

Valley Bible Church – Sermon Notes

Sermon Notes for July 14-15, 2001

"Good Results from Bad Circumstances"

Philippians 1:15-18

Dale Whitehead

Paul was rejoicing that Christ was being proclaimed whether in pretense or in truth. Does this mean that we are to rejoice anytime Christ is proclaimed?

We are to rejoice anytime Christ is proclaimed correctly or in other words when the true gospel is proclaimed correctly.

What are the essential elements of the gospel?

The person of Christ is an essential element of the gospel (1 Corinthians 15:1-3).

What are the basic facts about the person of Christ revealed in the Scriptures which, as an expression of our faith, cannot be rejected?

We must, as an expression of our faith, not reject the humanity of Christ (John 1:14; 1 Timothy 3:16; 1 John 4:2).

The one who would atone for our sins had to be 100% human in order to serve as an effective substitute (Romans 5:12-15).

If we consciously reject the humanity of Christ we are rejecting the gospel because we are failing to exercise faith in Christ as He is revealed in the Scriptures (1 John 4:1-3).

We, as an expression of our faith, cannot reject the fact of the deity of Christ. We cannot reject the fact that Christ is the one and only true God (John 1:1).

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The one who would atone for our sins had to be 100% divine so that His offering as our substitute would be acceptable and infinitely valuable (1 Peter 1:18-19).

The Jehovah's Witnesses have rejected the fact that Christ is 100% divine, the one and only true God (*Watchtower*, May 15, 1969; and *Watchtower*, December 15, 1984). Therefore we have no cause for rejoicing when they proclaim their so-called Christ because their Christ is not the Christ of the Bible.

Mormonism has rejected the fact that Christ is the one and only true God (*Doctrine and Covenants*). Therefore we have no cause for rejoicing when it proclaims Christ because its Christ is not the Christ of the Bible.

Many leaders in the faith movement say that Christ is 100% divine, the one and only true God but their teachings rob Him of His position as the sovereign ruler of the universe and render Him simply a slave. They have in their teachings redefined the God of the Scriptures and rendered their profession of faith in the deity of Christ meaningless.