



Perceiving Who Jesus Is

Luke 2:39-52

Sermon Study Notes

Among our greatest delights are to be found the greatest dangers.

"There is more fear of losing Christ at a feast than anywhere else." - Charles Haddon Spurgeon

It's all too easy to lose Jesus and not even realize you've done it. Don't assume anything about Jesus.

Christ is not present where He is not honored.

I. Jesus honored God's ways.

A. He honored God by custom.

We have a tendency, especially when fulfilling religious duties, to assume that Jesus is with us when He's not.

B. He honored God by choice.

Mary and Joseph are surprised to find Jesus in the temple; He's surprised they don't know where to look for Him!

C. He honored God by character.

In the daily routine of life, it's easy to lose sight of exactly who Jesus is.

D. He honored God by covenant.

Jesus doesn't sit at anybody's feet because in fact the whole world is His footstool.

Jesus has the right to sit in the temple because ultimately, it's His temple!

Jesus is not just a great teacher come to talk about God; He's God come to teach about Himself.

Jesus wasn't merely Joseph's eldest son, but also his eternal Savior. The God of Israel who'd rescued His people from slavery and delivered them from death in Egypt had come to redeem His people from their sin and deliver them from death in eternity.

II. Jesus heralded God's Word.

A. He's going to astound us as the Teacher.

It's hard for some people to just accept the truth of who Jesus is, but this is why He's telling us - so we can know with certainty.

B. He's going to embody the temple.

Don't let the irony be lost on you that Jesus is sitting in the temple built by the guy who tried to kill him as a baby about a decade earlier. But now Herod's dead, and Jesus sits here in the temple Herod built. What a picture of God's triumph over Satan's opposition to His Messiah!

As much as Jesus belongs in the temple here, He does not belong in the grave after the third day.

III. Jesus humbled Himself to God's will.

The brilliant, sinless Son of God willingly submitted to His sinful parents, for whom He would one day die. His bewildered, panicked, confused parents needed a Savior.

If Jesus isn't willing to die for His people, there is no salvation, because there is no other name under heaven given among men whereby we must be saved.