

Let's Worship God

11th-16th January 2021
John





THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO J O H N

Monday - John 8:37-47 - The Devil

The Jews are proud that they are the biological descendants of Abraham. They think this makes up for anything they do. They forget that being Abraham's flesh and blood is useless if they don't have Abraham's faith. They forget that God is their Father only if they walk in obedience. There are many people like these Jews. They think that being baptised, attending church, or taking Communion makes up for the sin in their life. They don't know anything about faith, grace, repentance, or holiness. Get your head round the fact that going to church or having Christian parents and friends doesn't save you. You need something more than this. You need faith in the Lord Jesus Christ.

What makes a person a child of God? Who is God the father of? Jesus teaches very clearly here that no man or woman is really a child of God who does not love Jesus Christ. Where there is no love to Christ, there is no sonship to God.

Jesus also speaks clearly of the reality of the devil. Satan really exists. We have a mighty invisible enemy, seeking to destroy God's people. He is a murderer! His great goal is to ruin us forever and kill our souls. To destroy, to rob of eternal life, to bring us down to the second death in hell, are the things he's working at. He is a liar! He is always trying to deceive us, just as he deceived Eve. He is always telling us that good is evil and evil good. Millions are deceived and follow him. Let us believe there is a devil, and watch, and pray, and fight hard against his temptations. Strong as he is, there is One stronger. With Christ on our side, we don't need to be afraid. Greater is He that is for us, than he that is against us.

Questions

1. What are the Jews proud of?
2. What makes a person a child of God?

Prayer Points

1. Pray for the strength to resist temptation and live obediently.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

Memory Verse

“Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit,” John 15:5b

Praise: Psalm 113 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.



THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO J O H N

Tuesday - John 8:48-59 - Life and Faith

The Jews can't reply to what Jesus is saying, so they resort to insults and slander. They lose their temper and start calling names. Insults and attacks are favourite weapons of the devil. When other ways of fighting fail, he stirs up his servants to attack with the tongue. Christians down through history have been attacked in this way. And today it is much the same. As long as someone serves the world, little perhaps is said about him. But let him start following Christ, and there is no lie too absurd for someone to tell against him, and for others to believe. But we can be comforted to know that Jesus was treated exactly the same. The lies will not follow us to heaven whatever trouble they make for us on earth.

Jesus' words do not mean that Christians never die. We all must die. But believers will not be hurt by the second death, the final destruction of the whole man in hell, of which the first death is just a faint shadow. Believers will never die this eternal death, for them death is just a crossing over to heaven. The sting of the first death is removed from the true Christian. His body may fail, and he may have to suffer strong pain. But the bitter sense of unforgiven sins will not crush him down. This is the worst part of death, and in this we have the victory through Christ. This promise Jesus gives is for those who believe and trust in Him.

Abraham knew about Christ. Not only did Christ appear to him in Genesis 18:1, but by faith Abraham looked forward to the coming of a Saviour. Even though he wouldn't have fully understood what would happen to that Saviour, he knew God was providing a way for sins to be forgiven. And Jesus ends these verses by claiming very powerfully to be God, to have always existed. He even uses the name God gave Moses - I AM.

Questions

1. What promise does Jesus give believers?
2. Who does Jesus claim to be?

Prayer Points

1. Pray for Christians being persecuted in other countries.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

Memory Verse

“Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit,” John 15:5b

Praise: Psalm 114 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.



THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO
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Wednesday - John 9:1-12 - Blindness and Sight

Sin brought so much sadness into the world. Blindness, like every other physical problem, is one of the results of sin. If Adam had never fallen, there would be no blindness, deafness, or dumbness. All the pains and diseases and physical defects in the world came in when the curse came upon the earth. We need to learn to hate sin as the root of our trouble and sorrow. We need to fight against it and hate it in ourself and others.

Christ teaches His disciples to use the opportunities given them. Jesus knows that His own earthly ministry will only last three years, and knowing this He diligently uses the time. He lets slip no opportunity to do works of mercy and serve His Father. Morning, noon, and night He is always doing the work the Father gives Him to do. Night is coming. The life we now live is our day. Let us make sure we use it well, for the glory of God and the good of our souls. Let us pray, and read, and worship, and hear God's Word, and do good. Our time is very short. Opportunities once lost can never be retrieved. Whatever God gives us to do, let us do it with all our heart and strength.

In healing the blind man Jesus might have just touched him with his finger or just spoken. But he does something else. He is not tied down to any one way of working a miracle. He can give blessings in many different ways. Christ is able to do what is impossible. He can cure the incurable. Jesus, the Saviour of sinners, has all power in heaven and on earth. Why should we despair that someone we love cannot be saved? Christ has all power. Where is the sin He can't forgive? Where is the spiritual blindness He can't heal? Jesus can open anyone's eyes.

Questions

1. What are our aches and pains ultimately the result of?
2. What opportunities can you take better advantage of?
3. How can you be encouraged by this miracle?

Prayer Points

1. Pray for those you love that are spiritually blind to have opened eyes.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

Memory Verse

“Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit,” John 15:5b

Praise: Psalm 115 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.



THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO
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Thursday - John 9:13-25 - 'I Was Blind, But Now I See'

Some of the Pharisees find fault with Jesus because He heals on the Sabbath. A mighty act of mercy has been done. But the Pharisees don't see it. They completely misunderstand. The Sabbath is to be set apart from others and kept holy. But it is not intended to prevent works of necessity and acts of mercy. To heal a sick man does not break the fourth commandment. In finding fault with Jesus, the Pharisees just expose their own ignorance of what God really requires. Now we must not think that the fourth commandment is no longer binding on Christians. Our Lord never means the Sabbath to become a day of work or doing what we want. It is one thing to do works of mercy on the Sabbath. It is quite another to ignore God and do any old thing we want.

The Jews try in vain to persuade the blind man whom Jesus heals that nothing has been done for him, but they only get one answer. How the miracle has been done he does not pretend to explain. Whether the person who healed him is a sinner, he does not claim to know. But he firmly declares that something has been done for him. He can't be argued out of it. There are two facts of which he is convinced: he was blind and now he can see. Our faith may be weak, our knowledge small. We may be confused about a lot that the Bible says. But if Christ has really done a work of grace in our heart by His Holy Spirit, there is something inside us we can't argue away. "I was dark, and now I have light. I was afraid of God, and now I love Him. I wanted to sin, and now I hate it. I was blind, and now I see." Feelings are deceitful and are not everything. But the hungry man eats and feels stronger, the thirsty man drinks, and feels refreshed. Surely the man or woman who has within him the grace of God should be able to feel its power.

Questions

1. Why is it ok for Jesus to heal on the Sabbath?
2. What does the blind man know about himself?

Prayer Points

1. Give thanks for Christ's power in your life.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

Memory Verse

"Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit," John 15:5b

Praise: Psalm 116 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.



THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO J O H N

Friday - John 9:26-41 - Threats and Comfort

The man whom our Lord heals is a humble man, a beggar, but he sees things and believes things the proud rulers of the people can not. He sees in Jesus' miracle unanswerable proof that Christ comes from God. From the day of his healing he has eyes and the Pharisees are blind. The great and powerful are often the last to learn spiritual lessons. It is a sin to be proud and worldly and unbelieving, but it is no sin to be poor. The very riches many long to have often keep men and women from Christ.

When the Pharisees can not frighten the blind man, they expel him from the Jewish Church. Because he refuses to deny the evidence of his own senses, they put him out and shame him. This makes him an object of scorn and suspicion among all true Israelites. But it can do no harm to his soul. That which wicked men bind on earth is not bound in heaven.

No sooner is this poor blind man cast out of the Jewish Church than Jesus finds him and speaks words of comfort. He knows full well how heavy a burden excommunication is to an Israelite, and He at once cheers him with kind words. He reveals Himself more fully to this man than He does to anyone except the Samaritan woman. Jesus sees all that His people go through for His sake, and cares about all, from the highest to the lowest. He keeps account of their losses, troubles, and persecutions. He knows how to come to them with comfort in their time of need and speak peace to them when all men seem to hate them. The time when men and women leave us is often the very time when Christ draws close to us.

Questions

1. How does the blind man see the miracle?
2. What do the Pharisees do to him?
3. What does Jesus tell this blind man about Himself.

Prayer Points

1. Give thanks for Jesus' love for us.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

Memory Verse

"Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit," John 15:5b

Praise: Psalm 117 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.



THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO
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Saturday - John 10:1-9 - The Door

Jesus is painting a picture comparing the false teachers, the Scribes and the Pharisees, with Himself and His true ministers. These false teachers are thieves and robbers. Christ Himself is the door. The true shepherd of souls is the minister focused on Christ, wanting to glorify Christ, doing everything in the strength of Christ, preaching Christ's teaching, walking in Christ's steps, and working to bring men and women to Christ. The false shepherd of souls enters the ministry with little or no thought of Christ. The man who makes much of Christ is a pastor after God's own heart, whom God delights to honour. The minister who makes little of Christ is one whom God sees as an impostor.

True Christians have a spiritual instinct, a gift of God, which generally helps them to tell the difference between true and false teaching. When they hear something unsound, something in them says, 'this is wrong.' When they hear the real truth, there is something in their heart that responds, 'this is right'. But even our instincts must be controlled by the Word of God. Everything we hear should be tested by the Bible.

We are all by nature separate and far off from God. Sin, like a great barrier, is between us and God. Our guilt and sense of His holiness makes us afraid of Him. Born with a heart that hates God, we become more and more His enemy by the way we live. How can we be at peace with God? The Lord Jesus Christ has provided an answer to these questions. By His sacrifice on the cross, He has opened a way through the great barrier and provided forgiveness and peace for sinners. He has opened a way, through His blood, by which we can come to God boldly, without fear. He is the door. No one can come to God but by Him. Have you used this door?

Questions

1. What are true shepherds like?
2. How is Jesus Christ like a door?

Prayer Points

1. Pray for the preaching and hearing of God's Word tomorrow.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

Memory Verse

"Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit," John 15:5b

Praise: Psalm 118 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.

The goal of Let's Worship God is to encourage and help you in your worship of God each day.

**God tells us that
Ezra read from
the book of the Law
day after day
and that
the people of God
were filled with joy!**

Let's Worship God is produced
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