

Come and See

Isaiah 49:1-7; John 1:29-41 / Psalm 40:1-11

I. Who Is Jesus?

A. John the Baptist testified about Jesus. “The next day John seeth Jesus coming unto him, and saith, ***Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world.***” (John 1:29)

B. John was talking about the atonement and the one who would reconcile God and man by sacrifice. “***He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth: he is brought as a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before her shearers is dumb, so he openeth not his mouth. He was taken from prison and from judgment: and who shall declare his generation? for he was cut off out of the land of the living: for the transgression of my people was he stricken.***” (ISAIAH 53:7-8)

C. The Substitutionary Atonement was central to early preaching. “The place of the scripture which he read was this, ***He was led as a sheep to the slaughter; and like a lamb dumb before his shearer, so opened he not his mouth.***” (Acts 8:32)

D. John eliminated any confusion. “***And I saw, and bare record that this is the Son of God.***” (John 1:34)

E. To bring people to Jesus is to bring them to the Savior. “***For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved. He that believeth on him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.***” (John 3:16-18)

II. Jesus Is the Suffering Sinner’s Hope

A. Jesus gave a simple gospel message and His listeners obeyed. “He saith unto them, ***Come and see. They came and saw*** where he dwelt, and abode with him that day: for it was about the tenth hour.” (John 1:39)

B. There is a plan of salvation and it focuses on Jesus. “All that the Father giveth me shall come to me; and ***him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out.***” (John 6:37)

C. Jesus was looking for the helpless. “***For the Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost.***” (Luke 19:10)

D. Seek the Savior. “I love them that love me; and ***those that seek me early shall find me.***” (Proverbs 8:17)

E. Jesus is seeking those who need help. “***Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.***” (Matthew 11:28-30)

F Jesus spoke reassuringly. “Behold, ***I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me.***” (Revelation 3:20)

III. Believers Act on What They Know

A. Andrew acted on his encounter with Jesus. “*One of the two which heard John speak, and followed him, was Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother.*” (John 1:40)

B. Immediately Andrew evangelized his brother. “*He first findeth his own brother Simon, and saith unto him, We have found the Messias, which is, being interpreted, the Christ.*” (John 1:41)

C. Andrew not only told Simon, he brought him to see for himself. “*And he brought him to Jesus.* And when Jesus beheld him, he said, Thou art Simon the son of Jona: thou shalt be called Cephas, which is by interpretation, A stone.” (John 1:42)

D. This convert Simon is better known as Peter the church builder. “*And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.*” (Matthew 16:18) “*Simon, (whom he also named Peter,)* and Andrew his brother, James and John, Philip and Bartholomew,” (Luke 6:14)

E. The other disciple also understood and evangelized. “*Philip findeth Nathanael, and saith unto him, We have found him, of whom Moses in the law, and the prophets, did write, Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph.*” (John 1:45)

F. As believers evangelize, Jesus is also calling. “*And Jesus, walking by the sea of Galilee, saw two brethren, Simon called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea: for they were fishers. And he saith unto them, Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men. And they straightway left their nets, and followed him.*” (Matthew 4:18-20)

G. We call because He first called us. “*We love him, because he first loved us.*” (1 John 4:19)

+ Dr. Edwin P. Elliott