

Sermon Discussion Questions for January 10, 2016

John 1:1-18; “Jesus Is True”

Introduction: God’s will for us as individuals and as a community of faith (congregation) is that we become more like Jesus. To become more like someone requires that we know that someone – personally and intimately. Therefore, in this sermon series we want to know Jesus (CPC motto: *KNOW, BE KNOWN, MAKE KNOWN*) and become more like Him.

For those whom He foreknew He also predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son . . . (Romans 8:29)

- A. What is the meaning of the term *word (logos)* in vs. 1?
- B. Why was it so radical to for John to say that *the Word became flesh and dwelt among us (vs. 14)*?
- C. When Christians speak of God’s *word*, what do we mean?
 1. God’s creative *word* (Gen. 1:3,9,11,14,20,24,26)
 2. God’s incarnate word (Jesus became flesh): John 1:14
 3. God’s spoken words (Matt. 24:35; John 6:68; 15:7)
 4. God’s written word (II Tim. 3:16-17; II Peter 1:19-21)
 5. God’s shared/preached word (Romans 10:13-15)
- D. When Christians speak of God’s *truth*, what do we mean? (“All truth is God’s truth”)
 1. Scripture is “inspired” and “inerrant” = veracity
 2. Scripture is understandable = clarity
 3. Scripture is needed to know Christ = necessity
 4. Scripture gives us what we need to know = sufficiency
 5. Scripture reveals God’s holiness and calls forth our humble obedience in all things = authority
- E. Jesus was *full of truth (John 1)*:
 1. He was born in fulfillment of prophetic truth Matt. 1:18-23
 2. He studied and learned God’s truth as a boy Luke 2:52
 3. He lived out God’s truth in His life John 4:34
 4. He taught God’s truth John 6:63; 8:14; 14:10; 17:8
 5. He surrendered to God’s truth in His death Luke 22:42; John 19:32-37
 6. He fulfilled God’s truth in His resurrection Luke 24:25-27
 7. His return and final judgment will be true II Cor. 5:10; Rev. 16:7; 19:2
- F. Untrue perceptions of “truth” (Note: “in every heresy there is a degree of truth”)
 1. “truth” is experiential (if I can not verify it, it can not be true)
 2. “truth” is cultural (truth is consensus)
 3. “truth” is internal (intuitive – “listen to the Force, Luke”)
 4. “truth” is traditional (I was taught . . . we have always . . .)
 5. “truth” is intellectual/cerebral (If I affirm . . . then . . .)
 6. “truth” is communal (Can only be discovered via others)

7. “truth” is non-propositional (We can never know . . .)
8. “truth” is impossible (How can you know something that does not exist?)

G. APPLICATION

1. Can we be *transformed into the image of Christ* if we do not “study” Him?
2. Are you/we growing in our love for and *knowledge of the truth*?
3. How is the *gospel* grounded in *truth and grace*?
4. What does it mean for you/us to *KNOW CHRIST*, to *BE KNOWN* by Him and His church, and to *MAKE KNOWN* His gospel of *grace and truth*?
5. Are we a “fortress church” or an “incarnational church”?