

October 18, 2010

SERMONS FOR SUNDAY

October 24, 2010

a.m. *"The Highest is Most Forgiving"*

Scripture: Isaiah 55:6-13

p.m. *"Living in God's Presence"*

Scripture: Exodus 33:12-16

Christ Life-Greater Than All

Don Hatch

Between Jesus' birth and resurrection He displayed a remarkable life of holiness and power. His sinless life, mighty miracles, teachings, graciousness and an all consuming desire to save mankind from sin is unparalleled. His life provided a matchless setting to assure mankind of His claims to be the Son of God. Constantly in the New Testament, the writers describe His deeds and words, as being contributory to the evidence of His divinity. It may have gone unnoticed that there are no physical features described. Was he short, tall or bearded? His eyes and hair, what color were they? The sound of His voice and tonal way of speaking are amazingly not considered. There is not the slightest knowledge of what Jesus looked like. Even with thousands of current pictures, statues and relics, there is still no proof of what He looked like. Making idols from a purported picture, statue or icon lead to a perverse form of idolatry. Veneration of these objects are kissed, bowed before, offered incense and to give adoration or being held in such reverence that they are called "sacred".

The biblical writers gave no hint of Jesus' physical form. Yet they portrayed Him as a man, absolutely perfect in all aspects of life, without pausing to comment on the facts that He had neither weakness of character, nor the perfection of His wisdom and words, which were uniquely morally correct. All together there is no editorial collaboration of adjectives or interjections that give a pictorial view of Jesus. Nothing about His physical man is half as efficient as the character of His words and deeds. No one in history lived like He did. He was the Master of the state of affairs, using exact words and actions never having to seek guidance before He acted. He never had to express regret or withdraw any teaching. He never sought consent because He spoke with authority.

None has had the rare privilege to forgive sins as Jesus did. He did not seek forgiveness of sin since He never sinned. Sinlessness and being free from shortcomings did not give way to conceit or self-righteous behavior. Friends and enemies alike found Him to be a man of authority and judicious at all times. Circumstances which wearied Him were not protested. Hunger, poverty, rejection and denial were met with continual encouragement and comfort for others. Absolute purity and wholesomeness were His hallmark. He overpowered with gentleness and love. The life Jesus confronted life in a practical way in all of life's situations.

He responded and acted in a holy way. No one has found a circumstance wherein they could say, "I could have done it better". Never were there weaknesses or rash responses which manifested fault in His character or person. He defined sin, pronounced the consequences which would befall anyone who sinned and without hypocrisy help all find a way out of the sin. All who read His life are drawn to the fact that He was a perfect pattern for life and happiness. His example is followed by millions because he is no less human than we and yet always God with us. He made it plain that His life was a perfect guide and example to be followed.

Disciples of Christ accept the idea that they must walk even as He did walk (1 Jn 2:6). They too, must have the mind of Christ in them (Phil 2:5). Following in His steps is to live guilelessly, not reviling, nor threatening but judging righteously and acting with prudence (1 Pet 2:20-23). Fulfilling life in a sinless manner is astonishing. Jesus became the perfect guide and help for us in all situations of life. He was touched by all of our infirmities yet without sin (Heb 4:15-16). Because of Jesus mankind can approach the throne of God, finding grace and mercy in times of need. Jesus represented all men everywhere. He is the life giving spirit (1 Cor 15:45).

Mankind awaits the day that they will be as He has become (1 Jn 3:1-3; Rev 1:13). The incarnate body of Jesus was deposited in a borrowed grave and on the third day was bodily raised by the glory of God (Rom 6:1-11). He ascended back to the Father. Thus as the perfect, resurrected and glorified Son of man, the eternal Savior exists today at the right hand of the Father (Act 2:35-38). He has all power and glory (Matt 28:18-20).

The teachings of Jesus define His deity and contain the discourse on how an individual may become redeemed (1 Cor 1:26-31). All who heard Him testify to the gracious words that proceeded from His mouth (Lk 4:22). People were astonished at His authority and power (Mat 7:28, 29; Lk 4:32). His enemies said, "Never man spake like this man" (Jn 7:46). His was a mind of inexhaustible wisdom and guidance in all things. He grew in quaint and a homely environment. Without money, arms, science or formal learning Jesus spoke such words of life as were never spoken before or since. He produced an effect which has spanned time, culture and race of men. His teachings were beyond orators or poets. Without writing a single word He caused minds and hearts to fill volumes of commentaries, sermons, songs, learned books on languages praising Him and His mighty works. No great life passed so swiftly, humbly and exceptionally so as to excite in mankind a will to alter their sinful course. Jesus' teachings are universal and lasting. We are justified in calling attention to Him. His works were greater than a mere mortal man. He redeemed souls, changed lives, transformed characters, exalted His Father. There is no one greater!

FAMILY CARE: A Message from Our Shepherds

Roland and Rose Mohsen have been laboring for the Lord in France for over 30 years. They have sacrificed a lot to live and work in a difficult and materialistic city. God has blessed them with great accomplishments and success. They have not only spent most of their adult life in Paris, but many week spreading the gospel throughout the French world. I have included part of their report:

On September 13th, I baptized Helene Tran 84 years old Thai woman; she is the mother of Ann Tran, and it was a wonderful for day for all of us, to see an elderly impatient to obey the Gospel

like she did. I also studied for over two hours with another Thai woman in her forties. This woman has visited worship on few occasions. We are continuing our weekly studies with Franck and Liva and on Saturday morning with Giovally the son of Cirline who his getting chemo treatment following her breast cancer. From the website we had three families visiting the church, and every month more than 3,000 people visit our website. In September alone, we had people from 29 different nations visit the site and the most they downloaded or watched is the "History of the Church Reformation and Restoration".

This month I put our new presentation that I finally finished "The Project of God for Humanity" on our website. I began a new one, "Can We Reestablish the Original Church in the 21st Century". This past two months we have three people place membership, Pat Stagner from TN who is in Paris for three months, Theresa Sanders who come from N. Carolina, to study French Pastry and Eliane Zingg from Switzerland will be with us for a year improving her French.

We are continually thankful unto God, for your love and concern for the lost souls in the French world and for all that you are doing for us, so we can continue to teach the wonderful Gospel to lost souls.

May God richly bless you and keep you.
~ Roland

As you can see they have not let the difficulties of their financial losses slow their enthusiasm to keep working for the Lord. Roland is utilizing the internet to preach and explain God's word. He is baptizing the lost and encouraging brethren to place membership with them. Please remember them in your prayers and may they regain some of their lost financial support.

~ Richard Renfro

"Keep back thy servant also from presumptuous sins; Let them not have dominion over me: Then shall I be upright, And I shall be clear from great transgression. Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart Be acceptable in thy sight, O Jehovah, my rock, and my redeemer" (Ps 19:13, 14 ASV).

SOUTHSIDE CHURCH OF CHRIST LECTURESHIP

The religion of the New Testament differs from all others because it affects and appeals to those who want to govern their hearts, souls and minds. Other systems of religion have a power of their own nature, but the gospel distinctively is constrained by the affections which motivate and control the soul, bringing it into submission to the gospel's loving claims. The divine revelation is not neglectful of any part of our being. It appeals to reason, instruction, truth and addresses the type of walk we should desire. The New Testament speaks to reverence, blessings of fellowship with God and expectation, after a faithful life, of a home beyond ready to be revealed from heaven. Men, being the object of God's attentions, are awakened to godly desires and aware of diversions which cause stumbling. The light metaphorically represents illumination and direction for the soul of man. The **Lectureship in Lubbock Texas at the Southside Church of Christ** considered "Walking In The Light" this

year. Each lesson dealt with an aspect of light. Foremost was the life a Christian will have as one who walks in fellowship with God.

Each lesson was dovetailed into the theme “Walking in the Light”. **Brother Tommy Hicks** did a masterful job of coordinating lessons so that speakers did not have to be redundant in their material. Each lesson suggested the general theme and gave detailed information about the text which was assigned. Sister Sue Hicks did so many things I doubt if I could list them. She is a wonderful wife of a “preacher man”.

The setting down of the Christian principles, essential features and distinctiveness of an individual, walking in the light helped those listening gain spiritual insights into the Christian they want to become. Great concern was shown for those who are lost and need to have the light manifested unto them. The lessons were bound together, presenting the “truth in love”. The distinctiveness of walking in the light was related to daily circumstances each Christian and non-Christian will face. The book which Brother Hicks produced is a valuable tool. The lessons it contains will help those “bound for glory” and those seeking to know what glory is.

Countless unnamed “heroes of the faith” were behind the scenes making the Lectureship go smoothly. Brothers and sisters took vacations and gave up time to feed, house and assist all that came. Young families were a part of the audiences. Students and faculty from **Southwest School of Bible Studies** attended. It was good to see that future generations of Preachers are hearing these unique lessons. A young man, in his teens, from Lubbock introduced Brother Robert Taylor, a faithful man, in a much older generation. He was dressed properly, poised and did his work with dignity. Without notes he gave a brief history (it is a long and faithful history) of his life and education. He demonstrated the interest and the uniqueness of young men who will one day be either a Preachers, Elders, Deacons, Bible School Teachers and faithful member of the body of Christ.

Individuals and families came from great distances to attend the Lectureship. We had time to get acquainted and learn of other faithful congregations across our Brotherhood. Lectureships with faithful brethren are worth the “Go”!

~ Don Hatch

GREETER ASSIGNMENTS

Sunday, October 24, 2010

Front foyer: Mike & Elizabeth Garrison

Back foyer: JC & Dessie Ross

Sunday, October 31, 2010

Front foyer: Robert & Betty Ruckman

Back foyer: Max Melton

Family News:

MISSION PRINTING

Mission Printing will meet **Sunday** at 4:00 p.m. in the Jr. Auditorium.

SINGING SESSION

The singing class will meet **Sunday** in room #116 at 5:15 p.m.

MENS' GATHERING/DEVOTIONAL

The **Monday morning** devotional will meet at 6:00 a.m. in the Annex.

NEW ARRIVALS

New issues of the Gospel Minutes are available in the front foyer.

RESPONSE

Don Hancock responded to the Lord's invitation for prayers for him & Judy during this difficult time.

LADIES

Ladies' class will meet **Tuesday, October 26th** at 9:30 a.m. with the lesson "Conduct Yourself in a Worthy Manner" by Marinell Zaun.

Ladies' ½ Day April 30, 2011; "Legacy of Woman Across Time": Biblical Women in God's Service (OT & NT), Modern Christian Women. What will be your legacy? Speaker: Beverly McKey

CHRIST'S HAVEN

The Christ's Haven van will be picking up groceries on November 2nd; if you would like to participate, please take a bag with a list of items needed attached from the front & back foyers, fill them, & bring them back to the building by Sunday, October 31st.

TAPES ARE AVAILABLE

In the study of the Minor Prophets with Brother Hatch, the theme of "Practical Lessons of Permanent Value" is being studied. Lessons have been taped & are available. If interested, please complete a tape order form. The book of Amos is complete; Obadiah will be next.

CONGRATULATIONS

Ivy Paul's grandson, Vijay, was recently married. We pray for this couple and their work for the Lord. Vijay has baptized a dozen souls this year.

THANK YOU

Thank you for your prayers for comfort during our time of grief. God bless, the family of Lee Roy Bufe

WITH SYMPATHY

Marcella Porter's brother-in-law passed away early last week.

The mother of the Webb's brother-in-law passed away yesterday morning.

NEWS OF THE SICK

- Marjorie Bennett** will have a defibrillator put in on Dec. 1st.
- Grady Fowler** is having high blood pressure issues.
- Judy Hancock** is under 24-hour hospice care at home.
- Kati Mimms** is experiencing a reaction to a new medication.
- Frances Tipton** continues to suffer with a great deal of pain.
- Myrtle Wade** is now home.
- Ira Wolfe** is ill at home; he has an appointment at the VA this week.
- CD Hancock** (Don's dad) is under hospice care in Odessa.
- Linda Lowman** (Elsie Nanney's daughter) is in Methodist Hospital/Desoto, room #A3102.
- Dorie Winniford** (Kim Mayer's aunt) has only days left of life.

CONTINUOUS PRAYER CONCERNS:

Evelyn Armstrong, Erma Lee Baker, Bobby Bowen, Fauna Garrett, Billie Gilliam, Don & Judy Hancock, Jean Kelly, Jack & Frances LaFerney, Garldean Latham, Tom Prince, Jan Smithson, Thomas West, Brad Anderson (Bill Paschall's friend), Gail Hieronymus (Mike Garrison's daughter), Johnny Williams (Bobbie's son).

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Be sure and mark your calendar -

- October 24: Mission Printing in the Jr. Auditorium at 4:00 p.m.
- October 24: Singing class in room #116 at 5:15 p.m.
- October 26: Ladies' Bible Class at 9:30 a.m.

LORD'S TABLE/MORNING

Front Table

- Mike Batot
- James Gilliam
- Denzil Myers
- Stan Selby
- Henry Seidmeyer
- Thomas Rathbun
- Jerry Baker
- Dorris Walker

Rear Table

- JC Ross
- Robert Taylor
- Max Melton
- Keith Vaughn
- Derrol Allen
- Bill Paschall
- Roy Martin
- Bobby England

SUNDAY A.M. PRAYERS

- Richard Renfro
- Darrell Allen
- Marvin Brown

A.M. SCRIPTURE READING

- Glen Kelly
Isaiah 55:6-13

A.M. SONG LEADER

- Garl Latham

SUNDAY P.M. PRAYERS

- Thomas Rathbun
- Garl Latham

P.M. SCRIPTURE READING

- Mike Garrison
- Exodus 33:12-16

P.M. SONG LEADER(S)

- Jerry Baker (last song: Denzil Myers)

LORD'S TABLE/EVENING

- Marvin Brown
- Glen Kelly

COMMUNION TO SHUT-INS

- Mike Batot

FOR THE RECORD: WEEK ENDING ATTENDANCE & BUDGET

	<u>Last Week</u>	<u>This Week</u>	<u>YTD Avg.</u>	<u>Goal</u>
Sun. Class	78	87	84	125
A.M. Worship	145	150	148	210
P.M. Worship	71	74	78	112
Wed. Class	70	79	78	110
Ladies Bible Class	23	24	29	30
Contribution	\$4321	\$4960	\$5259	\$5433

MISSIONS

- Charlie & Mary DiPalma - Malaysia
- Willie & Del Gley – Ghana/Togo, Africa
- Roland & Rose Mohsen – France
- Gary & Nadya Workman – Ukraine
- Glen & Kuintattersall – Australia
- Oleg & Natasha Yakimenko - Russia
- Wil & Telanda Sadler – Military Missions
- Christ's Haven Children's Home - Keller, TX
- Foster's Home for Children – Stephenville, TX
- Bitragunta Church of Christ, Bitragunta, India
- Dan Keele – Bear Valley School of Preaching
- Wayne Jackson – Christian Courier on the Web
- Ted Lingren - Sisophon Bible School – Cambodia
- Mission Printing Worldwide Literature Distribution
- Terry & Pam Laurence – Ft. Defiance, Arizona – Navajo Nation
- Dennis & Beth Johnson - Chennai Teacher Training School – India