Preaching Jesus

Ken Chapman · Acts 8:26–39

INTRODUCTION

- I had been doing it wrong my whole life. I'd been playing by the Chapman family rules rather than the Milton Bradley rules.
- When it comes to obeying God and following him, then it's very important that we make sure that we look to the instructions and to make sure that we're doing it right.
- Let's examine what it means to preach Jesus and to reexamine our approach to that subject to make sure that we're doing it according to the instructions, God's instructions.

1 Preaching Jesus Always Involves a Human Agency

Acts 8:26–29; Acts 9; Acts 10

- The Holy Spirit has given Philip two instructions? He's told him where to go, and now he's told him what to do.
- They always instruct the messenger, the human messenger, some medium to go and speak to the person who needs to hear the gospel.
- A heavenly voice, whether it be the Holy Spirit or Jesus or an angel, never acts upon the heart of the individual.
- Preaching Jesus always involves a human agency. A messenger.

2 The Eagerness of Philip, the Humility of the Ethiopian

Acts 8:30–31

- Philip ran to him and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah and said, Do you understand what you're reading? And he said, How can I, unless someone guides me?
- Can we show the eagerness of Philip and run and say, Do you understand what you're reading?
- If he'd had that arrogant attitude, there's no doubt in my mind that he would have went home lost.
- Those two attitudes, the attitude of the teacher who was eager enough to run to him, and the attitude of humility of saying, no, help me to understand, is what made the salvation of this man possible.

3 Preaching Jesus Begins in the Old Testament

Acts 8:32–35; Isaiah 53; Matthew 5:17–18

- Then Philip opened his mouth and beginning at this scripture, preached Jesus to him.
- The preaching of Jesus in the first century began in the Old Testament.
- Jesus and the prophecies of Jesus, the need for the Christ, the Savior, the Messiah, permeates the Old Testament scriptures.
- Do not think that I came to destroy the law and the prophets. I did not come to destroy, but to fulfill.
- Rather it being at odds with the old law, the preaching of Jesus is the fulfillment.

4 Preaching Jesus Must Include Scriptural Baptism

Acts 8:36–38; Matthew 28:19–20; Acts 2:38

- See, here is water, what hinders me from being baptized.
- Preaching Jesus according to the scriptures must include scriptural baptism.
- Preaching Jesus of necessity meant preaching baptism. Otherwise, where did this man come up with that idea?
- Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and the Holy Spirit.
- This baptism is not after you have become a Christian, after you have been saved, but it is for the remission of your sins.

5 If You Believe With All Your Heart

Acts 8:37; Colossians 2:12

- Philip said, If you believe with all your heart, you may. And he answered and said, I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God.
- Philip said, you can be baptized if you believe. Otherwise, the baptism wouldn't have done him any good.
- Buried with him in baptism, in which you were also raised with him through faith in the working of God who raised him from the dead.
- He is humbly, by faith, humbly submitting to the plan of God, and having his sins washed away by the working of God.
- It's high time that we quit trying to become theologians and just try to become Christians.

> THE CHALLENGE
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> **Would you have that joy? Would you have the angels in heaven rejoicing today by submitting to the plan of God? Even if you have to admit, I've been doing it wrong my whole life. Why not change today?**

MY NOTES