

SERMON NOTES

April 11, 2010

“What Then Shall I Do with Jesus Christ?”

Selected Scriptures

- I. The Feast of Tabernacles is NOT ONLY a memorial celebration of God’s **PROVISION** for His people during 40 years of Desert Wandering-but it also calls to **REMEMBRANCE** one of the most sobering truths of all time; the God who supplied water and food in the wilderness will one day **COME** to Earth, set up residence in Jerusalem and rule the World in accordance with Zechariah’s prophetic word; During that time, all nations of the world will pay **HOMAGE** to God the King by observing this Feast in Jerusalem.
 - a. One of the primary concerns of living in the desert is the provision of life-giving supplies of **WATER**.
 - b. Christ had previously offered living water to the **SAMARITAN** woman at the well.
 - i. The major God-ordained feature of this Feast was to live **OUTSIDE** in make-shift shelters comprised of **BRANCHES** and boughs of trees.
 - ii. This practice reflected the **TEMPORARY** nature of life in the wilderness; it indicated the reality that the Jewish people were merely **SOJOURNING** there while on the way to the land of **CANAAN**.
 - c. There were other practices adopted by the Jews that were prevalent in Christ’s day.
 - i. Giant **MENORAHS** were lit at twilight, causing the countryside to shine; in this backdrop Jesus claimed to be “the Light of the World” (John 8:12, 9:5).
 - ii. For 7 **DAYS** the chief priests carried **WATER** from the Pool of Siloam to the Altar in the Temple, signifying God’s provision of water in the barren desert.
 - iii. It was on the last day of the Feast, that Great Day, that no water was carried.
 1. It was on this day when Christ cried out “If any man **THIRST**, let him come unto me, and drink” (John 7:37).
 2. Jesus was inviting people to come to Him, the true King of the Feast, for life-giving spiritual water instead of the physical, temporal water the priests had been carrying.
- II. There are 3 primary words of concern in John 7:37-41; they are “**THIRST**”; “**COME**”; and “**DRINK**” These are necessary elements of salvation.
- III. There are many deep issues involving Christ’s appearance at the Feast of Tabernacles; all are involved with His claim to be the True Source of **LIVING** Water.
 - a. John 1:14 “The Word became flesh and dwelt among us” literally, He tabernacled among us”.
 - i. Hebrews 8:1-5 speaks of this Tabernacle that came to Earth as the True Tabernacle the Lord pitched, not built by means of human hands.
 - ii. It also reveals that the Tabernacle built by Moses was an example and copy of the True Heavenly Tabernacle of God.
 - iii. Revelation 21:22 reveals that the Earthly Tabernacle and everything in it were mere **REPRESENTATIONS** of the True Tabernacle of the Lord God Almighty and the **LAMB**
 - iv. Hebrews 10:1 says in fact, that the Law of Moses was but a “**SHADOW**” of good things to come, speaking of the Christ, the True Tabernacle of God.
 - b. At Christ’s incarnation, the True Tabernacle of God resided with man as the **FULFILLMENT** of all things the earthly Tabernacle **REPRESENTED**.
- IV. Events surrounding Christ’s appearance at the Feast reveal issues of major importance.
 - a. His very presence demands a verdict; the major question in all of existence is: Who is this Man? Or as the Jewish Historian Josephus wrote, “Is He merely a Man?”.
 - b. The church must bring people to the cross roads of making a decision concerning the reality of the deity of Christ; this issue cannot be compromised .
 - i. Do we not share the good news due to **FEAR** of rejection? They rejected **CHRIST**, and according to I Peter 2:20-21 those who are called as His **DISCIPLES** should expect no less.
 - ii. The contemporary church is rendered impotent because of the reluctance to take a stand on what the world refers to as “radical Christology”.
 - iii. The world must be told that Christ is the fulfillment of the Old Testament, the Testator of the New, and the ultimate revelation of God to man; matters of life and death rest upon Him.

John 3:18 “He that believeth on him is **not condemned**: but he that believeth not is **condemned already**, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God”.

CALVARY COTTAGE COMMUNITY

Discussion:

Prayer Requests:

Praises:

Verse to memorize:

HOW TO SURVIVE YOUR PASTOR'S SERMONS:

1. Listen to the sermon as if your life depended on it.
2. Look for God's remedies for sin and His instructions for living in a sinful world.
3. Expect to be taught by the Holy Spirit as you hear God's Word proclaimed.
4. Be determined to listen...regardless of the speaker's oratory skills.
5. A profitable Bible message is one that delivers **one** life-transforming truth.
6. Pre-commit to apply and obey God's Word as it is set forth in the sermon.

APPLICATION:

Application is Hard Work:

1. ...because it requires serious thinking.
2. ...because Satan fights it viciously.
3. ...because we naturally resist change.

Four Steps to Practical Application:

- I. **Pray** for insight on how to apply the passage.
- II. **Meditate** on verses you have chosen to study.
 - a. Put yourself in the biblical scene.
 - b. Emphasize words in the passage you are studying.
 - c. Paraphrase the passage.
 - d. Personalize the passage you are studying.
 - e. Use the S-P-A-C-E-P-E-T-S acrostic. *
- III. **Write** out an application – (Personal, Practical, Possible, Provable)
- IV. **Memorize** a key verse from your study.

Questions to Ask When Studying the Bible:

1. What attitude do I need to change (surrender)?
2. What do I need to start doing? Stop doing?
3. What things do I need to believe? Stop believing?
4. What relationships do I need to work on?
5. What ministry should I be having with others?

*S – Sin to confess?

P – Promise to claim?

A – Attitude to change?

C – Command to obey?

E – Example to follow?

P – Prayer to pray?

E – Error to avoid?

T – Truth to believe?

S – Something to praise God for?