

Living Out...

VINTAGE
Jesus

...The Lordship
of Christ

Savior → Friend → Lord

15 HAPPY YEARS!



Have You Ever Wondered...

- How so many of those who should have been able to 'see' and recognize Jesus for who he really was failed to do so?
- How was that possible?

→ Seeing is NOT Believing!

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'We live by faith, not by sight.' - 2 Cor.
5:7

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Matthew 2:1-16 - Page 681

The Jewish Leaders

- The *Sadducees*

- Smaller in size; Wealthy/Politically Influential
- Controlled/Corrupted the Priesthood
- Did not believe in Resurrection, Angels, etc.

- The *Pharisees*

- Larger in size; 'Lay' leadership

Living Out... Experts in/Protectors of the 'expanding'

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- Aligned with the Scribes ('legal professionals')

The Chief Priests and Teachers of the Law...

- *Knew Exactly Where to Point Them...*
- *They Could See the OT Scriptures/Prophecies*
 - Born in Bethlehem → *Micah 5:2*
 - Born of a Virgin → *Isaiah 7:14*
 - Born into King David's lineage → *John 7:40-42*

- **AND YET...** *They failed to follow up on their own*

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advice - which was only 5 miles away!

→ *The Greatest Event in all of Human History*

and

Believing IS SEEING!

- *Luke 2:21-35 - Page 725*
 - There was a Man called Simeon
 - “Righteous and Devout”; “He was waiting”
 - “The Holy Spirit was upon Him”
 - “Moved by the Spirit, he went to the temple”
 - “A light for revelation to the Gentiles”
 - “The thoughts of many hearts will be revealed”

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→ *Our flesh, the world, and Satan are all competing for our attention... What frequency are you tuning into?*

They Could See the Miracles

- *John 9:1-41 - Page 758*

- A Man Born Blind

- “The Jews still did not believe...”
- “One thing I do know, I was blind but now I see!”
- “You don’t know where he comes from, yet he opened my eyes... They threw him out.”
- “What? Are we blind too?”

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“Jesus said, ‘If you were blind, you would not be guilty of sin; but now that you claim you can see, your guilt remains.’”

How Was It Possible?

1. Their **PRE-OCCUPATION** with the **STATUS QUO** which kept them from hearing and responding...

- *“For already the Jews had decided”*

2. They had **PRE-CONCEIVED NOTIONS** which led to wrong conclusions...

- *“Give glory to God, “... “We know this man is a sinner.”*

3. They **PRE-JUDGED** People and Circumstances which resulted in bad choices...

...The Kingdom of Christ

...you were steeped in sin at birth; How dare you

The Jewish Leaders

- The *Sadducees*

- Bound by their Commitment to the Natural
 - They 'Walked by Sight' and were insulated
 - Position/Way of Life = God as they wanted Him to be

- The *Pharisees*

- Bound by their Commitment to the Externals

Living Out... • They 'Presumed to Speak for God' and were isolated



...The Lord of Christ

• Traditions/Rules of Life = God in a box they defined

They 'Knew' The Scriptures

- *John 5:37-47*

- “Nor does His Word dwell in you, for you do not believe the one He sent.”

- “You diligently study the Scriptures because you think that by them you possess eternal life.”

- “These are the Scriptures that testify about me, yet you refuse to come to me to have life.”

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“I know that you do not have the love of God in your hearts.”

→ *Not and End in itself, but a Means to an End*

What Must We Do?

1. We Need to Remain ALERT and AVAILABLE

→ The Availability Test (Isaiah 26:9)

→ *Would you notice if God Showed Up in an Unexpected Way?*

2. We Need to Remain OPEN and TEACHABLE

→ The Knowledge Test (1 Cor. 8:1)

→ *Do you define Spiritual Maturity as Bible Knowledge?*

3. We Need to Avoid ACTING in PRESUMPTION

Living Out → The Scripture Test (Hebrews 4:12)

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→ *Do you crave New and Different Teaching?*

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Another Antidote → Video

FAITH

Sadducees

Scribes and Pharisees

Magi / Blind Man

**NOT
SIGHT**
Limiting God

**NOT
PRESUMPTION**
Speaking For God

TRUSTING
Listening To God
Following God

"And without faith it is impossible to please God"

- Hebrews 11:6

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Dominican Republic Pastors Pre-Conceived Notions



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