

Acts 5:15ff

Ill- Sooty the Dog running away

Ill- when young going into the Christmas play

Point-suddenly discovering what you thought the status quo was far from it.

Re-defining your world

Will the real Messiah please stand up?

“For when lenity and cruelty play for a kingdom, the gentler gamester is the soonest winner.”

King Henry, scene vi

Many messiahs.

Jesus, and the two pretenders

THEUDAS. 1. In Acts 5:36 an impostor (possibly a Messianic pretender) who some time before AD 6 gathered a band of 400 men, but he was killed and his followers dispersed. His activity was probably one of the innumerable disorders which broke out in Judaea after Herod's death in 4 BC. Origen (*Contra Celsum*, 1. 57) says he arose 'before the birth of Jesus', but that may simply be an inference from this passage, where Gamaliel speaks of his rising as having preceded that of *JUDAS.

Judas- The Galilean who stirred up a rebellion against the Romans (Acts 5:37). Josephus says he was born in Gamala (*Ant.* 18.3), and places the rebellion in AD 6. *QUIRINIUS defeated the rebels and Judas was slain.

What type of Messiah were they wanting, one they could control?, One which affirmed their authority?, One which asked their permission?, One which affirmed them and their actions?

We notice that the Bible differentiates between people who are sick and people who are possessed by unclean spirits.

The Sadducees are being threatened as the momentum for believing in the resurrection curtails their authority and power.

In Acts 23:8, we are told that the Sadducees believe that there are no angels, it is ironic therefore chapter 5, that we find an angel has let loose the very people who are proclaiming there are angels.

Was it a bad time to be a captain of the guard, so far the Romans had lost Jesus, and now the captain of the guard had lost the Apostles?

The type that was being suggested, one, which ushered in the Kingdom of God, but made it clear that to those who entered it, it was not based upon historical merit, but on **forgiveness and humility**.

Further, consider what Peter was saying to them. Notice how Peter calls Jesus Prince and saviour, to the highest theological and political group within the land.

They would have known the Old Testament Scriptures,

Isaiah 43:11 (NLT)

¹¹ I, yes I, am the LORD,
and there is no other Savior.

How radically different is the teaching of this person Peter, who not only equates Jesus as God, but also introduces to this group the holy spirit as a gift given to those who obey God.

The implication therefore is that not only to the spiritual leaders of the Jewish people stand guilty before God of the sin of executing their own saviour, it is further compounded by the claim of this fisherman Peter that he and the others who believe in Jesus are now in permanent possession of the holy spirit. An entity or activity within God's sphere that within the scriptures of the Jewish people always denoted God's approval of actions. In effect Peters standing before the religious authorities and stating quite clearly to them that he represents a group chosen by God to proclaim the truth of the saviour for whom they have been waiting.

Who do you Fear more, God or Man?

Will the real Messiah please stand up!

A Messiah whose kingdom is one of healing, and forgiveness, for all, Jew and gentile alike.

GENTILE/ JEW- lets redefine

POINT-How we refer to ourselves, not as "good", but in "God's kingdom".

The bad advice- This appeared to be wise counsel, but actually it was not. **No one can be neutral about Christ.**

It is interesting to note that Gamaliel was a Pharisee, and not a part of the Sadducee group that led the arrest. He is also the great Jewish rabbi who taught the Apostle Paul (Acts 22:3). His pupil made a better decision than he did!

Who do you Fear more, God or Man?

Will the real Messiah please stand up!

Pick n mix Jesus.

Ill- Lollies at cinema.

Why did Jesus not turn up at the Sanhedrin personally and prove that he had been resurrected?

You need to understand Jesus Christ as your saviour before you can take on the burden of his teachings. Too many people in life seek to replicate the variant version of their perceptions of the teachings of Jesus without seeking first the salvation he shows.

Jesus and the messiah of self, "I am" the highest authority. Who is the right "I am", will the real messiah please stand up?

Note well-the battle for hearts and minds between those who believe in evolution and those who believe in creation. If you can undercut the basic belief that the opening chapters of the Bible are true, then it is only a matter of time that the other arguments that are based upon it also fall.

People refuse to become disciples, they take the soft option.

Unlike the leadership, we have the choice to investigate, is this person who claims to be God incarnate actually who he claims to be?

If he is right, do you not owe it to yourself to find out?

Questioning Evangelism- Would you like it to be true?

I believe it is best summed up as "A religion of symbolic devotion". It is Hollow. Meaningless. Futile. Empty.

What Jesus was to fulfill the prophecies, how Jesus acted to fulfill the law.

Do we have the same pride that Jesus is the Messiah?

Do we understand quite clearly there is no other way!

Are we willing to challenge, the thoughts of our children, our parents, as spouses, our friends, the colleagues we work with, the people we interact with, our enemies who hate us.

Who do you fear more man or God?

What difference has he made to your life this week, how have you thought, discussed or acted differently because you are a believer?

Will the real Messiah please stand up?

The wanted to avoid the responsibility for the death of Jesus being upon them.

Who do you fear more, God or man?

It's easy to claim, but it's hard to prove.

Keep in mind that deliverance is not always God's plan; He allowed Peter to be delivered but James to be slain (Acts 12) because each event worked out for His glory.

John the Baptist would have loved to live in these days

We should always bear in mind that healing is extremely valuable, yet it is still only temporary. We all die.

How many times before and after have angels stepped in on the direct command of God?

When it's okay to disobey, civil disobedience to adhere to God's law is a credit to the faith of a Christian. (Get used to it, it's going to happen more often)

How many signs of the coming kingdom can be found within the our community of faith.

Signs of the kingdom are

1. preaching the gospel to the poor.
2. Healing the brokenhearted.
3. Preaching deliverance to captives.
4. Restoring sight to the blind.
5. Liberating the oppressed.
6. Instituting the acceptable year of the Lord. (Isaiah 61)
7. healing the sick.
8. Casting out evil spirits.
9. Making lame people walk.
10. Cleansing lepers.
11. Restoring hearing to the deaf.
12. Raising the dead. (Luke 7:20-23)
13. speaking in new tongues.
14. Safely picking up serpents.
15. Immunity to poison.

Where are you being called to witness?

Don't be half-hearted, be the disciple you are called to be, committed in a community of faith