don at 214-995-4649, 972-790-8606, or sign up on the sheet in the front foyer so we can get a headcount.

RESPONSE

Beverly Sweat requested prayers for her sons.

OPEN HOUSE

The congregation is invited to Don & Joann's on **Sunday, December 12th** from 4p.m.-5:30p.m. for refreshments & fellowship.

NEW BIBLE SCHOOL QUARTER

The winter quarter will begin on Sunday, **December 5th & Wednesday, December 8th**.

LADIES

Ladies' Bible class will meet in the Annex on Tuesday, November 30th at 9:30 a.m. for a lesson by Linda Mathews on "Amazing Grace".

The ladies are invited to attend a baby shower honoring Sandy Hall on **Sunday, December 5th** from 2p.m.-4p.m. in the Annex. If you would like to contribute to a group gift, please see Beverly McKey. P.S. It's a boy!

THANK YOU

To our Belt Line Family, we would like to thank everyone for the food, cards, warm wishes, and support on the death of our mom. It is such a wonderful blessing to be a part of a congregation with such warmth and caring attitude. Everyone will be remembered. Love, the Family of Ruth Graham

Thank you for all of your calls, cards, & prayers during Judy's illness & passing. And also for the wonderful food prepared for us; we truly appreciate all of your acts of kindness. Don Hancock

I want to say thank you from the bottom of my heart for the many cards, calls, prayers & food from our Belt Line family while I was ill. It really meant a lot to me & was appreciated. I love each one of you. Keep up the prayers as we all need them. God is good! Dessie Ross

A big THANK YOU to Stephanie & Brandon Howard. Stephanie directed a generous amount of tile carpet from her employer to Belt Line Road recently. We appreciate this very much! Those that participated in picking up this carpet during rain were Brandon & Stephanie (who used their truck & trailer), Ethan & Kaitlyn Howard, Brent Howard, Mike Batot, Darrell, Nathan, & Scot Allen, Robert Taylor & Jerry McKey. Then a big thank you also to Mike & Elizabeth Garrison for sorting the colors & putting fans on what we got wet during the transfer. Now we have 5 rooms already with new carpet & a lot in reserve. Thanks to everyone who helped make this happen.

THOSE TO SERVE IN DEC.

Lord's table (front): Mike Batot, Kenny Mayer, Henry Seidmeyer, Thomas Rathbun, Jerry Baker, James Gilliam, Denzil Myers, Stan Selby **(back):** JC Ross, Robert Taylor, Derrol Allen, Bill Paschall, Max Melton, Keith Vaughn, Roy Martin, Bobby England

p.m. Bill Paschall, John Mayer

Card Pickup: a.m. Toby Howard, Curtis Vaughan p.m. Nathan Allen, Alex Mayer

Contribution Counters: Mike Batot, Stan Selby

Communion Preparers: Garl & Michele Latham

WITH SYMPATHY

Geneva Long (James Gilliam's sister) passed away; graveside service was in Ardmore, OK.

NEWS OF THE SICK

•**Lyda McAlister** fell last week, but is also ill at home.

•**Max Melton** fell & hurt his arm.

•**Roberta Price** has been very ill at home.

•**Marinell Zaun** is ill at home.

·Linda Lynd (Marcella Porter's sister) will undergo open heart surgery on Tues, 11/23.

CONTINUOUS PRAYER CONCERNS:

Evelyn Armstrong, Erma Lee Baker, Bobby Bowen, Fauna Garrett, Billie Gilliam, Jean Kelly, Jack & Frances LaFerney, Garldean Latham, Tom Prince, Jan Smithson, Thomas West, Brad Anderson (Bill Paschall's friend), Gail Hieronymus (Mike Garrison's daughter).

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Be sure and mark your calendar -

- November 14: Mission Printing in the Jr. Auditorium at 4:00 p.m.
- November 14: Singing class in room #116 at 5:15 p.m.
- November 16: Ladies' Bible Class at 9:30 a.m.

LORD'S TABLE/MORNING

Front Table

- Purman Cofer
- Bill Matthews
- John Mayer
- Glen Kelly
- Brandon Howard
- Marvin Brown
- Mike Garrison
- Dorris Walker

Rear Table

- JC Ross
- Robert Taylor
- Max Melton
- Keith Vaughn
- Derrol Allen
- Bill Paschall
- Roy Martin
- Bobby England

SUNDAY A.M. PRAYERS

- Dean Webb
- Denzil Myers
- Glen Kelly

A.M. SCRIPTURE READING

- Bill Matthews
- 1 John 4:12-21

A.M. SONG LEADER

- Darrell Allen

SUNDAY P.M. PRAYERS

- Mike Batot
- Marvin Brown

P.M. SCRIPTURE READING

- Kenny Mayer
- Numbers 21:4-9

P.M. SONG LEADER(S)

- Jerry Baker (last song: Jerry McKey)

LORD'S TABLE/EVENING

- Thomas Rathbun
- Robert Ruckman

COMMUNION TO SHUT-INS

- Bill Paschall

FOR THE RECORD: WEEK ENDING ATTENDANCE & BUDGET

	<u>Last Week</u>	<u>This Week</u>	<u>YTD Avg.</u>	<u>Goal</u>
Sun. Class	79	86	83	125
A.M. Worship	139	151	148	210
P.M. Worship	76	74	78	112
Wed. Class	77	75	78	110
Ladies Bible Class	22	19	29	30
Contribution	\$5026	\$4765	\$5252	\$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 – Stephenville, TX
Bitragunta Church of Christ, Bitragunta, India
Dan Keele – Bear Valley School of Preaching
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