

MESSAGE, MESSENGERS, METHODS, & MEASUREMENTS

ANNO DOMINI (daul-ma-knee) The Year of Our LORD

Text: Matthew 11:7-19 ⁷ And as they departed (*John's disciples*), Jesus began to say unto the multitudes concerning John, What went ye out into the wilderness to see? A reed shaken with the wind? ⁸ But what went ye out for to see? A man clothed in soft raiment? behold, they that wear soft clothing are in kings' houses. ⁹ But what went ye out for to see? A prophet? yea, I say unto you, and more than a prophet. ¹⁰ For this is he, of whom it is written, **Behold, I send my messenger *before thy face***, which shall prepare thy way before thee. ¹¹ Verily I say unto you, Among them that are born of women there hath not risen a greater than John the Baptist: notwithstanding he that is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he. ¹² And from the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven suffereth violence, and the violent take it by force. ¹³ For all the prophets and the law prophesied until John. ¹⁴ And if ye will receive it, this is Elias, which was for to come. ¹⁵ He that hath ears to hear, let him hear. ¹⁶ **But whereunto shall I liken this generation?** It is like unto children sitting in the markets, and calling unto their fellows, ¹⁷ And saying, We have piped unto you, and ye have not danced; we have mourned unto you, and ye have not lamented. ¹⁸ For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, He hath a devil. ¹⁹ The Son of man came eating and drinking, and they say, Behold a man gluttonous, and a winebibber, a friend of publicans and sinners. **But wisdom is justified of her children.**

Hebrews 2:1-5 Therefore we ought to give the more earnest heed to the things which we have heard, lest at any time we should let them slip. ² For if the word spoken by angels was stedfast, and every transgression and disobedience received a just recompence of reward; ³ How shall we escape, if we neglect so great salvation; which at the **first began to be spoken by the Lord**, and was **confirmed unto us by them that heard him**; ⁴ **God also bearing them witness**, both with signs and wonders, and with divers miracles, and **gifts of the Holy Ghost**, according to his own will? ⁵ For unto the angels hath he not put in subjection the world to come, whereof we speak.

1. **The MESSAGE is Simple- BEHOLD THE LAMB OF GOD WHICH TAKETH AWAY THE SIN OF THE WORLD**

John 1:29-33 ²⁹ The next day John seeth Jesus coming unto him, and saith, Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world. ³⁰ This is he of whom I said, After me cometh a man which is preferred before me: for he was before me.

ITS ALL ABOUT CHRIST, HIS REDEEMING SACRIFICE ON THE CROSS, AND GOD'S OFFER OF ETERNAL LIFE THROUGH CHRIST!!!!!!

2. **MESSENGERS CONFIRMING THE MESSAGE**

A. God the Father—John 8:18 I am one that bear witness of myself, and the Father that sent me beareth witness of me.

Hebs 2:4 God also bearing them witness, both with signs and wonders, and with divers miracles,

John 5:36-37 ...for the works which the Father hath given me to finish, the same works that I do, bear witness of me, that the Father hath sent me. ³⁷ And the Father himself, which hath sent me, hath borne witness

B. God the Holy Spirit-DOVE—(JOHN) Upon whom thou shalt see the Spirit descending, and remaining on him, the same is he which baptizeth with the Holy Ghost

Raised Christ from the Dead--Bearing Witness Through Gifts unto the Body of Believers--Fruit of the Spirit and Gifts of the Spirit.

of me.

- C. **Scripture**—John 5: 39 Search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of me.
- D. **Angels—Gabriel and Mary---Angels (SKY FULL of ANGELS) and Shepherds**
Unknown Angel-(John) but he that sent me to baptize with water, the same said unto me, Upon whom thou shalt see the Spirit descending, and remaining on him, the same is he which baptizeth with the Holy Ghost
- E. **Men/Woman—John, Elizabeth, Mary, Mary Magdalene, Apostles, Early Church Fathers, Preachers, Evangelist, Missionaries, Deacons, Elders (men and women), Grandparents, Fathers, Mothers, Children, Neighbors, Friends, Classmates, Fellow Workers, Total Strangers, ETC.**

3. **METHODS USED IN MAKING DISCIPLES & Followers of CHRIST—**

- a. **PREACHING: Corinthians 1:21-23... it pleased God by the foolishness of preaching to save them that believe.** ²² For the Jews require a sign, and the Greeks seek after wisdom: ²³ But we preach Christ crucified, unto the Jews a stumblingblock, and unto the Greeks foolishness;
- b. **THE CHURCH: Matthew 16:18** And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my **church**; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.
CHURCH MENTIONED 111 times in NT:---Acts-22, Romans 5, I CO 21, REV 19, ETC.

4. **MEASUREMENTS: FOUNDATION, FAITH, FAITHFULNESS** **MANY ARE CALLED BUT FEW ARE CHOSEN**

This Generation

Matthew 11: 16-19 ¹⁶ But whereunto shall I liken this generation? It is like unto children sitting in the markets, and calling unto their fellows, ¹⁷ And saying, We have piped unto you, and ye have not danced; we have mourned unto you, and ye have not lamented. ¹⁸ For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, He hath a devil. ¹⁹ The Son of man came eating and drinking, and they say, Behold a man gluttonous, and a winebibber, a friend of publicans and sinners. **But wisdom is justified of her children.**

- 1. **Foundation: Christ Is Lord**
- 2. **Faith: Trust in Christ Alone— Saved by grace through Faith**
- 3. **Faithfulness: Continue unto the End**

Danger Today---GOSPEL HARDENED HEARTS

Those with a Sin Hardened Heart

Hebrews 3:7-13 Wherefore (as the Holy Ghost saith, To day if ye will hear his voice, ⁸ **Harden not your hearts, as in the provocation,** in the day of temptation in the wilderness: ⁹ When your fathers tempted me, proved me, and saw my works forty years. ¹⁰ Wherefore I was grieved with that generation, and said, **They do alway err in their heart; and they have not known my ways.** ¹¹ So I swear in my wrath, They shall not enter into my rest.) ¹² **Take heed, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief, in departing from the living God.** ¹³ But exhort one another daily, while it is called To day; lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin.

The End-time Generation

II Timothy 3:1- This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come. ² For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, ETC. lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God;

⁵ Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away. ⁶ For of this sort are they which creep into houses, and lead captive silly women laden with sins, led away with divers lusts,

⁷ Ever learning, and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth.

⁸ Now as Jannes and Jambres withstood Moses, so do these also resist the truth: men of corrupt minds, reprobate concerning the faith. ⁹ But they shall proceed no further: for their folly shall be manifest unto all men, as their's also was.