

THE DOUBTS
OF
CHRISTMAS

JOHN 10:22-27

John 10:22-27

22 And it was at Jerusalem the feast of the dedication, and it was winter.

23 And Jesus walked in the temple in Solomon's porch.

24 Then came the Jews round about him, and said unto him, How long dost thou make us to doubt? If thou be the Christ, tell us plainly.

25 Jesus answered them, I told you, and ye believed not: the works that I do in my Father's name, they bear witness of me.

26 But ye believe not, because ye are not of my sheep, as I said unto you.

27 My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me:

Introduction

A. We should not live in doubt

Galatians 4:20

I desire to be present with you now, and to change my voice; for I stand in doubt of you.

B. Doubt causes us not to see the truth (10:24)

John 7:26

**But, lo, he speaketh boldly, and they say nothing unto him.
Do the rulers know indeed that this is the very Christ?**

C. Doubt causes us not to follow God in faith (10:26-27)

I. The Doubt Of The Waiting

A. When trials are all around

1. The state of Israel when Christ came into the world

Isaiah 9:1-2

1 Nevertheless the dimness shall not be such as was in her vexation, when at the first he lightly afflicted the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, and afterward did more grievously afflict her by the way of the sea, beyond Jordan, in Galilee of the nations.

2 The people that walked in darkness have seen a great light: they that dwell in the land of the shadow of death, upon them hath the light shined.

I. The Doubt Of The Waiting

A. When trials are all around - continued

2. The state that we can find ourselves in

Psalm 13:1-4

1 How long wilt thou forget me, O LORD? for ever? how long wilt thou hide thy face from me?

2 How long shall I take counsel in my soul, having sorrow in my heart daily? how long shall mine enemy be exalted over me?

3 Consider and hear me, O LORD my God: lighten mine eyes, lest I sleep the sleep of death;

4 Lest mine enemy say, I have prevailed against him; and those that trouble me rejoice when I am moved.

I. The Doubt Of The Waiting

B. When time of waiting is long

Psalm 6:2-4

2 Have mercy upon me, O LORD; for I am weak: O LORD, heal me; for my bones are vexed.

3 My soul is also sore vexed: but thou, O LORD, how long?

4 Return, O LORD, deliver my soul: oh save me for thy mercies' sake.

I. The Doubt Of The Waiting

B. When time of waiting is long - continued

1. And hope diminishes

Psalm 35:17

Lord, how long wilt thou look on? rescue my soul from their destructions, my darling from the lions.

2. And help is not discerned

Revelation 6:10

And they cried with a loud voice, saying, How long, O Lord, holy and true, dost thou not judge and avenge our blood on them that dwell on the earth?

I. The Doubt Of The Waiting

C. Patience in God is required

1. His promises are proven

2 Corinthians 1:20

For all the promises of God in him are yea, and in him Amen, unto the glory of God by us.

2. His timing is perfect

Galatians 4:4-5

**4 But when the fulness of the time was come, God sent forth his Son, made of a woman, made under the law,
5 To redeem them that were under the law, that we might receive the adoption of sons.**

II. The Doubt Of The Woman

Luke 1:28-38

28 And the angel came in unto her, and said, Hail, thou that art highly favoured, the Lord is with thee: blessed art thou among women.

29 And when she saw him, she was troubled at his saying, and cast in her mind what manner of salutation this should be.

30 And the angel said unto her, Fear not, Mary: for thou hast found favour with God.

31 And, behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a son, and shalt call his name JESUS.

II. The Doubt Of The Woman

Luke 1:28-38 - continued

32 He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Highest: and the Lord God shall give unto him the throne of his father David:

33 And he shall reign over the house of Jacob for ever; and of his kingdom there shall be no end.

34 Then said Mary unto the angel, How shall this be, seeing I know not a man?

35 And the angel answered and said unto her, The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee, and the power of the Highest shall overshadow thee: therefore also that holy thing which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God.

II. The Doubt Of The Woman

Luke 1:28-38 - continued

36 And, behold, thy cousin Elisabeth, she hath also conceived a son in her old age: and this is the sixth month with her, who was called barren.

37 For with God nothing shall be impossible.

38 And Mary said, Behold the handmaid of the Lord; be it unto me according to thy word. And the angel departed from her.

II. The Doubt Of The Woman

A. When asked to do the “impossible” for God

Jeremiah 32;27

Behold, I am the LORD, the God of all flesh: is there any thing too hard for me?

B. When asked to endure future “insults” for God

John 8:41

Ye do the deeds of your father. Then said they to him, We be not born of fornication; we have one Father, even God.

II. The Doubt Of The Woman

C. Surrender required (1:38)

1 Peter 5:6

Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, that he may exalt you in due time:

2 Corinthians 12:9-10

9 And he said unto me, My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness. Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me.

10 Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in necessities, in persecutions, in distresses for Christ's sake: for when I am weak, then am I strong.

III. The Doubt Of The Wondering

Matthew 1:18-25

18 Now the birth of Jesus Christ was on this wise: When as his mother Mary was espoused to Joseph, before they came together, she was found with child of the Holy Ghost.

19 Then Joseph her husband, being a just man, and not willing to make her a public example, was minded to put her away privily.

20 But while he thought on these things, behold, the angel of the LORD appeared unto him in a dream, saying, Joseph, thou son of David, fear not to take unto thee Mary thy wife: for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Ghost.

III. The Doubt Of The Wondering

Matthew 1:18-25 - continued

21 And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name JESUS: for he shall save his people from their sins.

22 Now all this was done, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken of the Lord by the prophet, saying,

23 Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us.

24 Then Joseph being raised from sleep did as the angel of the Lord had bidden him, and took unto him his wife:

25 And knew her not till she had brought forth her firstborn son: and he called his name JESUS.

II. The Doubt Of The Wondering

A. When asked to believe beyond comprehension

Romans 11:33

O the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! how unsearchable are his judgments, and his ways past finding out!

II. The Doubt Of The Wondering

B. When asked to be part of God's plan

Luke 2:50-52

50 And they understood not the saying which he spake unto them.

51 And he went down with them, and came to Nazareth, and was subject unto them: but his mother kept all these sayings in her heart.

52 And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favour with God and man.

Don't Doubt

Do!!