III. THE REASON THE SON OF GOD APPEARED (pt.3). John 14:6

INTRODUCTION. There are a few passages I want to draw your attention to today, all in the gospel of John, and starting with John 8:44.

1 John 3:8 says, "The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the works of the Devil."

- I. The Devil is a Sinner. He entices and energizes people to sin against God. Therefore Christ became a man to destroy the sins in His people and give them eternal life (1 Jn. 3:7-8). <u>That is one of the reasons we celebrate</u> Christmas!
- II. The Devil is a Devourer. He mangles people by temptation, accusation, and desperation. Therefore Christ became a man to destroy the devouring of the Devil and to bind up the brokenhearted (Is. 61:1). <u>That is another one of the reasons we celebrate Christmas!</u>
- III. The Devil is a Liar. He deceives people by lying to them about the God, themselves, and the Scriptures. Therefore Christ became a man to destroy the lies of the Devil by setting His people free as the Truth (Jn. 14:6). <u>This is</u> also one of the reasons we celebrate Christmas!

I. THE DEVIL IS THE FATHER OF LIES (Jn. 8:44c).

John 8:44c

"[The Devil] does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks out of his own character, for he is a liar and the father of lies."

WILHELMUS Á BRAKEL: "The devils at one time abode in the truth, sinned, did not keep their first estate, and are murderers of men. [Satan] is called "that old serpent, ... the devil, and Satan" (Rev 12:9)." — Brakel, Wilhelmus à. The Christian's Reasonable Service. Reformation Heritage Books. Kindle Edition.

II. THE DEVIL IS THE DECEIVER (Rev. 12:9).

Revelation 12:9 "The deceiver of the whole world."

- 2 Corinthians 11:14 "Satan disguises himself as an angel of light."

III. CHRIST IS THE TRUTH (Jn. 14:6).

John 14:6 "Jesus said to him, 'I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."

IV. CHRIST CAME TO SET HIS PEOPLE FREE AS THE TRUTH (Jn. 8:31-32).

John 8:31-32 "31 So Jesus said to the Jews who had believed him, "If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples, 32 and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free."

DOCTRINE. The Son of God appeared to destroy the lies of the devil and set His people free as the Truth.

BOYS AND GIRLS, [recap all four points and doctrine]

V. NINE DECEPTIONS OF THE DEVIL AND HOW CHRIST DESTROYS THOSE LIES AS THE TRUTH.

- I) The Devil deceives people by telling them "There is no God."
 - Psalm 14:1 "The fool says in his heart, '<u>There is no God.</u>'"

Christ came as the image of the invisible God, to perfectly reveal God to us and split history in half.

- Colossians 1:15 "He is the image of the invisible God,"
 - Hebrews 1:3 "He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature."
 - John 1:1-4 "1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. 2 He was in the beginning with God. 3 All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. 4 In him was life, and the life was the light of men. 5 The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it."
 - John 1:14 "And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth."
 - John 1:18 "No one has ever seen God; the only God, who
 is at the Father's side, he has made him known."
- **BY THE WAY,** The wicked have try to change B.C. and A.D. to B.C.E. and C.E. All you need to do is ask them, "What separates before common

area from common era?" Or you can say, "I am fine with those abbreviations. We will call it BeforeChrist'sEmpire and ChristsEmpire."

BOYS AND GIRLS, [recap point]

II) The Devil deceives people by telling them "God's Word is questionable."

 Genesis 3:1 "Now the serpent was more crafty than any other beast of the field that the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, "<u>Did God</u> <u>actually say</u>, 'You shall not eat of any tree in the garden'?"

Christ came to reinforce every single word in the Scriptures as the authoritative truth revealed to us by God.

- Matthew 5:18 "For truly, I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not an iota, not a dot, will pass from the Law until all is accomplished."
 - Matthew 24:35 "Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away."

Christ, in His earthly ministry, repeatedly said, "It is written," "It is written," "It is written," or "Have you not read?"

Whereas the Devil says to you, "Did God really say?" Christ came to earth and essentially said over and over again, "YES, GOD REALLY SAID."

BOYS AND GIRLS, [recap point]

III) The Devil deceives people by telling them "God's Word is alterable."

- Genesis 3:1 "Now the serpent was more crafty than any other beast of the field that the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God actually say, 'You shall not eat of any tree in the garden'?"
 - Those who believe this lie of the Devil try to alter God's Word by
 - 1) Subtraction (removing what you do not like),
 - 2) Addition (adding what you wish were there), or
 - 3) Twisting (remaking what you wish were different).

Christ came to rebuke those who subtracted, added, or twisted God's Word.

- (i) Christ rebuked the Pharisees for subtracting from the Scriptures!
- Matthew 23:23 "Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you

tithe mint and dill and cumin, and have neglected the weightier matters of the law: justice and mercy and faithfulness. These you ought to have done, without neglecting the others."

(ii) Christ rebuked the Scribes and the Pharisees for adding to the Scriptures!

- Matthew 15:9 "In vain do they worship me, teaching as doctrines the commandments of men."
- (ii) Christ rebuked Satan for twisting to the Scriptures!
- Matthew 4:7 "Jesus said to him, 'Again it is written, "You shall not put the Lord your God to the test." "

2 Timothy 3:16 "All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness."

BOYS AND GIRLS, [recap point]

IV) The Devil deceives people by telling them, "God is not just."

Genesis 3:4 "But the serpent said to the woman, 'You will not surely die.'"

Christ came to clarify that God is just, and will by no means clear the guilty!

- Matthew 14:41-43 "41 The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will gather out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all law-breakers, 42 and throw them into the fiery furnace. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. 43 Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. He who has ears, let him hear."

BOYS AND GIRLS, [recap point]

V) The Devil deceives people by telling them, "God is not good."

 Genesis 3:5 "For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil."

Christ came and perfectly revealed the goodness of God on the cross!

 2 Corinthians 5:21 "For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God."

BOYS AND GIRLS, [recap point]

VI) The Devil deceives people by telling them, "Sin is beautiful."

- Genesis 3:6 "So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food,

and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate, and she also gave some to her husband who was with her, and he ate."

- THOMAS BROOKS: "Satan's first device to draw the soul into sin is, to present the bait—and hide the hook; to present the golden cup—and hide the poison; to present the sweet, the pleasure, and the profit that may flow in upon the soul by yielding to sin—and to hide from the soul the wrath and misery that will certainly follow the committing of sin." — Brooks, Thomas. Precious Remedies Against Satan's Devices (p. 16). Kindle Edition.

Christ came and showed the disgusting nature of sin and what we must be willing to do to get rid of it!

- Matthew 5:29 "If your right eye causes you to sin, tear it out and throw it away. For it is better that you lose one of your members than that your whole body be thrown into hell."

BOYS AND GIRLS, [recap point]

VII) The Devil deceives people by telling them, "God will not judge."

- Psalm 10:13 "Why does the wicked renounce God and say in his heart, "You will not call to account"?

Christ came and revealed that there will be a day of judgement that no one can escape.

- Matthew 25:31-32 "31 "When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on his glorious throne. 32 Before him will be gathered all the nations, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats."

BOYS AND GIRLS, [recap point]

VIII) The Devil deceives people by telling them, "God will not save."

- Psalm 3:1-2

"1 O Lord, how many are my foes! Many are rising against me;

2 many are saying of my soul,
"There is no salvation for him in God."

Christ came into the world to save sinners!

- 1 Timothy 1:15 "The saying is trustworthy and deserving of full

acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. . ."
BOYS AND GIRLS, [recap point]

IX) The Devil deceives people by telling them, "Truth is relative."

- John 18:37-38 "37 Then Pilate said to him, 'So you are a king?' Jesus answered, 'You say that I am a king. For this purpose I was born and for this purpose I have come into the world-to bear witness to the truth. Everyone who is of the truth listens to my voice.' 38 Pilate said to him, 'What is truth?'"

BOYS AND GIRLS, [recap point]

Christ came as not only the revealer of the truth, but as the Incarnate truth Himself.

He is the way, the truth, and the life and He destroys all the devils deceptions in order to set His people free! Hallelujah!

CONCLUSION.

- RALPH ROBINSON:

Eight things will help us to be steadfast in the truth.

- (1.) A clear, distinct knowledge of the truth. Want of knowledge is the downfall of many a soul, 2 Tim. iii. 7. A heart full of lust, and a head empty of knowledge, is the highway to all error.
- (2.) Get a strong love to Divine truth, Eph. 9, 14, 15; 2 Thess. ii. 10, 11.
- (3.) Take heed of separating from the Church, Heb. x. 23—25. All error begins at separation.
- (4.) Avoid known seducers, 2 Tim. iii. 5; 2 John 9, 10; Prov. xix. 27.
 - (5.) Take heed of small truths and small errors.

(6.) Pray God to keep you stable, Jude 20.

- (7.) Consider the fearful wanderings of such as forsake the truth. How clear is God's hand in this particular! How far beyond their first intentions are many gone!
- (8.) Be sure to practise what you know, 1 Tim. i. 19. If the conscience be putrefied, the head will soon be corrupt.

