"THE MOST IMPORTANT TASK OF THE CHURCH"

Satilla Baptist Church Wray, GA Sunday January 15th 2017 Pastor William Pope

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- I. What is the most important task of the church?
 - a. It is to preach the message of Jesus Christ.

2Cor 4:5 (NKJV) For we do not preach ourselves, but Christ **Jesus the Lord**, and ourselves your bondservants for Jesus' sake.

1Cor 1:23 (NKJV) but we preach **Christ crucified**, to the Jews a stumbling block and to the Greeks foolishness,

Acts 8:35 (NKJV) Then Philip opened his mouth, and beginning at this Scripture, preached Jesus to him.

Acts 17:18 (NKJV) Then certain Epicurean and Stoic philosophers encountered him. And some said, "What does this babbler want to say?" Others said, "He seems to be a proclaimer of foreign gods," because he preached to them **Jesus and the resurrection**.

2Cor 1:19 (NKJV) For the **Son of God, Jesus Christ**, who was preached among you by us--by me, Silvanus, and Timothy--was not Yes and No, but in Him was Yes. 20 For all the promises of God in Him [are] Yes, and in Him Amen, to the glory of God through us.

WHO THEN IS THIS JESUS?

MARK 8:27-29

- 1. Elijah= Spirilist= Miracle Worker
- 2. John the Baptist= Moralist
- 3. Christ, Son of the Living God

I. HIS NATURE: JOHN 8:56-58 "I AM"

- A. Jesus is God. nothing is too hard for God.
- B. Eternal, All powerful, All knowing,

II. HIS ABILITY TO SATISFY: JOHN 6:32-35 "BREAD OF LIFE"

- A. Jesus is food to the hungry and water to the thirsty.
- B. He knows the deepest need of our heart, and He knows how to fill that need.

III. HIS ABILITY TO ENLIGHTEN: JOHN 8:12 "LIGHT OF THE WORLD"

A. This was spoken during the Feast of Tabernacles during which a lighting ceromony took place in the women's court of the Temple. 4 large lamps were lit and an all night celebration took place under them with people dancing and singing songs and praises.

B. He brings meaning and direction to men and women.

IV HIS ABILITY TO BRING TO GOD: JOHN 10:7-10 "DOOR OF THE SHEEP"

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- A. Jesus is the only way to God.
- B. All others are theives and robbers.
- C. He is the way to abundant Life.

V. HIS ABILITY TO CARE FOR HIS OWN: JOHN 10:11-15 "GOOD SHEPHERD"

- A. His love for us.
- B. His knowledge of us
- C. Our knowledge of Him.

VI. HIS ABILITY TO SAVE FROM DEATH: JOHN 11:25-26 "RESSURECTION & THE LIFE"

- A. Final victory
- B. I give to them eternal life.

VII. HIS EXCLUSIVE NATURE: JOHN 14:6 "THE WAY, TRUTH, LIFE"

- A. Way to God; not one who showed us the way, HE is the Way
- B. Truth of God; not one who taught us truth, HE is Truth
- C. Life of God; not one who brought life to us, HE is Life
- D. Except through Me; Salvation is a Person.

VIII. HIS ABILITY TO MAKE US FRUITFUL JOHN 15:1-5 "THE VINE"

- A. Helpless outside of Him
- B. Fruitful in Him

I AM

I AM THE BREAD OF LIFE

I AM THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD

I AM THE DOOR OF THE SHEEP

I AM THE GOOD SHEPHARD

I AM THE RESSURECTION AND THE LIFE

I AM THE WAY, THE TRUTH, AND THE LIFE

I AM THE TRUE VINE

How can I know Jesus?

Recognize you are a sinner: Rom 3:23

Penalty to pay Rom 6:23

Jesus paid it all: Rom 5:8 Confess Jesus Rom 10:8-10