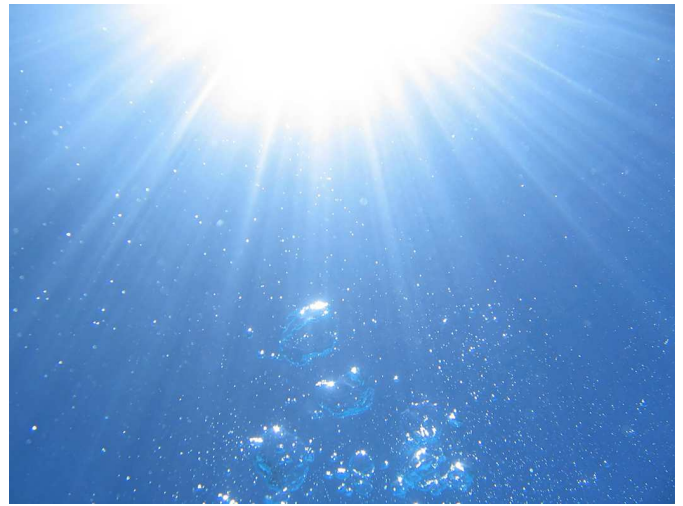


'The Son of God and the Lord of Glory Series'

Sermons in the Gospel of John

Message 6 - 'Unknown and Unwanted' John 1: 10 - 11



Jesus Christ, the King of kings entered human history, he entered the world that He had made, but the world did not know Him. And so we have v10 that says '*He was in the world, and the world was made through Him, and the world did not know Him.*' We can see that the rejection of Christ by men was evident not just in the world, but even amongst those of the people whom the Bible calls His own. A number of points can be highlighted:

1. Rejected By the World - What is clear from John's prologue is that for thirty years until the public ministry of John the Baptist, the Saviour resided in this world yet remained unknown. How can this be? What does it show? It shows the depravity of man, it shows that men were and are spiritually blind. The first thing to point you to is the fact that the world did not want Him, did not want to know Him and that is still true today. Men do not want Jesus because He reveals the reality of what they are, sinners. The other evidence is this, that men and women do not want Him now. They do not want to acknowledge Christ. Men and women are so in love with their sin that they do not want anyone or anything to dissuade them from it, despite the fact that sin never satisfies. Understanding the significance of this rejection, of the fact that the world did not recognise Jesus is to begin to understand the importance of what John is saying. That Jesus Christ is glorious, that man is fallen and the spiritual depravity of mankind is shown in the wilfulness and spiritual blindness of all men apart from those who are drawn by the unmerited grace of God. The Scriptures tell us that we do not naturally want the Lord Jesus Christ, but how remarkable it is that in spite of our sin, God still loves us and comes to us in the person of the Lord Jesus Christ, His Son, to draw us back to Himself. Do you believe that? Have you considered the wonderful work of God in salvation?

2. Rejected by His Own - Now, it is interesting that such a verse as this should immediately follow v10. Some might say that overall view of the depravity of man cannot apply to all men. What about His own people the Jews? Yet, as John points out, they did not, and we see man's depravity writ large. The Lord God Almighty created them, established them as a nation, promised the coming of the Messiah clearly to them. Yet, when He came in the person of the Lord Jesus Christ, He was rejected by Israel and was crucified. Just as Israel was without excuse, so too those who reject the Lord Jesus Christ today are also without excuse. Of course we have seen the Jews had the prophecies, they had the promises, but then so do we. In fact the Old Testament has been translated and circulated in our age far more than any time before. In fact we are in a better position in that we have the completed canon of Scripture, whole, inerrant and true. The New Testament tells us of the fulfilment of the prophecies by Jesus Christ. Yes the Jews of that day saw, but we have the written evidence, and we have the evidence of countless millions of believers whose lives have been changed by grace. So, where do you stand?



Penzance Baptist Church

'Upholding the Ordinary Means of Grace'

Pastor Jonathan Stobbs