

Date: 31st January 2010

Speaker Robert Dryburgh

Reading: Jeremiah ch 12 v 5

It is a great thing to be saved and going to heaven, but the question comes to each of us, How will you do in the swelling of Jordan?

There are several places which were special in the life of Christ:

Calvary - Where He died

Bethlehem - Where He was born

Bethany - Where Mary and Martha were

Jordan - Where the heavens opened and God said, "This is My beloved Son in whom I am well pleased"

One man lived in the world for 33 and a half years without sin. He could not sin or could not be our Saviour. He had no breaking point. A perfect man who moved through the scene of time. A man who never made one mistake or put a foot wrong.

All we can do is "Preach Christ", nothing more or nothing less. He is with us in sorrow, trial, dark and bright days. He went to Calvary to die that we might have hope after death. A blessed hope that gets brighter as the days go by.

Jordan speaks of death. "We must all needs die" There is no escape. We will all come to Jordan and it will all depend on what we did with the Saviour and if we trusted Him.

Think of the solemnity of the river: there is no way across and you cannot go any further.

Jordan flows to the Dead Sea. The Dead Sea speaks of hell. A place where it is too late, where the voice of God is no longer heard.

The Jordan starts a place called Adam. This reminds us of Romans 5:12, "by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin".

God made a perfect creation. His power is such that the creation of the vast Universe is summarised in five words, "He made the stars also" (Gen 1:16). How wonderful to admire creation and to ask the question of David, "What is man that thou art mindful of him?" (Psa 8:4). What must paradise have been like? Sin robbed man of everything that God had made.

If you do not find Him before Jordan it will be too late. There is only one way to heaven. If you have missed God's Salvation, you have missed the greatest thing in life, the only thing of real importance.

At Jordan, the children of Israel had to depend on God. The swelling of Jordan speaks of the sight when it was overflowing its bank.

There is Salvation at the river if we "follow Christ". Joshua was told to follow the ark of the covenant when crossing the Jordan. The ark speaks of the Lord Jesus Christ. Christ was as pure when He returned to heaven as He was when He arrived. There is nothing lovely that is not found in Him. There is nothing in Him that is not all together lovely. We follow a man and no matter how much we get to know Him "the half have not been told" (1 Kings 10:7).

Canaan is described as "A land flowing with milk and honey". Heaven is a land that is fairer than day, there is no night, no sadness, no sickness and no death.

The hymn-writer captures the real beauty of heaven when he writes, "Where Jesus is it's heaven there".

John 1:29 records the Saviour at the river: "Behold the lamb of God which taketh away the sin of the world"

2 Kings 5 records a sinner at the river: Naaman was a man with great might and honourable but he was a leper. He went to the King but he could not do anything for him. He went to the man of God who did not even answer the door but gave instruction to cleanse seven times in the river Jordan - the dirtiest river.

There is only one way to have your sins forgiven.

“Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and thou shalt be saved” (Acts 16:31). It is the only way to heaven.