

A STUDY OF THE GOSPEL OF JOHN

BY PASTOR ISAAC DE LOS SANTOS

Therefore many of His disciples, when they heard this said, “This is a difficult statement; who can listen to it?” But Jesus, conscious that His disciples grumbled at this, said to them, “Does this cause you to stumble? “What then if you see the Son of Man ascending to where He was before? “It is the Spirit who gives life; the flesh profits nothing; the words that I have spoken to you are spirit and are life. “But there are some of you who do not believe.” For Jesus knew from the beginning who they were who did not believe, and who it was that would betray Him. And He was saying, “For this reason I have said to you, that no one can come to Me unless it has been granted him from the Father. As a result of this many of His disciples withdrew and were not walking with Him anymore. So Jesus said to the twelve, “You do not want to go away also, do you?” Simon Peter answered Him, “Lord, to whom shall we go? You have words of eternal life. John 6:60-68

WHERE CAN WE GO BUT TO THE LORD:

At this point in the Gospel of John we see a great _____ taking place, where many who followed Christ _____ him. We will explore the reasons for this together and discover the great value which can be found in _____ to Christ.

_____ doctrine was too strong for their sensitivities. Lets examine several of the “hard sayings of Christ.” In John 6:53 he said “ “Truly, truly, I say to you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink His blood, you have no _____ in yourselves.” While we obviously rule out the _____ meaning of this text, the _____ meaning should be clear. That is that any one who desires fellowship with God, and a share of eternal life must first -

PREPARATION FOR NEXT CLASS:

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appropriate or apply the sacrifice of Christ on the cross to himself. One must become _____ with Christ in order to _____ the kingdom of God. This statement was so strong that many left Him.

Paul said to Timothy that he should preach and be ready because in the last days a “*time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but wanting to have their ears _____, they will accumulate for themselves teachers in accordance to their own _____, and will turn away their ears from the truth and will turn aside to myths.*” Our days are truly filled with this very thing, sound doctrine has been replaced with _____ self improvement gospels, which will doom and “dupe” many in the end. We must always be on _____ to have the doctrine of Christ and not another. Doctrine means _____, and like a back bone it upholds the body of Christ. Thus a commitment to sound biblical _____ is essential for the Church. For this reason you must be careful who you allow to _____ into your life and who your “_____” are.

Another statement which Jesus made was “that no one can come to Me unless it has been _____ him from the Father.” This statement was doubly _____, first because he was claiming to be Gods Son. Then because he was making an exclusive claim to being the only _____ by which we are saved. This still causes many to _____ in regard to Christ. The world claims that there are many routes to God, even _____ can be viable path. However there is another point to be made, that the only way someone can come to God is if the Father calls them. This means that man must come to God, on Gods _____ and nor his own. It seems nothing offends man more

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Another reason that so many left him was that it would ultimately _____ them more than they wished to pay. The cost of _____ is always a heavy one, which no one should enter into lightly. Jesus said in v63, “*the flesh profits _____.*” This total abandonment of the works of the flesh is a cost for greater than some are willing to pay.

Others left him because they feared _____, and the cost of being looked down on by others. And then there were those who left simply because they had never taken _____ his words. We still see each of this types of hearers today, those who are not willing to pay the _____, those who wont endure sound _____, and those who were never serious at all.

At this point Jesus looks to his disciples and asks a question, “*Will you leave me also?*” This was a direct challenge of their commitment to him, and one which we ought to consider ourselves. In reply to this question Peter said “*Lord, to whom shall we go? You have words of eternal life.*” This confession was the most _____ that anyone could make. There is no other savior, and there is no other way, but Christ! We must cling to him today, as never before in our life times, there are winds of _____ that threaten to carry us away. “*You, however, continue in the things you have learned and become convinced of, knowing from whom you have learned them, and that from childhood you have known the sacred writings which are able to give you the wisdom that leads to salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus.*” 2 Tim 3:14-15

THE PROOF IS IN THE SAVIOR:

As we consider the prophecy's and bloodline, a picture begins to emerge as Christ being the only man _____ to be the Messiah. Yet there is one more question to ask, and that is if Jesus ever _____ to be the Messiah. And the answer to this question is in the words of Christ himself.

"You search the Scriptures because you think that in them you have eternal life; it is these that _____ about Me; John 5:39

Then beginning with Moses and with all the prophets, He explained to them the things concerning Himself in all the Scriptures. Luke 24:27

PREPARATION FOR NEXT CLASS:

Read John Chapter 8

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"Some of the people therefore, when they heard these words, were saying, "This certainly is the Prophet." Others were saying, "This is the Christ." Still others were saying, "Surely the Christ is not going to come from Galilee, is He? Has not the Scripture said that the Christ comes from the descendants of David, and from Bethlehem, the village where David was?" So a division occurred in the crowd because of Him. Some of them wanted to seize Him, but no one laid hands on Him. John 5:25-29

THIS IS THE CHRIST:

There exist today a great many _____ to the claims of the Christian faith. For many the _____ of Christ as the only savior for the world is _____ and beyond belief. Yet this claim by Christ and the scriptures remains. In this lesson we will explore some of the proofs which point to the fact that Jesus is in fact the Christ or the Messiah.

In this passage which we have before us there arose a controversy over the _____ of Christ, and that controversy continues to this day. For believers this question is not so controversial, but its answer is never the less very important. In the Old Testament God gave Israel and the world a valuable list of _____ which would have to fulfill in order for anyone to be _____ as the Christ. This list of criteria is found all through out the _____. We will look into two key areas which are messianic _____ and the messianic _____. In order to qualify as the messiah a man would have to satisfy both of these criteria at least, and we will discover how Christ does precisely that.

PROPHECY CONCERNING THE MESSIAH:

Through out the _____ of the Old Testament there are more than 300 messianic _____, which deal with the facts and details about the messiah, his _____, and personality.

Prophecies Concerning His Birth:

Born at Bethlehem (Micah 5:2; Matthew 2:1)

Presented with gifts at birth (Psalm 72:10; Isaiah 60:6; Matthew 2:1,11)

Flight to Egypt (Hoses 11:1, Matthew 2:13-15)

Prophecies Concerning His Ministry:

Ministry to begin in Galilee (Isaiah 9:1,2; Matthew 4:12,13,17)

Teacher of parables (Psalm 78:2; Matthew 13:34)

He was to enter Jerusalem on a donkey (Zechariah 9:9; Luke 19:35,36,37a)

Prophecies Concerning His Death:

Sold for 30 pieces of silver (Zechariah 11:12; Matthew 26:15)

Hands and feet pierced (Psalm 22:16; Luke 23:33)

His bones not broken (Psalm 34:20; John 19:33)

Buried in a rich man's tomb (Isaiah 53:9; Matthew 27:57-60)

One professor did a study to determine what the _____ would be that any one man could be the Messiah. Using a factor of only eight _____, he discovered that the probability of anyone fulfilling just 8 prophecies, would be 10^{17} or the number ten with _____ zeros behind it. This is only 8 out of 300 prophecies, and yet Christ fulfills not just a handfuls but every prophecy of the Old Testament.

THE BLOODLINE OF THE MESSIAH:

Furthermore, in order to be the messiah, Jesus would have to have been born of a very specific blood line.

Born of a virgin (Isaiah 7:14; Matthew 1:18, 24, 25)

Seed of Abraham (Genesis 22:18; Matthew 1:1; Galatians 3:16)

Son of Isaac (Genesis 21:12; Luke 3:23,34)

Abraham had two sons, Isaac and _____. Then God disqualifies one half of the lineage of Abraham.

Son of Jacob (Numbers 24:17; Luke 3:23,34)

Isaac had two sons, Jacob and _____. Now God eliminates one half of the lineage of Isaac.

Tribe of Judah (Genesis 49:10; Luke 3:23,33)

Jacob had _____ sons and each became a tribe of the Hebrew nation. Now God eliminates eleven-twelfths of the lineage of Jacob.

Family line of Jesse (Isaiah 11:1; Luke 3:23,32) Now God narrows it down even further by picking one family line out of the tribe of Judah.

House of David (Jeremiah 23:5; Luke 3:23,31)

Jesse had at least eight sons (I Samuel 16:10,11). Now God eliminates all of Jesse's sons except one, _____.

Before they left our mouth, we would spare everyone a world of trouble. So that's one things we can copy from Christ. But then there is the issue of what he _____ . Many scholars like to see this as a _____ to make up stuff, but the fact is we don't know what he wrote. Perhaps their sins, or their names, or his verdict, we just don't know. What we do know is that this is only the _____ time in all of the Bible that we see God writing, and the only time any Gospel that we see _____ writing.

The first time we see God write is in _____, when He wrote the original Ten Commandments for Moses and Israel. There we see God as the _____ handing down His Hand written law. The second time we see God write is in _____, when the hand wrote on the wall in Belshazzars Feast. Here we see Him is his execution of Divine decrees. But now we see him write again, and now its seems as the _____, who holds the fate of all men in his hands.

He arises from the stooped position and said "He who is without sin among you, let him be the first to throw a stone at her." He could not deny her sin, nor invalidate His own law. But he did point out that the _____ one in that group _____ of Judging any man was He alone. What a summation of the Gospel. God alone can judge, God alone provided the means of _____ for all men at the Cross. So he says to those who humbly confess their sin to him "I do not condemn you either, go and sin no more."

FURTHER STUDY:

Read John 8-9

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1But Jesus went to the Mount of Olives. 2Early in the morning He came again into the temple, and all the people were coming to Him; and He sat down and began to teach them. 3The scribes and the Pharisees brought a woman caught in adultery, and having set her in the center of the court, 4they said to Him, "Teacher, this woman has been caught in adultery, in the very act. 5"Now in the Law Moses commanded us to stone such women; what then do You say?" 6They were saying this, testing Him, so that they might have grounds for accusing Him. But Jesus stooped down and with His finger wrote on the ground. 7But when they persisted in asking Him, He straightened up, and said to them, "He who is without sin among you, let him be the first to throw a stone at her." 8Again He stooped down and wrote on the ground. 9When they heard it, they began to go out one by one, beginning with the older ones, and He was left alone, and the woman, where she was, in the center of the court. 10Straightening up, Jesus said to her, "Woman, where are they? Did no one condemn you?" 11She said, "No one, Lord." And Jesus said, "I do not condemn you, either. Go. From now on sin no more." John 8:1-11

CASTING THE FIRST STONE:

In this paragraph of scripture we find the well known account of on of the woman taken in _____. Like most well know accounts of Scripture we might be tempted to _____ the account, because we already know what happened. However it is good for us to dig deeper into this story, because its truths are relevant to our salvation experience.

Let us begin with a little bit of context, Jesus us in _____ during the feast of _____, and it is early in the morning. After going up to Mount of Olives to pray the night before he again come into the _____ to teach. So in a quick observation of the patters of Christ, we see him as a man of _____, with a _____ for teaching, and a love for the Fathers _____.

It is here, the Temple of _____ no less that this historic scene unfolds. I'm always amazed at how (even in our day) the house of God can quickly be used as a place for _____. But there you have it, early in the _____ (no bad time to dig up someone else's sin), at the temple, in front of _____, this group of scribes and _____ brought a woman to Jesus who had been taken in Adultery.

THE ACCUSERS:

They said “_____, this woman has been caught in adultery, in the very act. Not the Law of _____ commands us to _____ such a woman; what then do you say.”

First of all, lets look at the crowd of accusers. They have a double _____ in this scene; on the one hand they want to _____ a woman and on the other they wish to _____ Jesus. Just the day before they were calling him “_____” and now they are calling him teacher. Here we have our first mark of an _____; they wear a _____ of uprightness and use the _____ of God against the accused. They quote the law of Moses, and they do so with great pride.

Another mark of the accuser is the way they use “_____” details in order to make a case. The accuser rarely tells the _____ story. We should rightly _____ where the man was that she was caught in adultery with? Yet she alone is accused.

The scripture tells that our accuser is the Devil, in fact the word “_____” literally means accuser or slanderer. So a word of caution is found in this point, that we ought not to do the devils work.

THE WOMAN:

Lets look for a moment then at the _____ in this picture. By all accounts, she was in fact an adulterous and she was _____ what she had sown. “Numbers 32:23 says “...be sure your _____ will find you out.” Luke 8:17 says “for nothing is _____ that will not become evident, nor anything _____ that will not be known and come to light. Both these verses imply that God in his righteousness will not be deceived by man, for “what a man sows that he will also reap.” And though this be hard to accept that God is loving us by bringing out sin to light, for it is better that you be _____ publicly, than be lost _____.

Let me add here the terrible thing that _____ is, it is listed in ten commandments, and ranks as a _____ of the design of God for man and marriage. We think too _____ of adultery these days, and while yes it is _____ and covered by grace, no one should take it, or its consequences lightly.

THE SAVIOR:

Now lets look at the only person in the picture, who has any right to speak or be heard. Jesus is at the center of this picture, and for us today it is essential that Jesus be at the center of our picture too. When confronted with this problem, he does a rather unexpected thing. He stoops down to the ground and writes in the dirt. There are two very important truths here, one which we should learn from. First by writing on the ground, Jesus teaches us the value of being slow to speak. We can learn much from this cant we, so often if we just thought about our words,-

Are you eating daily the bread of _____, have you found your _____ in Christ, or are you merely _____ with out fully eating all that He offers your soul. Come and dine, that _____ calls you, come and dine.

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So they said to Him, “What then do You do for a sign, so that we may see, and believe You? What work do You perform? “Our fathers ate the manna in the wilderness; as it is written, ‘HE GAVE THEM BREAD OUT OF HEAVEN TO EAT.’” Jesus then said to them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, it is not Moses who has given you the bread out of heaven, but it is My Father who gives you the true bread out of heaven. “For the bread of God is that which comes down out of heaven, and gives life to the world.” Then they said to Him, “Lord, always give us this bread.. Jesus said to them, “I am the bread of life; he who comes to Me will not hunger, and he who believes in Me will never thirst John 6:30-35

I AM THE BREAD OF LIFE:

Last time we saw the miraculous feeding of the _____, and now we look at a passage which is linked to that event. Jesus fed this multitude in order to point out a _____ need in mans life. While the multitude needed physical food, their true need was a _____ one. He wanted them to know that he was the _____ of Life. This statement was packed with _____ and helps us understand a great deal about _____.

First let us look at the _____ of bread for the first century. In this time, and for much of human history, bread has been the essential _____ of life. Even today bread is a big part of many _____. The right bread today can _____ essential nutrients, as well as serving as a source of _____ for the body. Thus Lord is saying that he is the _____ staple of spiritual life. He himself is

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appropriate or apply the sacrifice of Christ on the cross to himself. One must become _____ with Christ in order to _____ the kingdom of God. This statement was so strong that many left Him.

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