

"The Doubts of John the Baptist and the Challenge to the Nation"

Matthew 11:1-19

I. The Ministry of Jesus Christ

A. The Commission from Jesus to Israel

B. The Challenge of Jesus to the Nation

1. The Doubts of John the Baptist (vv 1-6)

A. While in prison John _____ of the _____ of Jesus.

B. John sent two of his _____ to Jesus with a _____ question.

C. John _____ that Jesus is the expected Messiah

* Principle #1: It is possible to doubt the plan or character of God because of _____

* Principle #2: When you are having doubts, you need to go to _____

D. Jesus' answer was to give them the _____ reality.

2. The Validation of John the Baptist's Ministry (vv 7-15)

A. Jesus asks the crowd three _____ regarding _____

* What does a "reed shaken by the wind" refer to?

* What does a "a man clothed in soft garments" refer to?

* How was John more than a prophet?

* Why is John the greatest prophet?

* How is he who is least in the kingdom of God greater than John?

* What does verse 12 mean?

* What do verses 13-15 mean?

3. The Challenge of John the Baptist's Ministry to the Nation (vv 16-19)

A. Jesus compared the nation to _____ who cannot be _____ by anything

B. He used this illustration to emphasize their _____ of both John and Jesus

* What does "But wisdom is justified by her children" mean?

* What does this mean to you?