

Wanting Jesus (Hearing His Voice, and Receiving 'So Great salvation.')

by Hans R. Waldvogel

The sermon emphasizes the importance of wanting Jesus, hearing His voice, and receiving 'so great salvation' in order to be transformed by His presence in our lives.

Scripture: Acts 3:26, Ephesians 4:13, Ephesians 4:15, Philippians 2:12, Hebrews 2:3

Topics: "True Salvation", "Desire for Christ"

Description

Hans R. Waldvogel emphasizes the necessity of truly wanting Jesus and hearing His voice to experience the fullness of salvation. He critiques the superficiality of many who attend church without genuine transformation, urging believers to grow into the likeness of Christ rather than merely seeking blessings. Waldvogel warns against complacency in faith, highlighting that true salvation involves a deep, personal relationship with God that leads to holiness and righteousness. He calls for a revival of desire for Christ Himself, rather than the gifts He provides, stressing that many are deceived by their own spiritual complacency. Ultimately, he challenges listeners to awaken to the reality of their faith and the greatness of their salvation.

Transcript

Selected Verses:

Ephesians 4:13. Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ.

Ephesians 4:15. But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ.

Acts 3:26. Unto you first God, having raised up his Son Jesus, sent him to bless you, in turning away every one of you from his iniquities.

Opening:

Last night, I could wish that this place had been filled with people. I know we could fill this place with people easy enough. All you'd have to do is show a moving picture, or give a coffee klatch, or have some sensational show--a spiritual show, maybe: announce a certain person to come here. But last night, I saw

the Lord Jesus Christ in this place like I've seldom seen Him, and I heard things that I've seldom heard. And I thought, "O God, O God, how is it that You tell us such things? How is that You lead us into such avenues of the knowledge of the Son of God?"

Well, it's because God must find a people in this world to whom He can reveal--not only reveal but communicate, give, manifest. He's got to have a harvest that brings forth the fruit that He has sown. The mystery of the kingdom of God consists not in a lot of people talking about wonderful sermons they hear. It doesn't consist either of signs and wonders, like we enjoy them and thank God for. But it consists of growing into Him: "growing up into Him in all things," growing up into "the full stature of the manhood of Christ Jesus," in other words, being made like unto the Son of God.

My, what a... Why, beloved, that truth has been forgotten--has been discarded by the great bulk of so-called Christians in the world today! God has never discarded it, never.

...

Selected Quotes:

I tell you, God is after a people that will want--that really want--the Lord Jesus Christ, that really want to be clothed in His likeness. And if He can find a people like that, they will not seek Him for blessing. Oh, how we like to be blessed! And when somebody else is blessed more than we are, we get jealous, and then there come these imitations. We've got the world full of imitations today.

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I know there are people who haven't a ghost of an idea what's happening, not a ghost of an idea. They've been coming to Pentecostal meetings for 20 and 30 and 40 years, and they have never awakened. They'll boast of being perfected, and being matured, and having been in Pentecost many years. And I always remind them of the man that used to go to sleep in the bathtub. He didn't get clean. It isn't how long you stayed in the bathtub, but how well you scrub yourself. It isn't how long you were in Pentecost, but beloved, does the word of God change you? Does that word wash you? Does the word mean anything to you? "Today, if ye will hear His voice..." Have you heard His voice?

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And if I don't pay attention to that word, it will soon not speak anymore. Oh, I may be entertained by a powerful sermon, and I may think myself very spiritual because I weep a few tears. It's all surface slush. It didn't go in. It's a very different thing: when I hear that word, I will bow my heart, I will tremble at that word, and I will never give up until that word has reached or produced perfection in me--until I am perfect. That's why He says, "Turn you at My reproof. Behold I will pour out My Spirit unto you. But because I called and ye did not listen, because I stretched forth My hand, and no man regarded, the day will come when you will cry and I will not hear, because they would have none of My reproof. They refused My counsel."

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Unless we "work out our own salvation with fear and trembling," we will belong to those who "neglect so great salvation." Listen: so great salvation! How big is your salvation? "Oh, I'm saved. Everything's all right. Once saved, always saved." How big is your salvation? Does it provide you with righteousness that's not of the law--the righteousness which avails before God? Does it provide you with holy living and

godliness? Holiness--His holiness--"without which no man shall see the Lord"?

Well, we've heard these things a thousand times, and we'll hear them a thousand times over and then sink into our graves defeated, overcome. Or, we will wake up to the wonder of Jesus.

...

"Oh, come after Me. There are so few that really follow Me all the way, so few of My followers--or those who call themselves followers of Mine--who really love Me sufficiently to want Me. They all want My blessings. And the more I pour out My blessings, the more they deceive themselves, and they cry, 'We're rich and increased with goods!'"

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Illustrations:

The story of a young minister who sought the Lord. This is probably Joseph Wannemacher. "I noticed that God was taking him an entirely different way... God began to strip this fellow... God came to his life." (from 3:19)

A "manifested son of God" with a hot temper. (from 6:30)

The horrors of the Holocaust. "You look at those gas chambers, and you say, 'What! In Germany ? In this day?'" (from 17:40)

German at 9:11:

Psalm 73:25. Wenn ich nur dich habe, so frage ich nichts nach Himmel und Erde.

In the King James Version, Psalm 73:25 says, "Whom have I in heaven but thee? and there is none upon earth that I desire beside thee." Martin Luther's German says, literally, "If I only have You, I ask nothing of heaven and earth."

German at 18:09:

Todesgefahr -- danger of death.

Source:

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