

“Jesus Christ, The Son Of God”

By: Michael R. Hughes

Text: John 9:1-7

Theme: To cause faith in Jesus Christ

Introduction:

1. In John 2:13, they cried “Hosanna, Blessed is the King of Israel ...”
 - a. They thought he would physically deliver them.
 - b. Now they cry “Crucify him, crucify him.”
 - 1) Their hatred had become extremely intense at this point.
 - 2) Matthew 27:22-25.
 - c. The difference:
 - 1) John 8:37.
 - 2) Their attitude toward the truth.
 - d. John 8:36 - They were looking for the great warrior Messiah.
 - e. They were not looking for a Messiah that taught a life of humble service before God and man (cf. John 13).
2. The Jews had a charge against him -
 - a. He made himself the Son of God - (John 9:7).
 - b. Thus they said he was worthy of death
 - 1) Leviticus 24:16.
 - 2) They thought him guilty of blasphemy.

- c. They had failed to establish any charges against him that would have allowed him to have been put to death under Roman law.
 - 1) When their “love” turned to hatred they tried to say he claimed to be the King of Israel, in opposition to Caesar.
 - a) What a change on their part.
 - b) In John 12, they had called him “the King.”
 - 2) This present charge of blasphemy was a factual misrepresentation.
 - d. Now they make a claim on the basis of their religious law and ask the Romans to help enforce it.
 - 1) Whereas their charge that he was trying to make himself a physical king was false, this charge (that he claimed to be the Son of God) was true.
 - a) He did not rebel against Roman authority.
 - b) But did claim to be the Son of God.
 - 2) It is an irony -
 - a) They thought it true initially that he should be claiming to be king (John 6:15) - which is not what he came to do.
 - b) But they thought it false that he should be the Son of God, which actually was true, and what he claimed for himself.
 - e. To avoid being found guilty of blasphemy, the only proper defense Jesus had against this charge of making himself the Son of God was to show that it was true!
 - 1) Which would result in his death.
 - 2) In reality, the ones really guilty of blasphemy were the Jews themselves in that they rejected the messiahship of Jesus and that he was God’s Son.
3. Pilate was at a loss - John 19:9.
- a. “Where did you come from - Who are you?”
 - b. Matthew 26:13-18 - Recognition of Jesus as the Son of God is the truth which, when confessed, is that upon which the Lord’s church is built.

- c. It is imperative that we not only have faith in God, but the Son of God as well.
 - 1) That the Father might be honored - John 14:22,23.
 - 2) That our hearts might not be troubled as we anticipate eternity - John 14:1 - or deal with the affairs of this life.

Discussion:

- I. Why many do not believe in Jesus Christ.
 - A. Some view God merely as a principle, not a being or personality.
 - 1. Like Santa Claus, or Uncle Sam.
 - 2. There is quite a modernistic movement to view God in this light.
 - 3. If not a personality, they reason, how could he beget a Son?
 - a. He is really only hypothetical.
 - b. Thus Jesus was only some philosopher or just an ideal himself.
 - B. Others do not believe because they have not heard - Romans 10:17.
 - C. Many do not believe in Christ, because God is not their Father.
 - 1. John 8:42.
 - a. John 8:44 - the devil was their father.
 - b. John 8:34 - because they were the servants of sin.
 - 2. Must give up sin and follow Jesus.
 - a. John 8:24.
 - b. John 8:31,32,51.
 - D. Some have not attached enough importance to it.
 - 1. Indifferent like Felix - Acts 24:25.
 - 2. Unwilling to acknowledge faith - John 12:42,43.
 - E. Though some have a mental assent, they have no trust or confidence in him.
 - 1. Again, like the Jews in John 8.
 - 2. cf. James 2:19,20.

- II. Matthew 6:16 - We must have the same faith as Peter.
- A. The Christ, the Son of the living God.
 - 1. God - Psalm 4:1 - cf. the foolishness of unbelievers (universe, baby, salvation).
 - 2. Living God - Acts 7:29.
 - 3. Jesus is his only begotten Son - John 1:14; 3:16.
 - B. How is faith produced?
 - 1. The organ of faith is the capacity to believe.
 - a. If one can believe anything, he can believe in Christ.
 - b. But not all will - John 3:17-19.
 - 2. The medium of faith is the Bible.
 - a. John 7:20.
 - b. John 20:30,31.
 - 3. Must carefully analyze the object of faith - John 6:66-69.

{Optional: divide here to preach in 2 parts}

- III. When we look at Jesus, the object of our faith, with our capacity to believe, through that medium of faith, God's word, what do we see?
- A. We see that he was born as none other.
 - 1. Isaiah 7:14; Matthew 1:18-23.
 - 2. Testimony - KJV, ASV; The Holy Spirit!
 - B. He lived as none other lived.
 - 1. John 9:4 - the testimony of a heathen ruler.
 - 2. John 8:46 - no sin
 - C. He knew as none other has known.
 - 1. John 2:24,25 - he knew their real level of conviction (lacking).
 - 2. The woman at the well - John 4; Lazarus is dead John 11.
 - 3. John 13 - He knew Judas would betray him; Peter would deny him.
 - D. He spake as none other - John 7:46.
 - E. He taught as none other - John 6:63; Matthew 23:28,29 [Quote McFarland].

- F. He performed as none other - John□ - the creator of the universe.
 - 1. Miracles - walking on the water.
 - 2. John□:2.
 - G. He was hated as none other -
 - 1. It is easy to hate people like Hitler, or Saddam Hussein, or murderers, rapists and other criminals.
 - 2. But we usually love good people - (e.g. Mother Teresa, even though we disagree religiously).
 - 3. Though he was supremely good, he was intensely hated - cf. Matthew□7:25.
 - H. He was loved as none other -
 - 1. John□2:3 - though only a family friend.
 - 2. Luke□:37,38 - a sinful woman.
 - a. See v. 48.
 - b. Only the Son of God can forgive sin.
 - I. He died as none other -
 - 1. He often demonstrated that he could have saved his life□“Could have called 10,000 angels.”
 - 2. John□10:15; Romans□:8.
 - 3. Not the only one to ever die, but - the only one to die for the sins of the entire human race.
 - J. He arose from the dead as no other -
 - 1. After three days and three nights, he came forth from the grave - never to die again
 - 2. Romans□:4; Acts□:3; - infallible proofs.
- IV. It is the “good confession” (that we believe that he is the Son of God).
- A. The church is built upon it - Matthew□6:18.
 - B. No one can be saved without making it - Romans□10:9,10.
 - C. It has been made by the saints and others of all ages□
 - 1. Nathaniel - John□:49.
 - 2. Peter - Matthew□6:16.
 - 3. Timothy - I□Timothy□:12.
 - 4. Nicodemus - John□:2.
 - 5. Thomas - John□20:28.

D. God himself proclaimed it -

1. John 12:28.
2. God had already proclaimed who Jesus was -
 - a. Matthew 3:17.
 - b. Matthew 7:5.

Conclusion:

1. All that is worthwhile in life and our eternal destiny depend upon our belief in him and obedience to him.
2. Could a greater thought occupy the human mind?
3. Acts 17:37.

Invitation: