

January 19, 2009

SERMONS FOR SUNDAY

January 25, 2009

a.m. "*Christian Living and Teaching Sound Words*"

Scripture: James 2:1-13

p.m. "*The Unfolding of Character*"

Scripture: 2 Peter 3:1-7

The Son of Man. Son of God

Don Hatch

The titles "Son of Man, Son of God" are used to identify Jesus Christ of Nazareth. Jesus' uniqueness is of the utmost importance. Those taking hasty glances at the scriptures have often tried to eclipse the titles "Son of God" with "Son of Man". Within the scriptures they are decidedly different. "Sons of God" is applied to angels in Job (Job 2:1). It is said that they presented themselves before God and may be so called because they are creatures of God's creation, spiritual beings resembling God who is spirit. "Son of God" is applied to the first man (Lk 3:38) and the parable of the prodigal son (Lk 15:11-32). It applied to the Hebrew nation, as God's first-born, who were the object of Jehovah's special love and guidance (Ex 4:22). It applied to the kings of Israel who were His representatives of the chosen nation (2 Sam 7:14). It applies to the saints of the New Testament (Jn 1:12). Thus "Son of God" is a very broad term which identifies men and angels.

The "Son of Man" was a favorite self-designation of Jesus in the biographical accounts by Matthew, Mark, Luke and John. Jesus used this to identify Himself with man and in a loftier sense with God as the ideal of the race and typical of what man should be in relationship to the Father. The Psalmist said, "What is man, that thou art mindful of him? And the son of man, that thou visitest him?" (Psm 8:4). Jesus used this to apply to Himself for it gave the lowliness and loftiness of His nature. In the age of national decline the Psalmist said, "Let thy hand be upon the man of thy right hand, upon the son of man whom thou madest strong for thyself" (Psm 80:17). Israel sought a Messiah and the Son of Man related to their frail nature and humble conditions. It is equivalent to Jesus' human nature and is characterized with qualities distinctively human. This title also identified Jesus with all mankind and on the other hand thereby exalted Him above the race as the genuine offspring of God (Mat 3:13-17; 17:1-5; Jn 3:1-15).

"Son of God" is applied to Jesus Christ. There is a common participation of Sonship by the covenant shared with God. The divine Sonship was predicted and connected with the house of David, a royal house. Nathan declared to David that his son would be God's Son and the throne would be established forever wherein the Sonship is elevated to combine perpetuity

and accomplishments of the Son (2 Sam 7:14-16). David spoke of the future, God-anointed king of Zion as destined for an irreversible inheritance of the kingdom because He was Jehovah's Son and would have a right to wield Jehovah's power and exercise His sovereignty to the utmost bounds of the earth (Psm 2; 45). The child who was to come would be Immanuel (God with us), Wonderful, Counselor, the Mighty God, the Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. These titles possessed divine attributes and are attributed to Jesus (Isa 7:14; 9:1-7). When Jesus announced His proper assumption of divinity He was met with uncompromising opposition, except among His immediate disciples. When He forgave sins, as only God can do, He was charged with blasphemy (Mat 9:3). Jesus did not desist from His work but appealed to His work as incontrovertible proof of His divinity. In all passages when Jesus claimed divinity they come to bear when capital charges are brought against Him at His trial when He confessed to being the Son of the Living God (Mat 26:63-66).

Jesus was manifested as the "Son" at His baptism and declared to be "Son of God" at His death (Mat 3:17; 27:54). By these words Jesus was designated as the Messiah. The same could be said of the voice heard on the Mount of Transfigurations declaring Jesus as the Son (Mat 17:1-8). At Caesarea Philippi, Jesus evoked from the twelve the confession "Thou art the Christ", to which Peter, added "the Son of the Living God" (Mk 8:29; Lk 9:20; Mat 16:16). Jesus was the long awaited Messiah because He was the "Son of God". Jesus identified Himself with the Father and the Jews sought to kill Him because they thought He had blasphemed (Jn 5:18). At Jesus trial when questioned about being the Christ, Jesus told them that He would be at the right hand of the power of God and they said this meant he was the "Son of God" (Lk 22:67-71). Jesus' highest claim was to be the Christ. Because of Jesus calling Himself the "Christ" it brought unbounded anger and a sentence of death.

These titles are used for the Lord when He comes in judgment (Mat 25:3; 2 Tim 4:1, 2). He has all authority in Heaven and on earth (Mat 28:18-20). Jesus is named along with the Father and Holy Spirit in ways to suggest the equality with God (Phil 2:1-11; 2 Cor 13:14). Jesus Christ the Lord is declared the Son of God with power, according to the Spirit of holiness, by the resurrection from the dead (Rom 1:1-7).

Thus Jesus' preexistence, life and finally coming in judgment are statements which build faith. The testimony of God the Father, Holy Spirit, Jesus himself, his witnesses and history verify that a faith in Jesus as the Son of man and Son of God is essential for He was not only man, but God (Matt 1:18-20; Jn 1:1-17). These title not only conclude the personal qualities of Jesus as a man, but His function as Messiah wherein mankind may recover the lost relationship with the Father via the Son. Jesus demonstrated His sympathy with mankind and established their destiny by being the Son of God and Son of Man.

FAMILY CARE

A Message from Our Shepherds

Confidence! What a strong word, especially if we associate the word with God. Paul's confidence in God's work should give us confidence. *"...being confident of this very thing, that He who has begun a good work in you will complete it until the day of Jesus Christ; just as it is right for me to think this of you all, because I have you in my heart, inasmuch as both in my chains and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel, you all are partakers with me of*

grace. For God is my witness, how greatly I long for you all with the affection of Jesus Christ” Phil. 1:6-8.

Paul expresses his firm confidence in one thing—that God will complete the work that he has begun with the Philippian brethren. God is at work in the Christians at Philippi and he is at work in us as Christians (Phil. 2:12-13). *“Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; for it is God who works in you both to will and to do for His good pleasure.”*

God will continue his work within the Christian until the end of the Christian life. You see, God prunes us like a vinedresser prunes grape vines, that we may bear more fruit. *“Every branch in Me that does not bear fruit He takes away; and every branch that bears fruit He prunes, that it may bear more fruit”* John 15:2. We are transformed to become like Christ (2 Cor. 3:18). *“But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as by the Spirit of the Lord.”*

May we have great confidence in the work of the Lord for our lives. May we never look back and only look forward. May we never be ashamed to speak up and out about our Lord. Confidence is a great thing to have.

~Jerry

SOWING THE SEED OF THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN IN 2009

Worship

All of us need the enthusiasm which comes from worshipping God together. There is something ineradicable about it which moves us in His ways and supports us in affection and good works. Longing for our meetings together to share true and spiritual worship is critical. Dreary ceremonies neither pay tribute to God nor hearten the saints. We need to participate in the practice of contributing spiritual sacrifices to Him.

What can a person do to help in worship?

Prepare. Coming into God's presence to offer Him glory, admiration and praise is not something which can be done without consideration and endeavor. The heart cannot express what it does not hold. Fill it ahead of time with gratefulness, humbleness and praise. Set your priorities and plan to be attentive enough to pour out your heart, soul and mind unto God through the Lord Jesus Christ.

Participate. Worship is a vigorous word. No one can do it for you. Scrutinize your heart. Present yourself to God. Pray ardently. Lift up your voice in praise. Ponder the Word. Follow in the Bible. Draw near to God. The only way to do this is to be energetically occupied in worship.

Practice. Worship must make a difference in our life. Use your voice by honoring God and helping mankind. Keep yourself from worldliness. Take actions which display compassion and manifest a sincere desire to help. Active faith always produces fruits of righteousness. You will discover that worship prepares you for life and your daily life prepares you for worship. Making

worship more meaningful is up to us. We are a key ingredient. Accepting responsibility is a matter of faith.

"See then that ye walk circumspectly, not as fools, but as wise, redeeming the time, because the days are evil" (Eph 5:15, 16). "Walk in wisdom toward them that are without, redeeming the time" (Colossians 4:5). The Greek word for "redeem" means to "buy back," to "ransom," or even to "rescue." Time is a very valuable asset in danger of being lost forever unless it is rescued, or redeemed. Worship has redemptive value. Time is the most valuable asset we have. If we squander our money or lose our health, there is always the likelihood of earning more money or being reinstated to health, but waste time and it is gone eternally. Those who are prudent redeem the time, whereas the imprudent waste it. Being circumspect requires diligence (Mat 2:7; Col 2:7). Redeeming the time is walking diligently and in wisdom from above (Jas 3:13-18). Therefore, the time God allocates to us should be used both vigilantly and conscientiously. Take time to be holy. Each day of our lives is crucially important in the plan of God. It is a constant in the Bible that the people of God worship Him. Worship recognizes God and gives adoration unto Him for His manifold gifts (Jas 1:17, 18). Being in His presence and humbling oneself is where the pride of man is surrendered and service to God begins. Drawing near to God requires purified hearts (Jas 4:1-10). Those who worship equip themselves with the truism of, "if the Lord wills we will live and do". Pride is surrendered before the throne of God. In worship the throne of God is approached and in the times of need He will grant mercy and grace (Heb 4:14-16).

"Lord, teach us to number our days, that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom" (Psm 90:12).

~ Don Hatch

GREETER ASSIGNMENTS

Sunday, January 25, 2009

Front foyer: Ilene Ashworth, Carol Swinney; Brandon & Kenica Thomason

Back foyer: Nancy Pond, Roberta Price

Sunday, February 1, 2009

Front foyer: Richard & Carolyn Renfro; Thomas Rathbun

Back foyer: JC & Dessie Ross

Family News:

MISSION PRINTING

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

MENS' GATHERING/DEVOTIONAL

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

OPEN FORUM

The Grandbury Street Church of Christ will be hosting an Open Forum entitled "What Do You Know About the Emerging Church Movement?" on **February 7, 2009** from 12:45p.m. – 4:30p.m. See details on the flyer posted on the bulletin board in the back foyer.

SINGING SESSION

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

LADIES

Ladies' Bible Class will meet in the Annex this Tuesday, **January 27th** at 9:30 a.m. a lesson by Letitia Beverly.

Also, if you're interested in participating in the bear program, plan to stay after Bible Class on **January 27th**.

IN APPRECIATION

To my friends & family at Belt Line: I sincerely thank you for your help & prayers for Bob & me. I and my family will be eternally grateful to all of you. You are truly the most generous & loving Christian family I have ever seen. The service was beautiful, and Bob had a great send-off at the cemetery. He would have been very proud. In Christian love, Gwen Bingham & family

PRAYER CONCERNS

·**Erma Lee Baker** was treated & released from the ER with leg pain.

·**Judy Hancock** will undergo major dental surgery today.

·**Mike Roses** was released from Parkland on Friday after a motorcycle accident.

·**Mary Scott** was able to be in worship yesterday.

·**George Ryon** (Ann's son) will undergo surgery soon.

Continue to remember those who are recuperating or suffering with long-term illnesses, including: Fauna Garrett, Billie Gilliam, Don & Judy Hancock, Garldean Latham, Tom Prince, Thomas West, Brad Anderson (Bill Paschall's friend), Nancy Bauer (mother of Scott Watson), Glen Elmore (elderly father of a friend of Garl Latham), Frank Garrett (Fauna's husband), Percy Henry (Hank's brother), Todd Jonas (Charlene Carroll's grandson), Willie Lawson (Shellie Pearce's dad), Mildred Pennington (the Gilliam's sister-in-law), George Ryon (Ann's son), Chelsea Sutton (the Garrison's granddaughter), Crystal Vaughan (Mary Curtis' daughter), Scott Watson (Jeanene Heilman's neighbor), Linda Woodruff (the Webb's neighbor), & our shut-ins.

Church of Christ
Area-Wide Programs

“Let’s Do It Christ’s Way” Sundays 6:30 a.m. KFWD (TV).

“The Truth in Love” Sundays 7:30 a.m. KFWD (TV).

“In Search of the Lord’s Way” Sundays 7:00 a.m. KDFI (TV),

“Church of Christ Hour – Heaven 97” Sundays 7:30 a.m. 970 AM (Radio).

“Main Street Church of Christ” Sundays 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. 1630 AM (Radio)
Repeat broadcast: 9:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.

“GBN” Dish Network 9407 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon everyday. Also on Direct TV at 7:00 a.m.

“Good-News-Network” (24 hours/day) www.good-news-network.org (Internet).

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Be sure and mark your calendar -

- January 25: Mission Printing in the Jr. Auditorium at 4:00 p.m.
- January 25: Singing session in room #116 at 5:15 p.m.
- January 27: Ladies’ Bible Class in the Annex at 9:30 a.m.
- April 25: Ladies’ ½ Day

NURSERY ATTENDANTS

Sunday morning:

- Shellie Pearce

Sunday evening:

- Betty Ruckman

DEC. LORD’S TABLE/MORNING

Front Table

- Purman Cofer
- Jerry Baker
- Dorris Walker
- Marvin Brown
- Mike Garrison
- Bill Matthews
- John Mayer
- Ty Harvey

Rear Table

- JC Ross
- Robert Taylor
- Max Melton
- Keith Vaughn
- Bobby Bowen
- Jeremy Hardegree
- Virgil LaFerney
- Derroll Allen

SUNDAY P.M. PRAYERS

- Garl Latham
- Richard Renfro

P.M. SCRIPTURE READING

- Nathan Allen
- 2 Peter 3:1-7

SUNDAY A.M. PRAYERS

- Jerry McKey
- Jerry Baker
- Brandon Thomason

A.M. SCRIPTURE READING

- Jeremy Hardegree
- James 2:1-13

A.M. SONG LEADER

- Darrell Allen

P.M. SONG LEADER

· Ty Harvey (last song, Brandon Thomason)

LORD'S TABLE/EVENING

· Robert Ruckman
· Stan Selby

COMMUNION TO SHUT-INS

· Bill Paschall

FOR THE RECORD: WEEK ENDING ATTENDANCE & BUDGET

	<u>Last Week</u>	<u>This Week</u>	<u>YTD Avg.</u>	<u>Goal</u>
Sun. Class	105	90	94	125
A.M. Worship	172	158	159	210
P.M. Worship	102	85	90	112
Wed. Class	82	90	77	110
Ladies Bible Class	-	23	20	35
Contribution	\$5963	\$5805	\$6006	\$5474

MISSIONS

Charlie & Mary DiPalma - India
 Willie 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 – Stephenille, TX
 Bitragunta Church of Christ, Bitragunta, India
 Ian & Mabel McPherson – Tasmania Australia
 Wayne Jackson – Christian Courier on the Web
 Ted Lingren - Sisophon Bible School – Cambodia
 Mission Printing Worldwide Literature Distribution
 Terry & Pam Laurence – Bear Valley School of Preaching
 Dennis & Beth Johnson - Chennai Teacher Training School – India