

Certainty... in a world of doubt

The Gospel of Luke

desert breeze
community church



Saturday & Sunday, January 28/29, 2017 Ray Davis

“Receiving Christ” Luke 3:1-20

Satan who is known as “the Deceiver (Rev12:9)” loves to keep true believers unsure of their salvation making them ineffective and those on their way to hell deluded into thinking they are on their way to heaven.

Salvation is a position where you REPENT and BELIEVE in a moment and maintain for the rest of your life (John 1:12; Mark 1:15).

Luke 3:1-20

The Gospel is that I’m more sinful than I ever dared to believe (down) & I’m more loved than I ever dared to dream (up). Jn1:29

REPENT (I’m more sinful than I ever dared to believe) Humble
Change the root and you’ll change the fruit.

Root: Changing what you trust in. vv7- 9

- If the serpent can’t get us to doubt God’s existence, he’ll get us to doubt His goodness. V7 “You brood of vipers...” (Gen3:1-5)
- We mistrust God either by being very good or by being very bad. Vv7-8 (Luke 15:11-31)
- We break commandments 2-10 to the degree we break commandment one. (Exodus20:3-17)

Fruit: Changing your behavior. Vv4-5, 8, 10-14

- If He is truly the King of your life you adapt to Him not Him to you. Vv4-5, 11 Selfishness into Generosity, 12-13 Dishonesty into Integrity, 14 Bullying into Gentleness
- We trust Him 1st (root) and obey Him 2nd (fruit) not the other way around. We don’t obey Him to be saved, we are saved therefore we obey. Eph2:8-10
- Whenever you say, “I’ll obey you if...” You’re not obeying God, but using Him and trying to make a deal with Him. The “if” is your real god that you are serving.

BELIEVE (I’m more loved than I ever dared to dream) Confidence
Enjoy: His Goodness. Vv15-16

- Jesus becomes more beautiful to your imagination & more attractive to your heart than anything else. John 4:14; 6:35; 7:37-38

Expect: His Greatness. Vv8b, 16-17

- You begin to realize more than ever that no sin or suffering is a match for His redeeming & restoring grace. Rom1:16; 2Pet1:3

Jesus came the 1st time to bear your judgment (Jn1:29). But if you reject Him, when you die (Heb9:27) or when He comes the 2nd time, you will face His judgment (vv16-17).

The absolutely best part of being a Christian is discovering & enjoying the presence & friendship of Jesus Christ. Ps25:14; Jn15:15

Growing Notes

- 1)** Read the introduction of this sermon about Satan. What are your thoughts? How important is it to know whether or not you are a Christian? What does it mean that salvation is a position where you REPENT & BELIEVE in a moment & maintain for the rest of your life?
- 2)** Read Luke 3:1-20. What stands out to you from this text? What is the overall tone? What was John’s basic message (v3)? What Old Testament prophecy was fulfilled by John (v4)? What attitude did John warn the people not to have (vv8-9)? Why? How did the people respond (v10)? How did John describe Jesus (vv16-18)?
- 3)** Review the sermon notes under what it means to REPENT. What does it mean that if you change the root you’ll change the fruit? What is changing the root & the fruit? Why is the order important: Trust 1st & Obey 2nd? What does it mean if a person says, “I’ll obey God if...”?
- 4)** Review the sermon notes under what it means to BELIEVE. What does it mean to Enjoy His Goodness & Expect His Greatness? Why do you think that belief is more than just agreement with facts in the head about Christ but also an appetite for Him in the heart that exceeds all other appetites (Ps63:1)? Are you living in a position of repentance and belief in Jesus? Pray.