

Scripture: Ten Commandments (Deut. 5) – John 20:30-32; 6:25-40
Singing: 266 – 384:5 – 163 – 80:1, 9 – 67:1 – 422:5

JESUS' CALL AND PROMISE

I. The call to believe II. The promise of life

I. Jesus' Call to believe Him

A. God's purpose in bringing us the Word of God in Law and Gospel: vs. 31

1. Jesus did not only preach the Gospel
 - a. He preached *about sin – misery – being lost – in bondage – corrupt*

 - b. preaching these truths is equally loving and caring

B. Yet John's record of Jesus preaching makes it clear He called His hearers to *believe His message of glad tidings: John 11:26, 9:35; 7:38; 3:16ff*

1. His preaching is *heavenly* (John 3:12)

2. His preaching is *personal* (John 6:32, 37)

3. His preaching is *inviting and reassuring* (John 7:37, 38)

C. Jesus in His preaching calls us to believe: *what is to believe?*

1. to believe is to *trust – give yourself to Him – depend on Him for salvation*
 - a. trusting is not so foreign as you think

b. Holy Spirit works 'trusting' in a gradual growing way

D. Jesus question which He wants answered: *Do you believe ...?*

II. Jesus' promise to whosoever believes is eternal life

A. The Lord **only** promises *life through His Name* upon believing (31b)

1. Compare John 3:18; 4:14; 5:24, 6:40, 7:37; 11:25-26

a. this *life through trust* is also heavenly and liberating

2. Yet it is NOT faith that saves but *the Person whom we trust* (20:31b)

B. All who believe or trust in Jesus have eternal life through Him

1. Eternal life is a *restored, growing and deepening* relationship with God

a. it includes the cancellation of misery (John 11:25-26)

b. it is the *fellowship with a reconciled God and Father* (John 14:23)

Reflection: Am I a genuine believer in Jesus?