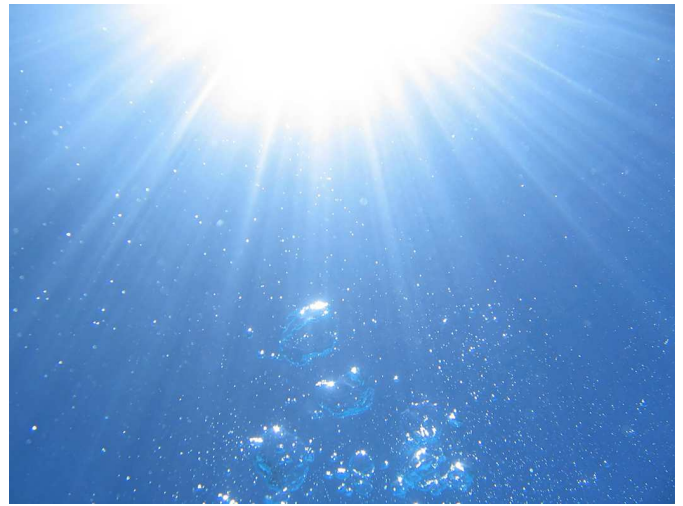


'The Son of God and the Lord of Glory Series'

Sermons in the Gospel of John

Message 11 - 'The Uniqueness of Christ' John 1: 15 - 18



Christ is unique, there is none like Him and this wonderful truth is underlined in these verses. Why is it important to understand His uniqueness? John mentions it throughout his gospel writing. Christ is unique in all things. None can be compared to Him. The wonder of Christ is such that He can do what no other can. He is altogether unique in every aspect of His person. We saw this under four headings last time:

1. Jesus Christ is Unique through His Origin - John reiterates the importance of the fact of Christ's deity once again. He does it by using a quote from John the Baptist. *"This was He of whom I said, 'He who comes after me is preferred before me, for He was before me.'"* When you look at the rest of John the Baptist's ministry and proclamation of Christ, it is clear that John had clear understanding of the intense reality of the nature of person of Jesus. It declares the unique origin of Jesus Christ. In that He was without a historical beginning, He exists and had always done so. In other words, John the Baptist was declaring Jesus to be the eternal Word, the Son of God, which has been the dominant theme in this prologue, and will be throughout the Gospel. How that sets the Saviour apart! There is none like Him, the Son of God, the eternal Word. In the New Testament, you will see that those who refer in depth to the person of the Saviour, Jesus Christ, almost always proclaim His pre-existence. There is no better example than Hebrews 1:1-4. The uniqueness of Christ in His origin is the starting point, to see Him as the eternal Word. Who ever has been, is, and will be! Praise His name!

2. Jesus Christ is Unique through the Blessings He Brings - John makes it clear in this verse that it is through Christ that all blessings flow. I need to reiterate that certainly on one level, this verse points us to common grace once again. Jesus Christ is unique in that He is the source of all the material and spiritual blessings we enjoy, even though we may fail to acknowledge His goodness or indeed thank Him for it. Yet, there is another more important aspect. That being that Jesus Himself is a blessing, and those who truly come to Him in repentance and faith have received great grace. The believer, not the unbeliever, experiences Christ in a way that means we can know Him personally and all the benefits of such a relationship. It is an endless fountain and as you drink of Him, He quenches your thirst. As you feed on Him, He satisfies your hunger.

3. Jesus Christ is Unique in the Salvation He Brings - You will find nothing else in the world like this, and it is the only answer to man's fundamental problem of sin, and separation from God. John tells us that grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. He is unique in that He is the source of grace and truth. He exclaims the fact that with the coming of Jesus Christ, there is a new era of salvation that delivers sinners from the condemnation and regulations of the law, and it is full of grace, and is pure truth. This new era of salvation revealed in Christ is a divine initiative that takes sinners and saves them by grace through faith without the works of the law, and the focus of that faith is Jesus Christ. Jesus Christ, in His life, His death, and victorious resurrection, met all the demands of the law, and it is through Him God bestows the fullness of His grace of those who trust in His Son.

4. Jesus Christ is Unique in the way He Reveals God - He is unique in the way that He reveals God. He is the only One in whom you and I may see God. Now, certainly, it is true that no man can see God and live, but it is also true that in the person of the Lord Jesus Christ, God came to man in a way that they could know Him. We see in Christ, who is fully God, the manifest character of God. We cannot know God in anyway, without knowing Jesus Christ. By coming to Jesus Christ. He will reveal it to you by His grace, and the same One who redeemed sinners, is the same One who lives and applies His power to the lives of those who follow Him, and that changes lives. So much can be said of Him, but to know God, you must know Jesus Christ. He is the only way.



Penzance Baptist Church

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Pastor Jonathan Stobbs