

Sermon Text: Luke 18:31-43 Seeing the Hidden

God grants a persevering faith to see the saving virtue of Christ hidden in His suffering and death so that we would follow Christ and glorify God.

1) The Gospel is a Divine mystery (18:31-34).

- a) The Hidden God
- b) The “Secret” of God
- c) God’s eternal plan of redemption in Christ (18:31).
 - i) Jerusalem—Holy City to Harlot City (Isa 1:21)
 - ii) Son of Man—Divine Ruler of All Kingdoms (Dan 7)
 - iii) Prophets—whole Bible about Christ (cf. 24:25-27, 44-47)
- d) Christ’s suffering, death, and resurrection (18:32-33).
 - i) Delivered over to the Gentiles—Jews? Judas? God?
 - ii) Mocked and shamefully treated and spit upon—humiliated (cf. Isa 50:6)
 - iii) Flogging—physical suffering (cf. Isa 53:4-7)
 - iv) They will kill Him—death as penalty for sin (cf. Isa 53:9-10)
- e) The disciples’ incomprehension (18:34). Threefold statement of ignorance.
- f) **Application:**
 - i) Beware of relying on the wisdom of men (1 Cor 1:20-25; 2:6-10).
 - ii) Hear the testimony of fulfilled prophecy.
 - iii) Rejoice in the fulfilled promises of God.
 - iv) Ask God for the grace of illumination/enlightenment (Eph 1:17; 3:14-19; Col 1:9).

2) Faith beholds the saving virtue of Christ (18:35-43).

- a) The blind man’s divine sight (18:35-38).
 - i) Jesus of Nazareth—the Branch prophecy (Isa 4:2; 11:1; 60:21-61:2; cf. Luke 4:16-21)
 - ii) Jesus—Savior
 - iii) Son of David—Chosen King
 - iv) Have mercy on me!— (Luke 4:16-21)
- b) The blind man’s persevering faith (18:39).
 - i) The crowds rebuke him and try to silence his cries.
 - ii) He cries out “all the more!”
- c) Jesus’ mercy (18:40-43a).
 - i) What do you want Me to do for you?—Alms? Or something more?
 - ii) Recover your sight.—Jesus’ Word is the effectual power
 - iii) Your faith has made you well.—Faith was the instrument to see Jesus and to receive His mercy.
- d) Following Jesus (18:43)—Saving faith unites us to Christ so that we follow Him to Jerusalem, to the Cross, and to the resurrection.
- e) God glorified (18:43)—Saving faith also leads to worship.
- f) **Application:**
 - i) Believing is seeing.
 - ii) Persevere in faith.
 - iii) Follow hard after Jesus.
 - iv) Worship—man’s chief end and the goal of salvation.

Doxology: But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. 1 Corinthians 15:57