

# PREACHING AS JESUS PREACHED

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Jesus Christ, the Son of God, was the greatest preacher who ever lived on this earth (Matt. 4:17); He is our example in how to preach ( I Pet. 2:21). Jesus is God's spokesman to the human family today (Heb. 1: 1, 2), and His gospel is both positive and negative. He proclaimed positive truth on **the new birth** (John 3: 3 - 5), on **worship** (John 4: 23, 24), on the **establishment of the church** ( Matt. 16: 18 - 19) and on **His second coming** (John 14: 1 - 6). Jesus was also opposed to many things. In order to be pleasing to the Lord we must be for that which He was for, and against that which he was against.

## JESUS SPAKE AGAINST FALSE DOCTRINE AND FALSE TEACHERS

Jesus condemned the false teaching of the scribes and Pharisees when He said that they were "*teaching for doctrines the commandments of men*" (Matt. 15:9). He warned men to "*take heed and beware of the leaven (doctrine) of the Pharisees and of the Sadducees*" (Matt. 16: 6, 12) and to "*beware of false prophets*" (Matt. 7:15). He said "*By their fruits ye shall know them*" (Matt. 7:20). We today must warn against false doctrines and false teachers.

## JESUS SPAKE AGAINST PARTIAL OBEDIENCE

Jesus rebuked the Jews for partial obedience in Matthew 23:23. Saul, in the Old Testament, was rejected from being king because of partial obedience (I Sam. 15: 10 -23). Denominational preachers teach partial obedience by failing to preach the gospel in its fullness. They teach that salvation is by "faith only" when James says "*ye see then how that by works a man is justified, and not by faith only*" (James 2:24). They teach that baptism is not essential to salvation when Jesus said baptism is essential to salvation: "*He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned*" (Mark 16:16). Members of the church are guilty of partial obedience when they forsake the assemblies (Heb. 10:25), when they fail to give as they have been prospered ( I Cor. 16: 1, 2) and by failing to live godly lives (Tit. 2: 11 -12).

## JESUS SPAKE AGAINST SINS THAT MEN CAN SEE NO HARM IN

Jesus spake against mental adultery when He said, "*Whosoever looketh on a woman to lust after her hath committed adultery with her already in his heart*" (Matt. 5:28). He spake against an unforgiving heart when He said "*But if ye forgive not men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses*" (Matt. 6:15). Jesus spake against divorce and remarriage for every cause when He taught that there is but ONE cause for divorce and remarriage, and that is FORNICATION: "*And I say unto you, whosoever shall put away his wife, except it be for fornication, and shall marry another, committeth adultery: and whoso marrieth her which is put away doth commit adultery*" (Matt. 19:9).

## JESUS SPAKE AGAINST RELIGIOUS INCONSISTENCY

Jesus said that the scribes and Pharisees "*say, and do not*" (Matt. 23:3); this was hypocrisy on their part. Jesus' way of working was to "do and teach" (Acts 1:1).

We, as Christians, must be consistent in what we **say** and what we **do**. We must be "*an example of the believers, in word, in conversation, in charity, in spirit, in faith, in purity*" just as the Apostle Paul told Timothy to be (I Tim. 4:12). We must practice what we teach if we are to be salt and light in the world (Matt. 5: 13, 16).

## JESUS SPAKE AGAINST SELF-RIGHTEOUSNESS

Jesus condemns the **haughty, arrogant** and **proud** attitude of the Pharisee in the parable in Luke 18: 9 - 14. The Apostle Peter said, "*for God resisteth the proud, and giveth grace to the humble*" (I Pet. 5:5). As Christians today we must realize our imperfections and humble ourselves that God may exalt us (I Pet. 5:6; Matt. 23: 11 - 12).

The needs of the human family have not changed; the sins our Lord condemned are just as prevalent in the world today as they were when Jesus walked upon the earth. We need the same kind of preaching today that the Lord did two thousand years ago. Let us be busy preaching the Word (II Tim. 4:2) just as Jesus preached.

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