

"COMING TO CHRIST"**Introduction**

1. True religion is very simple
2. It is not great learning...
3. But coming to Christ.

1. THE MOST IMPORTANT DUTY IN LIFE IS TO COME TO JESUS CHRIST

- 1) This is what all Christians know + do:
 - (i) they recall their first coming = conversion
 - (ii) they come to him in all troubles
 - (iii) they come with their many needs

OBSERVE: God puts trials in our path to bring us.
ILLUSTRATION: the wise man + the tsunami

- 2) All we know of Christ encourages us to come:
 - (i) he took our nature – is one with us
 - (ii) he passed through all our experiences
 - (iii) he is familiar with all life's trials
 - (iv) he has a humble, friendly nature

APPLICATION: Come to Christ – and keep on coming.

2. NO DISCOURAGEMENT SHOULD KEEP US BACK

- 1) The deep truths of God's secret decree: v.25-27
 - (i) the fact of reprobation: v.25
 - (ii) the truth of election: v.25
 - (iii) the reality of God's sovereign will: v.26
 - (iv) the glorious nature of Christ: v.27

OBSERVE: Some say, These things keep me back. No!
- 2) The things to look to as we Come to Christ:
 - (i) our fallen, sinful condition: "labour..."
 - (ii) our conscience which condemns us
 - (iii) our oppressing fears: "I am not worthy".

(iv) our needy souls: v.30

- 3) Some common difficulties:
 - (i) what does "come" mean?
 - (ii) how do we begin to "come"?
 - (iii) suppose I fail to find Christ
 - (iv) how can I come if I feel no need?
- 4) The Gospels answer all these fears:
 - (i) Christ refused no one: **Illustration**: Phoenician woman.
 - (ii) the least degree of faith is enough
 - (iii) no miracle is too hard for Christ
 - (iv) shame + guilt need not keep us back

ILLUSTRATION: Simon Peter: "Lovest thou me?"

3. CHRIST'S "COME" MUST NOT BE NEGLECTED

- 1) Sooner or later all will regret it who do not come:
 - (i) See the cities rebuked: v.20-24
 - (ii) Recall the words of Proverbs 1: 23-30
 - (iii) The dead are too late to "come"

ILLUSTRATION: the foolish virgins – too late!
- 2) If you come, Christ will give you rest:
 - (i) assurance of full pardon
 - (ii) a sure place in heaven
 - (iii) an honourable place here on earth
 - (iv) comfort and strength in a dying day

CONCLUSION

1. Take up his mild "yoke".
2. "Learn of him" + be blessed.

PSALM**107: 1 – 8****86: 9 – 13****95: 6 – 11**