

Heart of the Mission and the Message from the Church, Part 2

John MacArthur

I. Introduction.

A. Text: 1 Timothy 3:16.

B. Paul was a man who was deeply concerned with the fundamentals.

C. The basic task is to guard God's revelation. (John 17:14, Acts 4:31, 12:23, 19:20, 2 Corinthians 2:17, 4:2)

D. The heart of the message is the message of Jesus Christ. (1 Corinthians 1:23, 2:2, 2 Corinthians 4:5, Galatians 6, Philippians 1)

II. Everyone agrees on this in the church--great is the mystery of godliness. Christ is the mystery of godliness.(Acts 19:28)

III. Statements about the faith.

A. God became man. He pre-existed but was not visible. (1 Timothy 1:17, 6:16, Colossians 1, Hebrews 1, 9:26, John 17, Galatians 4:4, John 1:1, 1:14, Romans 1:3, Philippians 2, Hebrews 2:14)

B. Jesus was justified in the Spirit. He was declared to be righteous regarding his human nature. (Matthew 3:15, 1 John 2:1, Hebrews 4:15, 5:9, 7:26, 9:14, 2 Corinthians 5:21, 1 Peter 2:21)

1. He was also declared righteous by the Spirit. (Romans 1:3)

2. Jesus did not sin and could not sin because of his divine nature.

C. Jesus was seen by angels.(Luke 22:43)

1. Jesus triumphed over the demonic on the cross. He preached to them in prison. (Colossians 2:14)

2. Jesus was also seen by good angels who attended the resurrection. (Matthew 28, Mark 16, Luke 24, John 20)

D. Jesus was preached among the nations. Jesus demanded that his name and work be preached.

E. Jesus was believed on in the world. (Acts 2:42)

F. Jesus was received into glory. This means that God was pleased with the work of Christ. (Acts 1:9, Hebrews 1, Philippians 2:8)

Application Questions:

1. Why is it important to teach the basics of the message of Scripture?

2. What are the basics of the message? What is the gospel?

3. What can you do to better open up opportunities for the gospel in your sphere of influence? Explain.
