

DO YOU KNOW HIM?

"The Forerunner"

John 1:6-13

INTRODUCTION:

1. The sinless life of Jesus demands us to make a decision about Him.
 - a) His words, His miracles and His life, force us to make a decision about Him.
 - 1) Some people are superficially drawn to Him.
 - a. **John 7:12** - a good man.
 - b. **Luke 7:15-16** - some say he was prophet.
 - 2) Some were strongly attracted to Jesus but were unwilling to commit themselves to Him.
 - a. **John 12:42**
 - 3) Others were openly hostile to Jesus.
 - a. **Luke 23:2**
 - 4) Some claimed that Jesus was a madman.
 - a. **John 10:20**
 - b) The Scribes and the Pharisees unable to deny His supernatural power were unwilling to attribute it to God, and so were left with the blasphemous alternative.
 - 1) **Matthew 12:24**
2. **UNBELIEF** is the sin that ultimately damns all those who reject Jesus.
 - a) **John 3:16-18**
3. John the apostle opens his Gospel account by establishing the deity of Jesus Christ in Vs 1-5
 - a) **LAST WEEK: "The Word Became Flesh" - THREE EVIDENCES THAT JESUS WAS GOD**
 - 1) **THE ETERNALITY OF CHRIST**
 - a. **Vs 1a**
"In the *beginning* was the *Word*"
 - b. **Vs 1b**
"the Word was *with* God"
 - c. **Vs 1c**
"and the Word *was* God"
 - 2) **HIS POWER IN CREATION**
 - a. **Vs 3a**
"All things *were made* through him"

b. Vs 3b

"and without Him ***was not anything made*** that was made"

- Jesus is the uncreated Creator.....He was and is God

3) HIS SELF-EXISTENCE

a. Vs 4a

"In him was ***life***" - speaking here of spiritual life.

b. Vs 4b

"and the life was the ***light*** of men" - the truth of the Gospel

c. Vs 5b

"and the **darkness has not overcome it**"

THIS MORNING: There are only 2 possible responses to Jesus: Belief or Unbelief.

I. THE TESTIMONY OF A CREDIBLE MESSENGER

A. THE MESSENGER

1. Vs 6

a) "There was a ***man sent from God***"

- 1) Last week - GOD MAN.
- 2) This week - The MAN OF GOD.

b) "There was a ***man sent from God***"

1) **John was divinely commissioned.**

- **Isaiah 40:3** - the O.T. prophesy of John the Baptist purpose
- **Matthew 3:3** - the voice...
- **Malachi 3:1**
- **Luke 1:17**

2) **His conception and birth**

- **Luke 1:7; 36**
- **The angel of the Lord's announcement to Zacharias**, that he and his wife Elizabeth would have a son who would be the herald to Messiah
- **John the Baptist was the first true prophet to appear in 400 years to Israel.**

- *Matthew 3:5-6*

- *Mark 1:7-8*

B. HIS MESSAGE

1. Vs 7

a) *"He came as a witness to bear witness about the light"*

1) *"witness"* - a witness bears facts, not opinions.

2. True believers today are the agents of belief, Christ is the object of belief.

3. Vs 8

a) *"He was not the light"*

b) *"but came to bear witness about the light"*

II. THE MESSAGE REJECTED

1. Vs 9a

a) *"The true light"*

2. Unbeliever's live in darkness and are spiritually blind.

3. *2 Corinthians 4:4*

4. Vs 9b

a) *"which gives light to everyone"*

5. Everybody has some light.

a) GENERAL REVELATION - shows God's existence and power

1) Romans 1:18ff

b) SPECIAL REVELATION - shows who God is

1) Hebrews 1:1-3

2) Romans 10:17

6. Vs 9c

a) *"was coming into the world"*

1) Jesus came and invaded our physical world and evil system dominated by Satan.

7. Vs 10a

a) *"He was in the world and the world was made through Him"*

8. Vs 10b

a) *"yet the world did not know him"*

- 1) *"know"* - means relationship, intimacy,
 - a. Philippians 2:9-11

9. Vs 11

a) *Acts 2:22-23; 36*

III. THE MESSAGE RECEIVED

1. Vs 12a (notice the 3 verbs)

a) *"But to all who receive him"* - "But" indicates a dramatic shift.

- 1) John now gives the formula for the new birth.
 - a. *"receive"* - means to take hold of, to grasp

b) *"who believed in his name"*

- 1) This is the key to salvation.
 - a. *"his name"* - refers to the totality of who Christ is.
- 2) *Matthew 1:21*
- 3) *Acts 4:2*

c) *"he gave the right to become children of God"*

- 1) *Titus 3:5*
- 2) *John 3:3-5*
- 3) *Ephesians 2:8-9*

2. Vs 13

a) *"who were born"*

b) *"not of blood"*

- 1) Not of racial or ethnic heritage

c) *"nor of the will of the flesh"*

- 1) Your personal desire or choice

d) *"nor of the will of man"*

- 1) Not by human design or religious system.