

WHAT JESUS PREACHED WAS CLEAR, WHAT ABOUT OUR MESSAGE?

John 3:3 **John 3:1-21**

Introduction: Jesus' call was certain. His purpose and approach was fixed. He also had an urgent message that needed to be heard. Crowds of people surrounded Him everywhere He went, hanging on every word He spoke. He spoke to crowds and He spoke to a few at a time or even alone with a single person. Jesus never lost the opportunity to speak the message He came to bring. What, exactly, was the message Jesus came to bring?

I. HIS MESSAGE WAS CLEAR

1. John the Baptist was a strange-looking man, but his message drew people from all over the area. His message was "*...repent, change your life. God's kingdom is here...*" Also he spoke often of one coming after him who would be greater and bring spiritual transformation.
2. Jesus began to preach too and people were impressed with the authority and power He spoke with. What was the message Jesus preached?
 - The story of Jesus and Nicodemus reveals the message Jesus came to bring: ***John 3:1-21***
3. The message of Jesus:
 - **A kingdom message: (v3)** It was that God is to rule, reign in the hearts of men and that a change had to take place in the heart of a person to be able to see the kingdom of God (God's rule, reign).
 - **The reality of the Spiritual dimension:** God's Kingdom cannot be seen with human eyes but with spiritual vision given by God.
 - For most people, reality or what can be grasped and understood, is defined by the five senses (touch, see, hear, smell and taste). Anything else is questionable.
 - Nobody understands every familiar thing (wind, etc) as Jesus points out, therefore the things of God cannot be analyzed and understood by some process of human reason and logic.
 - **The way into the Kingdom:** The transformed life is not something one does for him/herself. The transformed life is activated by that person's faith in who Jesus is (**vv11-13**).
 - **Rooted in God's Word:** Jesus quoted from Numbers a story: (**vv14-15**). Everyone who looks up to the Son of Man, trusting and expectant, will gain eternal life.
 - Many accept Jesus' humanity but not His divinity. A teacher, but not a redeemer; a miracle worker, but not a Savior.

- If anybody seeks to enter the Kingdom of God, he/she must accept Jesus as the Christ of God who came into the world to set mankind free from sin and to bring eternal life.

- **A Willful Choice:** Entering the Kingdom of God is a matter of a person, under the conviction of the Holy Spirit, choosing Jesus by faith. Upon that act of faith, spiritual transformation will occur.

- The Kingdom of God comes in Jesus. Transformed life begins and continues by submission to the way of Christ. There is no other way. **(John 14:6).**

II. WHAT IS OUR MESSAGE?

1. We are to have no other message than what Jesus brought. Is that the same message we are giving?

- There is a Kingdom of God and it is God and it is God ruling and reigning in the hearts of men and women.

- There is only One way into the Kingdom of God and it is through God's only Son, Jesus, as the Bible says.

- Everyone who wants to enter the Kingdom of God must believe in God's only Son, Jesus.

- The Kingdom of God comes only in Jesus. The changed and eternal life begins and continues by submission to the way of Christ. There is no other way.

2. What is being taught in our Sunday School Classes? What is being taught in other teaching situations in our church?

3. What message are we teaching by the way we live? By what we say? By where we go? By what we watch/read? By the friends we run around with? By the habits we have?

4. What message are we teaching by our attitude toward our church?

CONCLUSION:

1. This church has no other message than which Jesus brought.

2. The Kingdom of God is real. Heaven is real. Hell is real.

3. Jesus is the only way into God's Kingdom and Heaven.

4. Everyone who wants into God's Kingdom must believe in God's only Son, Jesus.

5. Jesus announced good news of redemption; a call for repentance; a challenge to live a radically different lifestyle in the Kingdom of God. His message was a message of change.
 - Not the kind that comes from human effort; not the kind that comes from knowing more.
 - No, the change Jesus spoke about was a spiritual transformation. Through Him, Jesus one who enters the Kingdom and life will never be the same.
6. We have the same message. There is but one message. Anything else we may be preaching or teaching is not the message this church is supposed to be giving.
 - The message of Jesus - Our Message - Our Only message.