



Sermon: "The Compassionate, Condescending Savior"

Scripture: John 1:9-13

Pastor Stephen Schultze

Sunday, June 4, 2017

John witnesses to three realities regarding the Light of the World, Jesus Christ:

I. Jesus IS the Authentic & Condescending Light of the World. (v. 9)

- A. Jesus is the TRUE **SOURCE** of all light.
- B. Jesus **PROVIDES** the ONLY light. (Romans 1:19-21)
- C. Jesus is the **APPROACHABLE** light.

Scripture: 1 Timothy 6:16; John 20:30-31

The theologians of old spoke of belief in terms of levels:

Noticia: You have the right **INFORMATION** about Jesus.

Assensus: You **AGREE** to the truthfulness of those truths.

Fiducia: You have **FAITH** in Jesus that changes everything.

Have your eyes been opened to faith in Christ in a life transforming way?

II. Jesus is Consistently Unrecognized & Unwelcomed by the World. (v. 10-11)

- A. The Light was unrecognized by his own special **creation**.
- B. The Light was rejected by his own special **people**.

Scripture: Ephesians 2:1-5

III. Jesus is the Supernatural & Compassionate Light of the World. (v. 12-13)

What do we learn of this supernatural, illuminating work of God?

- A. God's Work Does Not Nullify Human **Responsibility**.

Scriptures: John 3:17

Jesus did not come that we might believe his words,
but that we might believe on Him, THE WORD.

- B. God's Work Yields Life-Altering **Changes**.

- The child of God enjoys **relations** with God.
- The child of God enjoys the **privileges** of this relation.
- The child of God possesses an **inheritance** worthy of that relation!

C. God's Work Does What **No Human** Can Do.

Salvation is not by...

- **Physical Birth**...It's not who your parents are. ("not of blood")
- **Human Effort**...it's not what effort you or anyone makes. (will of the flesh)
- **Human Appointment**...it's not who others declare you to be. (will of man)

Salvation is the supernatural work of God done in compassion for the lost.

1. God's Saving Work is **Supernatural!** (John 20:30-31)
2. God's Saving Work is **Compassionate**. (John 3:16; Romans 2:4).

Conclusion:

- Why would you not receive him and believe on His precious name?
- Why would you not want to, with all your might, join John the Baptist and the Apostle John in making him known? How can you make Christ known this week?

Questions to Consider:

1. What are some characteristics which God reveals about himself in natural revelation (creation)?
2. What does Jesus reveal about God that cannot be known through natural revelation alone?
3. What are some of the excuses of mankind to reject Jesus Christ?
4. How do you personally respond when you consider what it means to be a "child of God,"? What is most remarkable or impactful about that truth?
5. If you are a child of God (v. 12), take time to share your story with someone. Tell them how you came to receive Christ (believe on His name) resulting salvation (becoming a Child of God).
6. How does verse 13 refute the religions of the world? How does verse 13 correct the ways in which we might begin to think about our salvation?