

The King is Coming – Part 2

Lesson for Sunday, December 8, 2024

TEXT: John 1:9-13

INTRODUCTION:

- ⇒ Christmas is coming! Ice breaker: *What is your favorite part of Christmas?*
- ⇒ For Christians, the best part of Christmas is the coming of the King! We are currently working through one of the most important chapters in all the Bible – John 1 – to learn more about the King we serve.
- ⇒ Who can remember what we learned last week in verses 1-4? Use the board for repetition!
 - Jesus is **Eternal** (pre-existent, coexistent, self-existent)
 - Jesus is **Creator**
 - Jesus is **Life**
- ⇒ Today our focus is on Christ as the Light. Our world is in a desperate dilemma. It is full of darkness – the darkness of sin and despair, of sickness and death, of corruption and destruction. Darkness is everywhere.
- ⇒ In John 1, we learn that to dispel the darkness, God sent His Son – the Light!

BIBLE STUDY:

1. **Christ** is the Light (vs. 9)
 - a. Jesus is “the True Light.” Notice what we learn in this verse.
 - b. Vs. 9a: Jesus is the **True Light**.
 - i. What does this mean? It means that Jesus is what others are not. Christ is the Light of the World, and He does what light so often does.
 - ii. Light is clear, pure, clean and good (Ephesians 5:8).
 - iii. Light reveals and shows the way (John 14:6).
 - iv. Light guides (John 12:36, 46).
 - c. Vs. 9b: Jesus’s mission is to **give light** to people.
 - i. First, Christ gives light to people through natural revelation, the creation and order of the universe (Romans 1:20).
 - ii. Second, Christ gives light by giving good gifts to us (James 1:17).
 - iii. Third, Christ gives light through God’s Word (Psalm 119:105).
 - d. APPLY: Since the coming of Jesus into the world, we have access to more light from the Lord than ever before.
 - i. We have the light of Jesus Christ Himself (John 11:27).
 - ii. We have the light of the Gospel (John 12:46).
 - iii. We have the light of the Spirit, both guiding and convicting (John 16:8-11, 13).
2. The **World** Rejected the Light (vs. 10-11)
 - a. It’s an amazing thought – Jesus was in the world (a world created by Him) but the world did not recognize Him. Instead, they rejected Him.

- b. Vs. 10: Jesus was not **recognized**.
 - i. People did not perceive or grasp Who He was.
 - ii. What an amazing thought: Jesus was right there in front of them, and they failed to see Him for Who He really was! (Can that happen now?)
 - c. Vs. 11: Jesus was **rejected** by His own people.
 - i. This is nothing new – most people have always rejected Jesus; they have closed their eyes and failed to see Who Jesus is (see Romans 1 for support).
 - ii. The nation of Israel was His specific home, the people who He had chosen to be His special messengers to the world. Of all the people in the world, the Jews should have recognized and received Jesus! But they did not.
3. **Some** wonderfully received the Light (vs. 12-13).
- a. While Jesus was rejected by most, He was not rejected by all.
 - b. Vs. 12a: Some believed in His **name**.
 - i. They believed in Jesus's name – that He is the Word (vs. 1), the Life (vs. 4) and the Light (vs. 4-8).
 - ii. The name Jesus means *Jehovah is salvation*. Christ means *Anointed One, the Messiah*.
 - iii. Some recognized Who this was and received Him by faith.
 - c. Vs. 12b: Those who received became **children of God**.
 - i. Those who received Jesus received a wonderful gift – the right to become children of God.
 - ii. The word power in this verse implies authority to become something a person is not.
 - iii. When we receive Jesus, God gives us the privilege of becoming one of His dear children.
 - d. Vs. 13: Those who received were given a **new birth**.
 - i. A person who receives Christ by faith becomes a child of God through birth. They are born into God's family.
 - ii. First, this is not a natural birth – it is not of blood or flesh. *Our natural, fleshly qualities bear no weight on our becoming God's children.*
 - iii. Second, this birth is by God – not the will of man.

APPLICATION/DISCUSSION:

What a wonderful thought! We – sinful humans – can become the children of God!

- ⇒ God gives us the right to become His children (“It is the gift of God” – Eph. 2:8).
- ⇒ We become the children of God by believing in the name of Jesus – everything that He is (John 1:12b).
- ⇒ This is a great opportunity to review the Gospel with your class!

NEXT WEEK: John 1:14-18