

## **Do You Believe On the Son of God?**

Sunday, February 26<sup>th</sup>, 1989

### **John 9:35**

*Jesus heard that they had cast him out; and when he had found him, he said unto him, Dost thou believe on the Son of God?*

I want to speak to you today on this subject: “Do You Believe On the Son of God?” This is the question, “Do you believe on the Son of God?” I will be taking my text from John 9: verse 35.

Many professing Christians and church members are highly offended if they are exhorted by a preacher to examine their profession. They are highly offended if they are exhorted by a preacher to examine their hope of eternal life and to examine it by the Word of God.

Many people are highly offended if you even put a question mark on their relationship with God. In fact, many church members are insulted if anyone even suggests that they may have a false refuge or that they have missed true saving faith in the Son of God.

Yet, my friends, in Matthew Chapter 7, our Lord Jesus Christ plainly declares, “*Not everyone that saith unto Me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven but He that doeth the will of My Father.*” For He said, “*Many will say unto Me in that day, Lord, have we not prophesied in Thy name, in Thy name cast out devils and in Thy name done many wonderful works? But, I shall say unto them, depart from Me ye workers of iniquity; I never knew you.*”

Then, when our Lord gathered with His disciples, the disciples gathered about what we call, “The Last Supper.” This is when He was keeping the Passover with the disciples and instituting the Lord’s Table. As they sat about the Lord’s Table, our Lord looked at these 12 intimate, personal friends. These were His chosen disciples. He made this statement, “*One of you shall betray Me this night.*” Think of this; every one of those men began to ask, “*Is it I? Lord, I am the one who will betray You?*”

As I study great preachers and great hymn writers of the past, I find them examining themselves. I find them writing some very searching hymns. In fact, like John Newton who wrote the great hymn, “Amazing Grace,” which all of you are familiar:

Amazing grace how sweet the sound  
That saved a wretch like me.  
I once was lost but now I’m found  
I was blind but now I see.

John Newton also wrote this hymn that isn't very well known, but he wrote it:

Tis a point I long to know  
And often it gives me anxious thought.  
Do I love the Lord or no?  
Am I His or am I not?

That is self-examination.

Also, Charles Wesley, one of the great hymn writers wrote this hymn:

Depth of mercy, can there be  
Mercy reserved for me?  
Can my God, His wrath forbear  
And me the chief of sinners spare?

He also wrote:

How can it be that I should gain  
An interest in the Savior's blood?  
Died He for me who Him to death pursued  
Amazing love how can it be?  
That Thou my God should die for me?

That is not the language of this presumptuous, no-so salvation of this generation, is it? They get offended if you ask them to examine their profession. They get offended and insulted if you even suggest that they might have missed the Lord Jesus Christ.

Yet, the Word of God plainly warns us about presumption. It warns us of the dangers of a false profession. Paul the apostle, in Second Corinthians 13, said; *“Examine yourselves whether you be in the faith. Know ye not your own selves how that Christ dwelleth in you, unless you are a reprobate.”*

Don't be afraid to examine your profession, and to examine your heart and your interest in Christ. It would be better to examine it now than to have Him examine you in the Judgment and tell you that He never knew you.

In fact, every time we come to the Lord's Table, Paul exhorts us to examine ourselves and so let us eat. We are to examine ourselves whether we discern the Lord's body.

Peter wrote these words, *“Wherefore the rather, brethren; give diligence to make your calling and election sure. For, if you do these things you will never fail.”* The write of Hebrews said in Hebrews 3, *“Take heed brethren, lest there be found in you an evil heart of unbelief in the departing of the living God.”*

In this message today, I’m asking myself the same question. I don’t claim to be an authority on this subject. I like what the apostle Paul said in Philippians 3, *“I haven’t arrived. I haven’t laid hold of that which I’ve been laid hold of by Christ Jesus.”*

I’m not already perfect. I don’t claim to have all the answers by any stretch of the imagination. I want to win Christ and be found in Him. I want to know the Son of God and the power of His resurrection. I’m asking myself.

I’m asking you this straightforward question; do you believe on the Son of God? I will tell you this, *“He that believeth on the Son of God hath everlasting life.”* I can promise you that.

I want to know, do you believe on the Son of God? Do I believe on the Son of God? Our Lord said to the father with the sick son, *“Can you believe? All things are possible to them that believe.”* What is possible with God is not the problem. Eternal life is not the problem. Believing is the problem.

Do you believe on the Son of God? *“He that believeth on the Son of God hath life and he that believeth not on the Son of God will never see life, but the wrath of God abideth on him.”* Do you believe on the Son of God?

I’m not asking you if you have been christened or confirmed, catechized or baptized. That is not what I am asking you. I am asking, do you believe on the Son of God?

I’m not asking you if you have made a profession of faith. Most people have. Some have two or three times. I’m not asking you if you have joined the church. Just about everybody is a member of somebody’s church. Half the prison population is a member of somebody’s church. Most of them attend a prison ministry regularly.

I’m not asking you if you preach or have preached. I’m not asking you if you teach or have taught or sung in a choir. I’m not asking you if you have served God or tithed. I’m simply asking one question, do you believe on the Son of God?

Here is my text in John Chapter 9: verse 35. Our Lord Jesus Christ asked this question of a certain gentleman. Jesus heard that they had cast him out of the synagogue. When He had found him, our Lord said to this man; *“Do you believe on the Son of God?”*

This is interesting. What makes this so interesting and so important is not only who asks the question, but also of whom the question was asked. *“Do you believe on the Son of God?”* I say that the importance of it is not only who asked that question but also of whom He asked it.

You see; the disciples and the Lord Jesus were walking down the street. There was a man over there blind from birth. I don't know how old he was. He may have been 30 or 40 years of age. He had been blind from birth. One of the disciples asked the Lord, *“Who sinned that that man was born blind? Did his parents sin or did he sin?”* Our Lord said, *“Neither, but that the glory of God and the power of God might be shown in him.”*

So, our Lord spit on the ground and made some clay out of mud. He walked over and put it on the man's eyes without saying a word. He went ahead and put the clay on the man's eyes and then he said to the man, *“Go, wash in the Pool of Siloam.”* The man got up and left. Our Lord left. That was the exchange. That was the confrontation. Our Lord left and the man headed for the Pool of Siloam. He washed and he could see; his sight was restored.

He began to rejoice that he could see. His neighbors and friends saw him and asked him what took place. He said, *“A man called Jesus made clay of spittle and put it on my eyes and I can see.”* So, they brought him to the Pharisees, the Jewish leaders of the synagogue. They said, *“What's going on here?”* The people said, *“Well; this man was blind and now he sees.”* They said, *“Who did this?”* He said, *“A man called Jesus.”*

They went and got His parents, because they didn't believe him. They went over and got his parents and brought them to where he was. The Pharisees said, *“Is this your boy?”* The parents said, *“Yes, that is our boy.”* The Pharisees said, *“Was he blind?”* The parents of the blind man said, *“He was blind.”*

They said, *“How does he now see?”* The parents were afraid. They were afraid of these powerful preachers. They were afraid of these Pharisees. They said, *“He's old enough; ask him. He's of age; ask him.”* They turned to the young man again and said, *“Tell us what happened.”* He said, *“I just know one thing; I was blind and now I see. A man called Jesus did it.”*

The Pharisees said, “Well, this is the Sabbath Day.” The Lord healed him on the Sabbath Day. They said, “This man is a sinner; he couldn’t be from God; he’s a sinner. You give God the glory. “

Then the man who was blind and who could now see said, “Well, here is a marvelous thing that this man could give me sight. I’ve been blind all my life and this man gave me sight. You don’t know who He is and where He came from.”

The man said, “Why, it has never been heard of since the beginning of the world that a man gave sight to another man.” That made them angry and they cast him out of the synagogue. They excommunicated him. They withdrew all of his religious privileges.

Then it says in verse 35: *“Then the Lord Jesus found him.”* The Lord came back to where the man was and found him and asked him this question, *“Do you believe on the Son of God?”*

You know, in the light of all that had taken place, think with me; this is very interesting. What had taken place? In the first place, this man had been obedient to the Lord’s Commandments. When the Lord made the clay of spittle and put it on his eyes and told him, “You do what I tell you; you go wash in the Pool of Shalom.” He obeyed the Lord immediately. He did exactly what the Lord told him to do.

Secondly, this man had a most unusual experience. There are not many of you who can top this one when you go telling of your experiences. This man had sat by the wayside blind for 30 or 40 years. Now, he could see. That is what he was saying, “Well, I don’t know or understand all that happened.” The Pharisees said, “This man is a sinner.” Some said, “I don’t know whether he is a sinner or not. I really don’t know that much about him.”

People today say, “I do know what I experienced.” I hear a lot of that today of people who will say, “I don’t know a thing about the Bible, but I know what I feel.” They say, “I don’t know anything about God but I know what I feel; I know what I’ve experienced; you can’t tell me that I haven’t found God.” I wouldn’t dare do it. I wouldn’t tell this fellow here that he hadn’t had that experience because the man said, “I was blind but now I can see.” It is granted.

Then, he claimed to be a disciple. The Pharisees kept on probing him and questioning him. Finally, he said; “Why are you asking me these questions? Would you be his disciple also?” They said, “You are His disciple; we are Moses’ disciple.” Well, he claimed to be a Christian.

Then, this man had witnessed. I hear all this talk about “witnessing, witnessing, witnessing.” A believer will witness. *“You are My witnesses.”* Christ didn’t say you ought to be; you are. This man had told other men about this man Jesus. He went around telling, “Hey, a man called Jesus made me whole. A man called Jesus gave me my sight.”

He even told the top preachers that a Man name Jesus did it. This man had suffered for what he believed. He lost some friends. He lost his place in the church. He got kicked out. To those Jews, this meant something. That meant He couldn’t be buried in the hallowed ground.

That meant he didn’t have access to the Passover and the atonement, the Jewish privileges nor the privileges to God. They thought they had a corner on God. So, he had suffered for what he believed. He had obeyed Christ; he had experience and claimed to be a Christian. He had witnessed and he suffered for what he believed.

Today, we pronounce every body saved who can fill one, two, three or four of those requirements. But, this man wasn’t saved. He didn’t even know who Jesus Christ was.

You see; salvation is not mechanically obeying some commandments. Salvation is not giving mental assent to some facts. Salvation is not having some whoop-to-do experience no matter how valid it might be.

Salvation is not just in witnessing. Salvation is not in claiming to be a Christian. Salvation is believing on the Son of God. *“He that believeth on the Son of God hath everlasting life.”*

So, our Lord found this fellow. After all this had taken place He found him and said to him, *“Do you believe on the Son of God?”* He said, *“Well, who is he that I might believe on Him.”* My friend, that is the reason I am asking this question today, do you believe on the Son of God?

I know that we have all this religious paraphernalia, ceremonies, shindigs, zeal, enthusiasm, claims, presumptions, professions, churches and denominations. It just keeps going like a big snowball going down a hill. It keeps gaining momentum, attention and it gains numbers. This is such a necessary question, *“Do you believe on the Son of God?”*

Paul said, *“Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and thou shalt be saved.”* First John 5 says, *“This is the record that God hath given us eternal life and this life is in His Son and he that hath the Son of God and believeth on the Son of God hath everlasting life. He that hath not the Son of God will never see life.”* He hath not life.

In Romans 10:9, it says; *“If thou shall confess with thy mouth Jesus to be Lord and believe.”* It does not say, “Work, labor, serve, give, go, witness, but believe in your heart what God says about Him is so, thou shall be saved. God raised Him from the dead.

This is a very necessary question; it is a very plain question, *“What think ye of Christ?”* *Do you believe on the Son of God?”* There is no confusion, no ceremonies, no works, no complicated recipe, no aisle walking, and no law or church rules. *“Do you believe on the Son of God?”* This question is very personal, do you believe on the Son of God?

I know we are concerned about our loved ones and friends, neighbors and other people who do not know God. This is your question and this is my question, *“Do you believe on the Son of God?”*

It is a question that not only should be answered but also can be answered. I think you can answer it right now. I think you can. Paul said, *“Know ye not your own selves whether Christ be in you except you are a reprobate?”*

Our Lord said to this man, *“Do you believe on the Son of God?”* Listen to what the man said, *“Who is He?”* I think that is a question that about 75% of religionists would have to ask if they had that question put to them; *“Who is He?”*

Paul said, *“They can’t call on Him in whom they haven’t believed and they can’t believe in Him whom they have not heard. They can’t hear without a preacher.”*

The man said, *“Who is He, Lord, that I may believe?”* Our Lord answered the man. He said, *“It is He that you have seen and to whom you speak; I am the Son of God.”* He said, *“Lord, I believe.”* He fell down and worshipped Him.

I’m going to give you four questions about Him. I believe these four questions will determine if we really believe on the Son of God. I didn’t say, if you have faith, I said, do you believe on the Son of God. I’m not asking, do you believe in your religion? Some will say, “Well, I believe in prayer.” That’s not what I’m asking, *“Do you believe on the Son of God?”* Well, I believe in God. That’s still not what I’m asking, *“Do you believe on the Son of God?”*

That's the question. Don't go around it. Don't change it. *"Do you believe on the Son of God?"* That is what our Lord asked this man, and he replied *"Who is He?"* Christ asked His disciples this same question one day. He said, *"Whom do men say that I the Son of Man am?"* They said, *"Some say that you are John the Baptist, some say that you are Elijah, and some say that you are one of the prophets."* He said, *"Whom do you say that I am?"* Peter said, *"Thou art the Christ."*

*"Who is the Son of God?"* He is the Christ. Go through the Bible, go through the Old Testament promises and prophecies and pictures and you will see the Christ, the Messiah. That is whom I am talking about. I'm talking about the Messiah, the Christ, and the Redeemer whom God promised.

He's the Seed of woman, the Surety of the Covenant, that Prophet like Moses. He's that Priest after the order of Melchizedek. He's that Lion of the Tribe of Judah. He's that Lord our Righteousness, that Branch, that refuge, that tried-stone, that corner stone, that brazen serpent, that Passover, that smitten rock, that Christ. That is who He is, Prophet, Priest and King.

Peter said, *"Thou art that Christ, the Son of the living God. Do you believe on the Son of God? Who is He?"* He is the Christ, the Messiah and He is the Son of God. He's equal with the Father.

The Scripture says, *"In the beginning was the Word and the Word was made flesh and the Word was with God and dwelt among us. The Word was God and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and full of truth."* Who is He? He is the God-man. He is Emanuel, (God with us). He's Wonderful, Counselor, the Mighty God, the Everlasting Father, and the Prince Of Peace on whose shoulders the government of the kingdom rest. He said, *"He that hath seen Me hath seen God."* That is who He is.

Not only that, but here is another question; What did He do? Believe it or not, He came to earth. *"He was in the world and the world was made by Him. He who made woman was made of a woman."* Yes sir! The ancient of days became an infant of days.

I can't explain that but I do know, *"He took not on Himself the nature of angels but He took on Himself the seed of Abraham and He became a man. In the fullness of time God sent forth His Son made of a woman, made under the law to redeem them that were born under the law."*

He came to this earth and walked in human flesh. He was *“Bone of our bone, flesh of our flesh.”* He lived a perfect, righteous, holy life. He obeyed the law of God in every jot and tittle as the representative of His chosen people. That’s what He did.

Then, bearing our sins in His body, He went to the tree. There the Just for the unjust suffered that He might bring us to God. That’s right! *“He who knew no sin was made sin for us that we might be made the righteousness of God in Him.”*

What did He do? He came to earth. He was the second Adam, the Lord from heaven as our representative. You see, *“By one man’s disobedience we were made sinners. By the obedience of one we were made righteous.”* He is the Lord our Righteousness. He obeyed the law to give us a perfect holiness before God.

He went to the cross to satisfy justice. He died under the charge and death of our sins. *“The soul that sinneth shall die.”* We’re not going to die because He died in our place. Christ died. *“Who is He that condemneth? Christ died, yea rather is risen again who is even at the right hand of God who also makes intercession for us.”*

Why did He do this? He had to. If God is going to be a Just God and a Saviour, if He’s going to be a Saviour in such a way that He can be a Just God. So, Christ had to do this. This is called representation and substitution.

The law was required of us and we couldn’t keep it. Our substitute did. Justice demanded our death. We can’t die and live but He can die and live because He is the Author of life. He died and God raised Him from the dead and gave evidence that everything that Christ did was accepted. *“We are accepted in Him.”* That is what He did; He died for us.

Why did He do that? He did that in order that God may be Holy and at the same time merciful. That God may be just and at the same time save you and me. He did it for His people. *“Of Him are you in Christ Jesus who of God is made unto us Wisdom, Righteousness, Sanctification and Redemption.”*

He is all we need. Where is He now? He is at the right hand of God. The scripture says, *“God hath in these last days spoken to us by His Son who is the brightness, the express image of God, the brightness of His glory who by Himself purged our sins and then sat down at the right hand of God where He ever liveth to make intercession for you and me.”*

Where is He? *“The forerunner has entered within the veil into the Holy of Holies at the right hand of the Majesty on High”* and has taken with Him, all of His church. He’s taken all for who He died, and all for whom He suffered.

Now then, do you believe on the Son of God?