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Readings: John 1v1-13, v28-29

Message about the Lord Jesus and the decision made about Him.

“What then shall I do with Jesus called Christ?”

As He was here people saw Him, Mary His mother knew that she too had to make a decision.

Why do I have to do something about Jesus? What makes Him special? What is different about Jesus?

The choice that needs to be made will affect eternal destiny.

The first reason is that the Lord Jesus Christ is eternal, He has always existed (John 1:1) as a result, He can promise, “He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life” (John 3:36) and He can say, “For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish but have everlasting life”(John 3:16).

The Lord Jesus is God. The Lord Jesus made us so therefore has a claim on us, “every one of us shall give account of himself to God” (Romans 14:12). This is based on quotation from Isaiah 45:23, “That unto me every knee shall bow, every tongue shall swear”. The words are quoted again in Philippians 2:10, “That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow”, a clear indication that the LORD (Jehovah) of the Old Testament is the Lord Jesus of the New.

There are two ways in which this may take place. It may be while you are alive in the body you can confess Jesus is Lord. In this case, you will have the assurance of salvation, “If thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in thine heart that God has raised Him from the dead thou shalt be saved”(Rom 10:9). If not, then it will be as judge, with no opportunity for mercy. The hymn captures the thought,

“Would you be free from the burden of sin? There is power in the blood”.

This is why Paul wrote, “I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ” (Romans 1:16). The creator, as Saviour waits for men and women to bow the knee and accept the salvation He offers.

If we don't bow the knee before the judgment day we will need to bow the knee to the judge. It will be too late; His words will be, “depart from me into everlasting fire” (Matt 25:41).

A second reason is that the Lord Jesus came to give life. In John 10:10, His words are recorded, “I am come so that they might have life and have it more abundantly (or “to the full”). Our condition is recorded in Ephesians 2:1,5 - “dead in trespasses and sins”. Isaiah records a similar warning from God, “But your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid his face from you, that he will not hear” (Isaiah 59:2).

The fullness of life could only come to us because Christ died. “In Him was life and the life was the light of men”, but John 3:19 records the condemnation of those who heard Him, “And this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil” (John 3:19)

The Lord Jesus has come as a light in this world. He is a light to show us how helpless we were. He

came as a light to show us God's answer to our sin. At the place called Calvary, He went out into the most intense darkness. He did for us what we could not do for ourselves. He took the judgment we deserve.

The people thought a lot of the Lord Jesus yet they were not prepared to put their trust in Him. All need to accept the Lord Jesus as Saviour and Lord, you need to admit that you are a sinner and Christ is the hope for you. Once you do this, the Word of God assures us that “

Nothing “shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord” (Romans 8:39). The Lord Jesus said, “I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any *man* pluck them out of my hand” (John 10:28). God will hold and keep us from the moment we trust him (John 10:29).

The choice is made clear in John 3:36.