

New Covenant Presbyterian Church - PCA

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Prelude

Choral Introit

Welcome and Announcements

The Call to Worship

*Hymn No. 9 *Praise the Lord! Ye Heavens, Adore Him*

*Invocation

Responsive Reading

Silent Prayer

Proclamation of the Gospel

The Anthem

*Doxology

Scripture Reading Luke 7:19-35

Sermon Dr. Paul A. Brown, Pastor

ARE YOU ASKING A LEGITIMATE QUESTION ...

OR, MAKING A CRITICAL ACCUSATION?

John's Disciples Present Their Question

Two Responses

*Hymn No. 409 *I Know Whom I Have Believed*

Offering of Thanks and Praise

Offertory

Pastoral Prayer

Hymn *His Strength is Perfect*

Sermon Continued

Jesus' Sermon to Unbelievers

Song of Response

*Benediction

*Choral Benediction No. 409 *I Know Whom I Have Believed*

*Postlude

ARE YOU ASKING A LEGITIMATE QUESTION ...

OR, MAKING A CRITICAL ACCUSATION?

Luke 7:18-35

- I. John sent his disciples to Jesus ... seeking to know His true identity.
 - A. The question ... asked twice (18-21)
 - B. The answers John's question. (21-23)
 - C. Jesus then addressed the crowd - giving testimony about John. (24-28)

- II. Two responses: (29-30)
 - A. Those baptized by John - ***belief*** (29)
 - B. The Pharisees and experts in the Law - ***unbelief*** (30)

- III. Jesus speaks to those who do not believe: (31-35)
 - A. Your own presuppositions have spiritually blinded your ability to see the truth. (31-34)
 1. John is too serious.
 2. Jesus is too joyful.
 3. John did not eat or drink enough ... you call him a demon.
 4. Jesus ate and drank and interacted with the wrong crowd ... you call him a glutton and drunkard.
 - B. The true followers of God demonstrate genuine wisdom. (35)

Prelude

Choral Introit

Welcome and Announcements

The Call to Worship

*Hymn No. 9 *Praise the Lord! Ye Heavens, Adore Him*

Praise the Lord: ye heavens, adore Him;
Praise Him, angels in the height.
Sun and moon, rejoice before Him;
Praise Him, all ye stars of light.
Praise the Lord, for He hath spoken;
Worlds His mighty voice obeyed.
Laws which never shall be broken
For their guidance He hath made.

Praise the Lord, for He is glorious;
Never shall His promise fail.
God hath made His saints victorious;
Sin and death shall not prevail.
Praise the God of our salvation;
Hosts on high, His power proclaim.
Heaven and earth and all creation,
Laud and magnify His Name.

Worship, honor, glory, blessing,
Lord, we offer unto Thee.
Young and old, Thy praise expressing,
In glad homage bend the knee.
All the saints in heaven adore Thee;
We would bow before Thy throne.
As Thine angels serve before Thee,
So on earth Thy will be done.

*Invocation

Responsive Reading

Isaiah 6, Isaiah 40, Psalm 28

P: Holy, Holy, Holy is the Lord, God Almighty.

C: Lord, We have come into this house, we have gathered in your name to worship you.

P: The whole earth is full of His glory.

C. It is easy for us to grow weary.

P: You, O Lord, give strength to the weary.

C: It is easy for us to stumble and fall.

P: You, O Lord, give strength to the weak.

C: Gracious Lord, we put our hope in You today ~ may we run and not grow weary ... may we walk and not faint.

Silent Prayer

Proclamation of the Gospel

P: ⁶Praise be to the LORD, for he has heard my cry for mercy.
⁷The LORD is my strength and my shield; my heart trusts in him, and I am helped. My heart leaps for joy and I will give thanks to him in song. (Psalm 28:6-7)

The Anthem

*Doxology

Scripture Reading Luke 7:18-35

¹⁸ John's disciples told him about all these things. Calling two of them, ¹⁹ he sent them to the Lord to ask, "Are you the one who was to come, or should we expect someone else?"

²⁰ When the men came to Jesus, they said, "John the Baptist sent us to you to ask, 'Are you the one who was to come, or should we expect someone else?' "

²¹ At that very time Jesus cured many who had diseases, sicknesses and evil spirits, and gave sight to many who were blind. ²² So he

replied to the messengers, “Go back and report to John what you have seen and heard: The blind receive sight, the lame walk, those who have leprosy^a are cured, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the good news is preached to the poor.²³ Blessed is the man who does not fall away on account of me.”

²⁴ After John’s messengers left, Jesus began to speak to the crowd about John: “What did you go out into the desert to see? A reed swayed by the wind? ²⁵ If not, what did you go out to see? A man dressed in fine clothes? No, those who wear expensive clothes and indulge in luxury are in palaces. ²⁶ But what did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. ²⁷ This is the one about whom it is written:

“ ‘I will send my messenger ahead of you,
who will prepare your way before you.’^b

²⁸ I tell you, among those born of women there is no one greater than John; yet the one who is least in the kingdom of God is greater than he.”

²⁹ (All the people, even the tax collectors, when they heard Jesus’ words, acknowledged that God’s way was right, because they had been baptized by John. ³⁰ But the Pharisees and experts in the law rejected God’s purpose for themselves, because they had not been baptized by John.)

³¹ “To what, then, can I compare the people of this generation? What are they like? ³² They are like children sitting in the marketplace and calling out to each other:

“ ‘We played the flute for you,
and you did not dance;
we sang a dirge,
and you did not cry.’

³³ For John the Baptist came neither eating bread nor drinking wine, and you say, ‘He has a demon.’ ³⁴ The Son of Man came eating and drinking, and you say, ‘Here is a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and “sinners.”’ ³⁵ But wisdom is proved right by all her children.”

Sermon

Dr. Paul A. Brown, Pastor

***ARE YOU ASKING A LEGITIMATE QUESTION ...
OR, MAKING A CRITICAL ACCUSATION?***

John’s Disciples Present Their Question
Two Responses

*Hymn No. 409 *I Know Whom I Have Believed*

I know not why God's wondrous grace to me He has made known
Nor why, unworthy, Christ in love redeemed me for His own
*But "I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that He is able
To keep that which I've committed unto Him against that day."*

I know not how this saving faith to me He did impart,
Nor how believing in His Word wrought peace within my heart
*But "I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that He is able
To keep that which I've committed unto Him against that day."*

I know not how the Spirit moves, convincing men of sin,
Revealing Jesus through the Word, creating faith in Him
*But "I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that He is able
To keep that which I've committed unto Him against that day."*

I know not what of good or ill may be reserve for me,
Of weary ways or golden days before His face I see
*But "I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that He is able
To keep that which I've committed unto Him against that day."*

I know not when my Lord may come, at night or noon-day fair
Nor if I'll walk the vale with Him or meet Him in the air
*But "I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that He is able
To keep that which I've committed unto Him against that day."*

Offering of Thanks and Praise

Offertory

Pastoral Prayer

Hymn *His Strength is Perfect*

His strength is perfect, when my strength is gone
He'll carry us when we can't carry on
Raised in His power, the weak become strong
His strength is perfect, His strength is perfect.

Sermon Continued

Jesus' Sermon to Unbelievers

Song of Response

*Benediction

*Choral Benediction No. 409 *I Know Whom I Have Believed*

But "I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that He is able
To keep that which I've committed unto Him against that day."

*Postlude

^a The Greek word was used for various
diseases affecting the skin—not necessarily
leprosy.

^b Mal. 3:1