



Sermon Title: "Called to Follow the Incomparable Christ"

Scripture: John 1:35-51

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Introduction

Colossians 1:19 - "For in Him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell."

Colossians 2:2b-3 - "...God's mystery, which is Christ, in whom are hiding all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge."

Psalm 16:11 - "You make known to me the path of life; in Your presence there is fullness of joy; at Your right hand are pleasures forevermore."

Note: John is not unclear; he is not ambiguous! Behold the Lamb; follow Him!

I. Come and See Jesus!

A. The Messiah Questioned (John 1:35-39)

Note: If we seek from Jesus something that He's not offering, we're going to find ourselves terribly disappointed & disillusioned.

John 6:26-27 - "Truly, truly, I say to you, you are seeking Me, not because you saw signs, but because you ate your fill of the loaves. Do not work for the food that perishes, but for the food that endures to eternal life, which the Son of Man will give to you. For on Him God the Father has set His seal."

Luke 24:27 - "And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, He [Jesus] interpreted to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning Himself."

B. The Messiah Authoritative (John 1:40-42)

Genesis 4:9 - "...am I my brother's keeper?"

Note: The bottom line is that we, like Peter, need to come to terms with and embrace the complete authority and sovereignty of Jesus Christ.

John 5:22-23a - "The Father judges no one, but has given all judgment to the Son, that all may honor the Son, just as they honor the Father."

C. The Messiah Challenged (John 1:44-46)

Romans 10:17 - "So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the Word of Christ."

D. The Messiah Revealed (John 1:47-51)

Genesis 28:12-13a - "And he [Jacob] dreamed, and behold, there was a ladder (a flight of stairs/steps) set up on the earth, and the top of it reached to heaven. And behold, the angels of God were ascending and descending on it! And behold, the Lord stood above it and said, 'I am the Lord, the God of Abraham...'"

What does this title mean? Why does Jesus often refer to Himself as "the Son of Man"?

Daniel 7:13-14 - "I saw in the night visions, and behold, with the clouds of heaven there came one like a son of man, and He came to the Ancient of Days and was presented before Him. And to Him was given dominion and glory and a kingdom, that all peoples, nations, and languages should serve Him; His dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and His kingdom one that shall not be destroyed."

Jesus is... "the Word", "God", "Creator", "the Life", "the Light", "fully man", "grace & truth", "the dispenser of grace", "the Definer of God", "the Baptizer who baptizes with the Holy Spirit", "the Lamb of God", "the One anointed with the Holy Spirit", "the Son of God", "the Rabbi/the Teacher", "the Messiah", "the King of Israel", "the Bridge/Link/Stairway to heaven", and "the Son of Man".

You will see greater things: **1 John 3:2; 1 Corinthians 2:9; 1 Thessalonians 4:16-17 -**

Take Home Questions for Further Study...

- 1) What was the central message/theme of John the Baptist's ministry?
- 2) Why did Jesus ask the two disciples what they were seeking in following Him? Why is that an important question? Why are you following Jesus? What are you seeking? Is it possible to follow Jesus for the wrong reason(s) or with a wrong motivation?
- 3) What is significant about Andrew's life/ministry? What is Andrew seen as doing in the book of John?
- 4) Why does Jesus rename Simon to Cephas/Peter? What's the significance? What does this teach us about Jesus? What does this teach us about Peter and his future?
- 5) Philip encouraged Nathanael to come and see Jesus. How do we/can we encourage people to see Jesus today? Where do we get an accurate picture and understanding of Jesus?
- 6) What are the "greater things" that Jesus was referring to in verse 50?