

# TITLE: THE COMING OF THE SERVANT



**FEBRUARY 21, 2010**  
**TRI-CITY BAPTIST CHURCH**

# “THE BEGINNING OF THE GOSPEL”



- **MARK 1:1, The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God;**
- Words found in a calendar inscription around 9 B.C. in Asia Minor regarding the celebration of the birthday of Augustus, “the birthday of the god was for the world **the beginning of joyful tidings (gospel)** which have been proclaimed on his account.”

# ISRAEL NEEDED SOME GOOD NEWS



1. It was 400+ years since God had spoken to Israel through a prophet.
2. The Emperor Augustus ruled the Roman Empire seeking to be worshiped as God.
3. The land of Israel was being governed by a pagan by the name of Pontius Pilate.
4. In Jerusalem, an Edomite monster named Herod the Great sat on the throne.

All of this was bad news! The world needed good news!

# I. THE COMING OF THE SERVANT JOHN



- A. THE MESSENGER – John the Baptist
- B. THE MESSAGE – the Gospel
- C. THE METHOD – he preached
- D. THE MANNER – in humility
- E. THE MEASURABLE – baptism

## A. THE MESSENGER – JOHN THE BAPTIST



**MARK 1:2, As it is written in the prophets,  
Behold, I send my messenger before thy face,  
which shall prepare thy way before thee.**

**MARK 1:3, The voice of one crying in the  
wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the Lord,  
make his paths straight.**

# THE PROPHECY – “in the prophets”



- **EXODUS 23:20, Behold, I send an Angel before thee, to keep thee in the way, and to bring thee into the place which I have prepared.**
- **ISAIAH 40:3 The voice of him that crieth in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the LORD, make straight in the desert a highway for our God.**
- **MALACHI 3:1 Behold, I will send my messenger, and he shall prepare the way before me: and the Lord, whom ye seek, shall suddenly come to his temple, even the messenger of the covenant, whom ye delight in: behold, he shall come, saith the LORD of hosts.**

# THE PLACE – “In the wilderness”



- MARK 1:3, “The voice of one crying in the wilderness”
- MARK 1:4, “John did baptize in the wilderness”
- MARK 1:12, “And immediately the Spirit driveth him into the wilderness.”
  
- OLD TESTAMENT HISTORY OF THE EXODUS:  
FROM EYGPT - **RED SEA** – WILDERNESS –  
**JORDAN RIVER** – TO THE PROMISED LAND!

## B. THE MESSAGE – The Gospel



- The message centers in the Person of Jesus Christ.
- His work is foreshadowed in His baptism – His death, burial and resurrection.
- John’s message is that the Son of God, the Christ is coming! Be ready to accept the King!
- His titles and identity:
  - “Jesus” – His human name, “salvation”
  - “Christ” – His mission, the Messiah, the “anointed One”
  - “Son of God” – His deity and equality to the Father
  - “The Lord” – His sovereignty

# THE RIGHT RESPONSE TO THE MESSAGE



**MARK 1:4, John did baptize in the wilderness, and preach the baptism of repentance for the remission of sins.**

**MARK 1:5, And there went out unto him all the land of Judaea, and they of Jerusalem, and were all baptized of him in the river of Jordan, confessing their sins.**

## C. THE MANNER – John's humility



- **MARK 1:6, And John was clothed with camel's hair, and with a girdle of a skin about his loins; and he did eat locusts and wild honey;**
- **MARK 1:7, And preached, saying, There cometh one mightier than I after me, the latchet of whose shoes I am not worthy to stoop down and unloose.**
- **MARK 1:8, I indeed have baptized you with water: but he shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost.**

## II. THE COMING OF THE SERVANT JESUS



- A. CHRIST'S OBEDIENCE
- B. CHRIST'S HUMILITY
- C. CHRIST'S RIGHTEOUSNESS
- D. CHRIST'S FAITH
- E. CHRIST'S FORTITUDE

# A. CHRIST'S OBEDIENCE AND HUMILITY



- **MARK 1:9, And it came to pass in those days, that Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee, and was baptized of John in Jordan. <sup>10</sup> And straightway coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens opened, and the Spirit like a dove descending upon him: <sup>11</sup> And there came a voice from heaven, saying, Thou art my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.**

# The Old Testament Prophecies of the Son



- **PSALM 2:7, I will declare the decree: the LORD hath said unto me, Thou art my Son; this day have I begotten thee.**
- **ISAIAH 42:1, Behold *my servant*, whom I uphold; mine elect, in whom my soul delighteth; I have put my spirit upon him: he shall bring forth judgment to the Gentiles.**

# THE RESULTS OF CHRIST'S OBEDIENCE



- **THE POWER OF THE HOLY SPIRIT IS SEEN UPON HIS LIFE!**
- **THE PLEASURE OF THE HEAVENLY FATHER IS EXPERIENCED!**

## B. CHRIST'S FAITH AND FORTITUDE



**MARK 1:12, And immediately the Spirit driveth him into the wilderness.**

**MARK 1:13, And he was there in the wilderness forty days, tempted of Satan; and was with the wild beasts; and the angels ministered unto him.**

# THE TESTING OF THE SERVANT



- **THE TEST WAS ARRANGED AND DESIGNED BY THE HOLY SPIRIT! EVERY TEST IS!**
- **THE TEMPTATIONS WERE ATTACKS FROM SATAN!**
- **THE HOLY SPIRIT PERSUADES ONE TO BE OBEDIENT! SATAN PERSUADES ONE TO BE DISOBEDIENT!**

# INVITATION TO RESPOND TO THE GOSPEL



- **REVELATION 22:17** And the Spirit and the bride say, Come. And let him that heareth say, Come. And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely.
- Come to Christ by faith.
- Confess your sins to Him.
- Call to Him to forgive you of your sins.

# Prayer for salvation



Dear God:

By faith, I come to you now. I believe that your Son died for my sins and rose again. I now repent of my sins and seek a new life in Christ. Please forgive me of my sins and save me.

I pray in Jesus' name, Amen.

# SERVANTS ARE OBEDIENT AND HUMBLE



- The servant of God will obey all of God's commands including being baptized.
- The servant of God will recognize the supremacy of His Master, King Jesus.
- The servant of God will acknowledge his unworthiness to do anything for His master, but will count it a great privilege to serve God.
- The servant of God will strive to please His Master in all His ways.
- The servant of God will preach the good news.

# SERVANTS PREACH THE GOOD NEWS



- **SERVANTHOOD – DISCIPLESHIP INVOLVES:**
  - 1) **Developing Christ-likeness – His character**
  - 2) **Preaching the good news – His commission**

**Discipleship that does not produce messengers that preach the gospel is mutant discipleship!**

**A servant of God strives to be Christ-like in character and evangelistic in practice!**