15 Reasons Jesus Came (#5-8) Pleasant Plains 2-14-2016PM

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- *Read John 1:1-14* We are engaged in a series of lessons focusing on 15 reasons why Jesus came into this world. A few weeks ago, looked at the first 4 reasons for His coming and all of them focused on Jesus's motivation to come to call sinners to repentance and to give himself a ransom for mankind. We want to continue that list today by looking at reasons 5-8.
- Our introductory text this evening is from the Gospel of John. John's Gospel was written for the purpose of convincing the reader that Jesus is God and that He did indeed come to the earth in the flesh and that He lived as a man. That He murdered on the cross, He was raised on the 3rd day, and that He ascended back to heaven to take a seat at the right hand of God the Father. As we mentioned a couple weeks ago, it is a fact that Jesus came to this earth, and John confirms that here in our text of John 1:1-14. Throughout his Gospel, John also gives us many reasons and motivations for Jesus's coming. Our 4 reasons, today, will all come from John's Gospel.

Reasons 5-8 Why Jesus Came To Earth

I. Jesus Christ came into the world to do the will of His Father. (John 6:38)

- A. Jesus recognized that doing the will of God is a good thing, and a good reason to come into this world.
 - 1. It was God's desire for Jesus to leave heaven, come to this earth, and take on flesh. (Phil. 2:5-8)
 - 2. This was a part of God's plan for the redemption of mankind. (Eph. 1:3,4) Jesus's coming was not an afterthought of God, but it was a plan from the beginning. It was the everlasting will of God, and Jesus was willing to come in order to fulfill the will of God.
 - 3. He was even willing to do so when it meant that He would have to suffer through things that would be very much less than pleasant. Jesus's attitude was always that God's will be done. (Luke 22:42)
 - 4. He was willing to sacrifice so much so that God's plan would be fulfilled though the perfect sacrifice of Jesus Christ for the redemption of mankind.
- B. We need to take Jesus's example to heart and recognize the massive importance of doing the will of God in our lives.
 - 1. When teaching His disciples how to pray, notice one of the things that Jesus mentions in His model prayer, "Your kingdom come, Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven." (Matt. 6:10)
 - 2. Now, regardless of where you perceive "kingdom" to be THE kingdom or a general request for God's power and authority to be present, it must impress us that Jesus wanted His disciples to focus on God's will being accomplished in all things.
 - 3. We sing the song "None of Self and All of Thee" and it perfectly fits this thought we are considering. This song focuses on that journey that we are all on where we give every effort to make sure that our lives are focused on doing God's will and not our own. God's will for us is perfect and righteous and He will always desire for us to do what is best for us. Sadly, we can't always say that.
 - 4. Like Jesus, this might mean that we have to make some sacrifices and that might not be enjoyable, but at the end of the day, also like Jesus, those things will work out for our good at the end. (Rom. 8:28ff) Like Jesus, may we always do things to the will of the Father.

II. Jesus Christ came into the world to be a King and bear witness to the truth. (John 18:37)

- A. The truth was that Jesus came to establish His Kingdom that He would rule from heaven.
 - 1. The context of **John 18:33-37** is of Pilate asking Jesus concerning whether or not He was a king. This was something that was put in the ear by the Jewish Leadership in order for Jesus to be put to death. They had no power to kill anyone, but if the Romans heard of someone claiming to be a king then they would take care of that for them.
 - 2. The height of the Jew's hypocrisy is found in **John 19:15** when they all call for Jesus's crucifixion and claim that they need no king but Cesar, which is such a crock because they hated being ruled by the Romans.
 - 3. The fact was that it had been prophesied many years before that God's Kingdom would be established in Jerusalem. Isaiah 2:1-4 is the prophecy concerning the coming and establishment of God's Kingdom on that Day of Pentecost in Acts 2.

- 4. It would be on that day that Jesus's Kingdom would be established in Jerusalem. It would be the greatest of Kingdoms and people of all nations would be welcome into it. From it would flow the truth of the Gospel and God's will. And Jesus would rule over it. We see the Kingship of Jesus as King in **Acts 2:33** seated at the right hand of God having received all power and authority from God in all things. If Jesus didn't come, He couldn't establish His Kingdom that would be come to be the saved.
- B. We must recognize the Kingship of Jesus and the fact that He is the one who establishes truth.
 - 1. This was one of the main problems that the Jews of Jesus's day faced. They were not at all ok with Jesus being the prophesied King that would "come and save the Jews from oppression." They wanted a strong king leading a strong physical kingdom, but Jesus let them know that this just wasn't a characteristic of His Kingdom. (John 18:36)
 - However, this does not mean that Jesus isn't a legitimate King. We must understand that Jesus is King. He is King Jesus, and He bears all of the characteristics of a King. He holds all authority. (Matt. 28:18) He has the right to lead His church. He has the right to direct the direction that the Church goes.
 - 3. Far too many people have tried to usurp the Kingship of Jesus by doing things that are not His will. If Jesus is King, and we believe that to be true, then we MUST do according to His will and not our own. It is only the one that who keeps His commandments that will abide with Jesus. He is King and we must abide by His rule and authority. **(I John 3:23)**

III.Jesus Christ came into the world to be a light in the world. (John 12:46)

- A. Jesus came so that He might illuminate the was of light for those stuck in the darkness.
 - 1. The context of Jesus's statement here in **John 12** is John stating that Jesus performed many miracles before the Jews and their leadership, but most of them refused to believe. They were, in essence, stuck in the darkness.
 - 2. Jesus came to light the way of man back to God. Throughout the Bible, light is often associated with God and the idea of righteousness. God is light according to **I John 1:5**, and there is not darkness in Him at all.
 - 3. Jesus came to this world to help mankind escape the darkness of sin and unrighteousness. The only way for this to happen is for mankind to turn to God, and Jesus came to light the way back to Him and the blessings that come with following Him. **(II Peter 1:1-4)**
- B. As disciples of Christ, we are to be lights in this dark world.
 - 1. Jesus came as light to make disciples, and those disciples are to carry on the work that Jesus did during His time on the earth.
 - 2. We all know well the teachings of Jesus concerning the qualities of the citizens of His Kingdom from **Matthew 5-7.** In **Matt. 5:14-16**, Jesus says that those citizens, that Christians, are to be lights in this world in such a way that others will recognize their good behavior and glorify God for it. Our influence is to be strong.
 - 3. Paul also talks about the necessity of living in such a way that we will stand out from the sinful nature of this world. (Phil. 2:15)
 - 4. Jesus came to be light to a dark world, and we, as Christians, must carry on that light that He first came to be.

IV.Jesus Christ came into the world that men might have life abundantly. (John 10:10)

- A. The life that Jesus leads us to is truly the abundant life.
 - 1. In contrast, the thief comes to steal, kill, and destroy. He seeks to ruin the life of the sheep. So many think that the life of a Christian is one that is devoid of fun, enjoyment, and happiness, but that just couldn't be farther from the truth.
 - 2. Jesus leads his sheep into a life that is truly awesome. True happiness, fulfillment, joy, love, and all things like it are found in Jesus.
 - 3. Jesus came so that His people might know the true versions those things that are found only in Jesus. The world thinks that these are found in things of this world, but those things are passing away. (Matt. 6:19,20 & I John 2:15-17)
 - 4. Jesus came so that we might recognize these things and enjoy them.

- B. We must recognize the abundant life that is found only in Jesus.
 - 1. True fulfilling living is found in Jesus Christ because we look past the things of this life into things that are truly important. We must recognized that this doesn't mean that we won't suffer in some way. We will, but we will get past them because we have a Lord who will keep us for the things that truly matter.
 - 2. The following is a excerpt from the Coffman commentary on this text that I believe is quite accurate in it's explanation.
 - 3. How grotesque and unreal are the ideas of those who think the Christian leads a life of boring inhibition, sitting out his years in the chilly twilight of monastic gloom, forbidden to do anything that everyone else wants to do, and always cowering in fear before an angry God! On the contrary, the Christian life is the happy life, free, abundant, and overflowing, adventurous and exciting beyond any other kind of existence. Why cannot men believe their Creator, to the effect that the way of Christ is the way of joy and fulfillment? Interpreters' Bible has the following in the same vein of thought: (Concerning) those who fling their lives away in an avid questing for sensation, seeking to make a collection of experiences as others do of stamps, and esteeming every new experience of any kind an addition to their store, who will get drunk, simply for experience, and touch unholy things that they may taste the whole of life: - they do not realize, poor duped fools, misled by hobbledehoy thinkers, so called, who have cooked these immature ideas into a kind of messy philosophy - they do not realize that in life, as in arithmetic, there is a minus sign as surely as a plus; and that certain experiences do not add to, but subtract from, what we had and were before, each new indulgence in forbidden things leaving us poorer, leaner, emptier, and at length beggared.
 - 4. The point is well made. Jesus, by His coming gave us eh opportunity to live a life of joy and abundance that can only be found in Him. May we take advantage of the abundant life that Jesus came to give us!

As we continue to consider these reasons that Jesus came, may we again be impressed with the fact that Jesus came to do so much for us! he came to save us, guide us, lead us, and give us a life that is truly fulfilling and not shallow and empty. May we appreciate so much the things that Jesus has made possible for us through His coming to this earth. He is so worthy to be praised and thanked, and may we give Him all we can for his many blessings. May God be praised and honored for His many blessings that come through His Son.