

# WHAT SEEK YE ... COME AND SEE

## JOHN 1:35-42

Text: John 1:38-39

### **John 1:38-39**

<sup>38</sup> Then Jesus turned, and saw them following, and saith unto them, What seek ye? They said unto him, Rabbi, (which is to say, being interpreted, Master,) where dwellest thou? <sup>39</sup> 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.

Introduction:

One of the most amazing truths I have ever encountered in the Bible is the truth that God invites people to come to Him. Of course, He has to make the first move. Man is a sinner and his sinful condition has left him spiritually dead.

### **Ephesians 2:1**

<sup>1</sup> And you *hath he quickened*, who were dead in trespasses and sins;

In this passage, Jesus invites two religious men to consider what has been said about Him. This passage highlights the condition of man and the compassion of the Savior.

Notice these six words of the Saviour – “What seek ye”; and “Come and see.”

Jesus is inviting all those who do not know Him to come to Him and to examine Him. He wants lost men to know Who He is and what He can do for them.

I want to share with you some of the blessings contained in these verses.

Consider:

## **1. THE CLAIMS**

### **John 1:35-37**

<sup>35</sup> Again the next day after John stood, and two of his disciples; <sup>36</sup> And looking upon Jesus as he walked, he saith, Behold the Lamb of God! <sup>37</sup> And the two disciples heard him speak, and they followed Jesus.

This simple statement by John the Baptist is filled with meaning. In these words, John sets forth two important truths regarding the Lord Jesus Christ.

#### **A. He Is the Saviour of Sinners**

Notice the word “the.” This identifies the Lord as the one and only Lamb of God.

Man has a problem; Jesus is the only solution to that problem.

Man’s problem is that he is a sinner.

**Romans 6:23**

<sup>23</sup> For the wages of sin *is* death; but the gift of God *is* eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Psalm 9:17**

<sup>17</sup> The wicked shall be turned into hell, *and* all the nations that forget God.

**Revelation 21:8**

<sup>8</sup> But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death.

Jesus Christ is the only solution to man's sin problem.

**Acts 4:12**

<sup>12</sup> Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.

**John 14:6**

<sup>6</sup> Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.

**John 10:9**

<sup>9</sup> I am the door: by me if any man enter in, he shall be saved, and shall go in and out, and find pasture.

**1 John 5:12**

<sup>12</sup> He that hath the Son hath life; *and* he that hath not the Son of God hath not life.

**B. He Is the Sacrifice for Sin**

When John called Jesus “the Lamb of God” he was saying a mouth full. This name pictures Jesus as a sacrificial animal. It may have been lamb that died to cover the naked bodies of Adam and Eve in Eden.

**Genesis 3:21**

<sup>21</sup> Unto Adam also and to his wife did the LORD God make coats of skins, and clothed them.

It was a lamb that was offered as the first sacrifice in the Bible.

**Genesis 4:4**

<sup>4</sup> And Abel, he also brought of the firstlings of his flock and of the fat thereof. And the LORD had respect unto Abel and to his offering:

It was a lamb that redeemed the children of Israel from their bondage in Egypt.

It was a lamb that had been promised to Isaac as Abraham led him up to Mount Mariah.

**Genesis 22:8**

<sup>8</sup> And Abraham said, My son, God will provide himself a lamb for a burnt offering: so they went both of them together.

The prophet Isaiah pictured the coming Messiah as a slain lamb.

**Isaiah 53:4-6**

<sup>4</sup> Surely he hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows: yet we did esteem him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted. <sup>5</sup> But he

was wounded for our transgressions, *he was* bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace *was* upon him; and with his stripes we are healed. <sup>6</sup> All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the LORD hath laid on him the iniquity of us all.

When the Lord came into this world, He came for the sole purpose of going to the cross to die for sin.

**Mark 10:45**

<sup>45</sup> For even the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many.

**John 18:37**

<sup>37</sup> Pilate therefore said unto him, Art thou a king then? Jesus answered, Thou sayest that I am a king. To this end was I born, and for this cause came I into the world, that I should bear witness unto the truth. Every one that is of the truth heareth my voice.

Only His death can satisfy God.

**1 John 2:2**

<sup>2</sup> And he is the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for *the sins of* the whole world.

**1 John 4:10**

<sup>10</sup> Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that he loved us, and sent his Son *to be* the propitiation for our sins.

## **2. CONSIDER THE CALL**

**John 1:37-39**

<sup>37</sup> And the two disciples heard him speak, and they followed Jesus. <sup>38</sup> Then Jesus turned, and saw them following, and saith

unto them, What seek ye? They said unto him, Rabbi, (which is to say, being interpreted, Master,) where dwellest thou? <sup>39</sup> 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.

#### A. The Interest of the Disciple (vs. 37)

These two disciples heard John give a public declaration of the identity of Jesus in verses 19-34. Now, they are given some private direction concerning Jesus, v. 35. John is saying to them, "Go follow Him, He is the One." They heed the call and they begin to follow Jesus.

#### B. The Investigation of the Disciples (vs. 38)

Jesus knows these men are behind Him and He turns to speak to them. He asks them a strange question, "What seek ye?" This question is the same as saying "What are you looking for?" Jesus does not ask this question for His Own benefit. He never asks a question for an answer but rather for and acknowledgment.

These men are hungry for a relationship with God. This is clear from the fact that they have been following John the Baptist. He has been teaching them that Messiah is coming and they are longing for a relationship with that Messiah. When Jesus asks them "What seek ye?" He is asking them to examine their motives for wanting to follow Him.

What are you looking for today? What are you looking for in your life?

If you are looking for someone who will make your life easier, Jesus isn't for you! If you are looking for someone who will solve all your problems, Jesus isn't for you! If you are looking for someone who will make you feel better about yourself, Jesus isn't for you either! If you are looking for a little religion on Sunday so that you can feel better about the way you live Monday through Saturday, then Jesus just isn't for you!

### C. The Invitation to the Disciples (vs. 38-39)

#### **John 1:38-39**

<sup>38</sup> Then Jesus turned, and saw them following, and saith unto them, What seek ye? They said unto him, Rabbi, (which is to say, being interpreted, Master,) where dwellest thou? <sup>39</sup> 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.

These men respond to Jesus' question with one of their own, "Rabbi, where dwellest Thou?" This is a telling question. First, they call Him "Rabbi". This word, as we are told, means "Master". It was a term of respect. It is clear that these men held Jesus in high regard. When they asked Him, "Where dwellest Thou", they are asking more than just "Where do you live?" These men had heard about Jesus and they wanted to know more. They needed to ask Him some questions and hear Him

tell them Who He was and why He came. They are requesting an extended interview with Jesus.

His response is simple, yet it is profound. Jesus simply said, "Come and see". This simple phrase literally means "Come with me and you will see!" This is an invitation for them to examine Jesus for themselves. They have heard about Him from others; now they are invited to see for themselves.

### **3. CONSIDER THE CHANGES (vs. 39-42)**

#### **John 1:39-42**

<sup>39</sup> 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. <sup>40</sup> One of the two which heard John *speak*, and followed him, was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. <sup>41</sup> He first findeth his own brother Simon, and saith unto him, We have found the Messias, which is, being interpreted, the Christ. <sup>42</sup> 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.

This day became the day of salvation for these two men. When they met Jesus for themselves, their lives changed forever. Two of those changes are highlighted in these verses.

#### **A. They Wanted to Stay With Jesus (vs. 39b)**

John tells us that it was “about the tenth hour” when these men followed Jesus to the place where He was staying.

This was 4 o’clock in the afternoon.

It was getting close to dark and these men were anxious to talk to Jesus. They spent the rest of that day, and probably that night, in His presence. They spent the rest of their lives in His service!

Andrew took the Gospel into Greece and was crucified there.

John was close to Jesus all the days Jesus lived. He was known as the disciple “whom Jesus loved”.

John was the only disciple to go to Calvary, He was at the foot of the cross when Jesus died, John 19:26. He was the first disciple to the tomb the day Jesus rose from the dead, John 20:45.

## B. They Wanted to Share Jesus (vs. 40-42)

### **John 1:40-42**

<sup>40</sup>One of the two which heard John *speak*, and followed him, was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. <sup>41</sup>He first findeth his own brother Simon, and saith unto him, We have found the Messias, which is, being interpreted, the Christ. <sup>42</sup>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.

As soon as these men had met Jesus, and their own salvation was settled, they wanted to share Him with others. In fact, every time Andrew appears in the Gospel record, he is bringing someone to Jesus. He went first his brother Simon Peter and brings him to Jesus, v. 41-42. When Andrew brought Peter to Jesus, he was doing something great for the church! Peter became a great preacher of the Gospel and God used him to bring thousands into the church. In John 6, Andrew is the one who brought the lad who had the little loaves and fishes to Jesus. In John 12 it is Andrew who helps a group of curious Greeks make contact with Jesus. When Andrew met Jesus Christ a burden was created within his heart to share his Savior with everyone he met.

Close:

“Come and see” – Jesus is still inviting people to consider Him. We are living in a world where people are seeking answers. They are looking for direction, fulfillment and hope. If you are among that number and you are looking for more from life, you need to know that His invitation to “Come and see” still stands.

- You have tried everything else and nothing has scratched the itch within your soul. Come to Jesus!

- You've tried church and it didn't work. Come to Jesus!
- You've tried sin, alcohol, drugs, sex and every worldly thing you can imagine, but nothing has worked. Come to Jesus!
- You need help and you can't seem to find it anywhere. Come to Jesus!
- Maybe you've tried Jesus in the past and He didn't work. The problem was not with Him, it was with you. This time, don't just "try" Him, surrender to Him totally and let Him save you and take control of your life. Come to Jesus!

If there are needs of any kind, whether you are saved or lost, if you need help, come to Jesus!