



Sunday, August 2, 2009: Christ the Way and the Truth

Scripture: John 14:1-7

Speaker: Joe Boot

Sermon Notes:

1. We don't need to be troubled by problems in the world because of who Christ is.
2. Jesus commands us: "Believe in God, believe also in Me."
3. Our eternal home is centered in the identity of Christ.
4. Jesus claims to be both the way and the destination: He says *I AM* truth *and* life.
5. John 14:7. Jesus claims absolute unity and identity with the Father. See also John 6:65.
6. Jesus is the very unveiling of God the Father. Jesus explicitly and implicitly claims divinity all through John's gospel.
7. Jesus doesn't merely give teaching and an example. But in the person of Jesus you see and know God Himself.
8. Jesus is not the God of unbelieving philosophers. He is the God of Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, and Moses.
9. The word "Persona" derives from masks used in theater – this view of person reflected a humanist idea that your person is transient, not intrinsic to who God created you to be.
10. Freedom presupposes liberty from something for something. To be truly free you must have a way, a purpose and a truth.
11. Your freedom on this planet is only because you're restricted by laws such as gravity. Our freedom in Christ is to be freed from sin to obey His commandments.
12. The humanist view of persons (transient masks) destroys any possibility of community and family.
13. The early Church took the term "persona" and redefined it in terms of Christ: believers have true substance as persons made in the image of Christ.
14. If your life doesn't have intrinsic value and worth under God, then you are just a transient mask in the void.
15. Peter's answer to Jesus is correct: To whom else can we go? for you have the words of life. John 6:68
16. John 14:2. Jesus is preparing a place so we can be with Him.
17. Jesus is removing our masks – our loneliness, our guilt, our self-worship – and remaking us to be like Him.
18. In our new persons, we are able to live in community and to be free indeed.

Application Questions:

1. We don't need to be troubled by life's problems. Why?
2. Who defines the truth, the way, the life for us?
3. How might we believe that Jesus is the Christ? John 14:1.
4. Jesus has been taken seriously for 2000 years, in contrast to religious leaders who come and go. What's the difference?
5. How is Jesus related to the Father according to Hebrews 1:1-4?
6. Explain how true freedom for human creatures implies restrictions.