

Veiled in Flesh the Godhead See

(The Wonder of the Incarnation)

desert breeze
community church



Saturday & Sunday, Dec 29 & 30 2018 Ray Davis

“Power” John 1:19-34

Nothing has the power to transform your life like intimacy with God. Intimacy with God is enjoying the riches of God’s Glory (His indescribable greatness and unimaginable goodness).

In this text we see some very deep changes in John the Baptist. If that is true about him, though he knows very little about the coming of the Messiah compared to us, even more so should that be true about us.

Power for Life Change Happens Through...

1) A Healthy View of Self. vv1, 22 “Who are you?”

- Humble – It’s not thinking less of yourself but thinking of yourself less (self-forgetfulness). vv20-23 (Phil2:3-4; Gal5:26) Mal3:1, 4:5; Deut18:15; Matt11:11, 17:12-13
- Boldness – It’s being controlled by the love and Word of God rather than people pleasing. Vv24-26 (Gal1:10; 1Thess2:4; Eph4:15, 25) Truth w/o love is self-righteous superiority. Love w/o truth is self-indulgent inferiority.

2) Comes from A Healthy View of God.

Jer9:23-24; Pro9:10; John 17:3

- Indescribable Greatness (Awe/Humble) vv23 (Isa40), 26-27, 34
- Unimaginable Goodness (Intimacy/Boldness) v29 “Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!”

The wonder of the Cross is that it reveals and satisfies both the Greatness (Just) and Goodness (Justifier) of God (Rom3:26).

3) Giving us an Identity that is Received not Achieved.

- Achieved Identity – success will go to your head (inflate you) and failure will go to your heart (deflate you). vv19, 25 (John 5:44, 12:43; John 3:30)
- Received Identity – I am more sinful than I ever dared to think and more loved than I ever dared to dream. (2Cor5:17; Gal2:20, 6:14)

Growing Notes

- 1) As we head into a New Year what hurt, habit or hang-up are you wanting to overcome? Why do you think that nothing has the power to transform your life like intimacy with God? Intimacy with God is enjoying the riches of God’s Glory (indescribable greatness and unimaginable goodness). Explain.
- 2) Read John 1:19-34. What stands out to you from this text? What were the Religious leaders asking John the Baptist (vv19, 22, 24)? How did John the Baptist respond (Vv20, 23, 26-27)? Who was John the Baptist making much of (vv28-34)?
- 3) What is a healthy view of self as demonstrated by John the Baptist? What does it mean to be humble (Phil2:3-4; Gal5:26)? What does it mean to be bold (Gal1:10; 1Thess2:4)? How does speaking the truth in love relate (Eph4:15, 15)?
- 4) How does a healthy view of self, come from a healthy view of God (Jer9:23-24; Pro9:10; John 17:3)? How does John the Baptist portray a healthy view of God (vv29, 34)? How does the Cross of Christ reveal both the greatness and goodness of God (Rom3:26)?
- 5) A healthy view of self and of God gives us an identity that is received and not achieved. Explain. What are the characteristics of an achieved identity? Received identity? Why would the best test for being humble and bold making much of Jesus (v23 “I am a voice”)? What is God speaking to you through this study? Pray.