

## 03.18.2020

- The world is crazy today with the Corona Virus
  - o We have restricted access to people, but we don't have restricted access to God. We need to be using this extra time we have to spend with the Lord.
  - o Knowing that God is in control and not fighting against what He is allowing to happen in this season is important. The devil is trying to take away church and God is saying, no, I am going to strengthen through focus on myself.
    - Obstacles are opportunities - There is no better time than today to be a follower of Christ.

### Recap

- When did Jesus know he was the messiah (was a controversial topic in early Christianity)
  - o Birth (probably not)
  - o 12 years old (Mary probably told him at a young age he was special) (Robby believes he probably knew around 12 years old)
  - o At the baptism
  - o We don't really know.
- 4 things we see in Luke 2:52. Jesus grew in:
  - o Wisdom – Jesus grew intellectually (Jesus put in the time to study/memorize the Bible)
  - o Stature – Jesus grew physically
  - o Favor with God – Jesus grew spiritually
  - o Favor with men – Jesus grew socially
  - o People in Jesus time knew he was a man and had to be convinced He was God. We in our time know Jesus was God and have to be convinced he was man.
- John the Baptist was possibly an Essene

### Topic for today:

- John came into the picture as an example of **Elijah**
  - o Matthew 3:4-6
    - God begins his 400 year silence in Malachi 4 and begins speaking again through John the Baptist
    - Remez: Malachi 4:4-6 to Matthew 3
      - John the Baptist is the example of Elijah God promises at the end of Malachi
    - Remez: John is dressing up as Elijah saying, I AM THE GUY in Malachi, described in 2 Kings 1:5-8. Elijah was hairy with a leather belt. John represents this with camel skin and leather belt.
    - John also baptized in placed Elijah would have baptized

- John 1:28 – John Baptizing in Bethany beyond the Jordan – 1 Kings 17:5-7
    - John 3:23 – Aenon near Salim – 1 Kings 19:19 – 8 miles from where Elijah grew up and commissioned Elisha
    - Matthew 3:1 – 2 Kings 2:11 (Chariots of Fire)
  - Elijah and John the Baptist have the same spirit about them:
    - Passion
    - Fire
    - Battler
    - John was the same way and wanted to excised it all the time
- Salvation in eastern and western views are very different
  - Western – I need to be saved from my sin so I can go to heaven
  - Eastern – Rarely thought about going to heaven. They were focused on the present life. They were more worried about heaven coming to earth. Always asking Jesus to come and restore the nation. Always talking about the kingdom of heaven being near. Heaven is coming here on earth.
  - It's not just about getting to heaven, it's about the here and now and living a life that is for God. This is why Jesus' life was so important, not just his death, burial, and resurrection. His life and ministry on earth show us why our life for God on earth is so important.
    - We sometime focus so much on getting people to understand what they are saved from, rather that helping them to see what they are saved for.
  - Every morning you should have a funeral and coronation for yourself:
    - Funeral – I am dying to myself, picking up my cross, and following Jesus
    - Coronation – Honoring Jesus as Lord of your life who is driving my life

#### Side notes

- When the Bible speaks, we speak. When the Bible is silent, Robby speculates.
  - The eastern mind can hold apparent contradictions and be ok with it, because this simply means they are wrestling with the text.
  - The problem with our world today is that we aren't tuned into God's voice because we are so busy. Satan likes this and wants us to stay busy to keep from hearing the Lords voice.
  - Bar Mitzvah = Son of the commands – a ceremony that represents a boy is old enough to take on the commands of the Torah as an adult.
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