

Is Jesus your Saviour?

Gospel news for eternal salvation

Is Jesus your Saviour?

Record of preaching in gospel hall

Luke 22: 52, 53; And Jesus said to the chief priests and captains of the temple and elders, who were come against him, Have ye come out as against a robber with swords and sticks? When I was day by day with you in the temple ye did not stretch out your hands against me; but this is your hour and the power of darkness.

Luke 22: 63–71; And the men who held him mocked him, beating [him]; and covering him up, asked him saying, Prophecy, who is it that struck thee? And they said many other injurious things to him. And when it was day, the elderhood of the people, both [the] chief priests and scribes, were gathered together, and led him into their council, saying, If *thou* art the Christ, tell us. And he said to them, If I tell you, ye will not at all believe; and if I should ask [you], ye would not answer me at all, nor let me go; but henceforth shall the Son of man be sitting on the right hand of the power of God. And they all said, *Thou* then art the Son of God? And he said to them, Ye say that I am. And they said, What need have we any more of witness, for we have heard ourselves out of his mouth?

These verses came to one's mind thinking of the reference in the earlier preaching as to Jesus going through all quarters;

I think it says He was anointed with the Holy Spirit and power. It's a wonderful matter, beloved, that we can be in touch with power for good in the glad tidings. Jesus is available today to have to say to every matter, every power that would be working against the believer in this world and in your heart, Jesus has had to say to. I just thought of these verses, the reference to the power of darkness, the Lord says, this is your hour and the power of darkness. This was the hour when, you might say, men were in control, at least externally. Jesus was, you might say, under the power of these Jews, these men that hated Him, as we read of earlier in the day, men that had become haters of Christ. And they took Him, they took Him by night, they thought they would take Him unawares, that's the way they came to take Him, came with Judas. And this was their hour, the Lord says, and the power of darkness. You might say, the Lord was in control infinitely, but this was the moment, as it would seem, of the enemy's power, the combination of the forces against Christ: sin,

and death, Satan, the whole world really. That's what the world is comprised of, it's comprised of sin, and the power of Satan, and death, that's a summary of this world. Wherever you look that's what you'll find, you'll find the power of Satan, and you'll find the power of sin, and then you'll find death everywhere. And these forces were combined against Jesus. He says, this is your hour. It was a limited period of time, as we've often been told, God limited it, God, you might say, made it finite.

Think of what it was for Christ to suffer at the hands of men. You think of Him being held, held like a common criminal, He was held. It says here, the men who held Him. Think of men holding Jesus, holding your Saviour. Is He your Saviour? Have you owned Him as your Saviour? Don't go on lightly, we're in the presence of the power of God, it's for salvation. And that's what the Lord refers to here, that's why I read, He says, henceforth shall the Son of man be sitting on the right hand of the power of God. Think of Christ looking right on past this period, this hour, you might say, when

men were against Him and were holding Him and beating Him and mocking Him. Think of what Jesus endured. It says, when reviled, reviled not again; when suffering, threatened not. See, Jesus could have dealt with them in a moment, He had the power to do it, but He suffered. Why did He suffer, beloved? He suffered to set you and me free, He suffered to set us free from this power of darkness. That's what's against your soul, that's why Jesus went into death. You think of the guilt that He bore. That's the effect of sin, if you're going on in your sins you've got guilt, guilt on your conscience, guilt on your heart. Jesus bore it, He was made sin; think of that, beloved, Jesus was made sin, He died, has been made sin, and in that He bore the guilt. It says, He bore the guilt of many. I think that's what Isaiah says, he says, He bore the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors. That's what Jesus has done, beloved, He has done it for you and me. Oh, take advantage of it today, take advantage of the power that's here for salvation.

These men were haters of Christ, the Lord accounted it to them as their ignorance. Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do. But you think of the power of darkness that was against Christ, and yet here was the power of God. He looks right on, He says, but henceforth shall the Son of man be sitting on the right hand of the power of God. That would be in judgment finally. He is Son of God, it says, *Thou art then the Son of God?* And He says, *Ye say that I am.* Think of the glory of His Person, you might say, revealed, the glory of Christ's Person, Son of God; but then He is Son of man, He has come in on our side. But He is the One that's going to execute final judgment, He is coming back and He will be executing judgment against these Jews, these chief priests and these Pharisees and these elders and these scribes, these men that held Him. You think of the men that held Him. Christ is coming back and He is going to execute judgment in the power of God, because He is God.

O beloved, may it come into our hearts what we're having to answer to, you might

say, in the glad tidings. Jesus went the whole way in love, He went to the cross, He went right on to crucifixion, He allowed these same men to crucify Him; think of them putting the nails in, the same men that held Him, then nailed Him to the cross. O beloved, let it fill your heart, to see what Jesus has done to set you free, to relieve you of the power of your own will, relieve you of the power of sin and your own sins, that need to be met and cleansed in the blood of Christ. Think of His blood being shed, cleansing power of Christ to remove the guilt. He can do it for you today, that's just the appeal I had, that He can do it; and there's the power of God available, it's on our side now. He is the Son of man still, and power is available now, it's not preaching of judgment; we're telling you about the judgment, judgment is coming.

See, this was, you might say, the time of Christ's weakness. Think of what He was, going about amongst men, and He held Himself out from the power of men, held Himself from it, until the time when He submitted to it. This was the time of

His weakness. Think of it, in weakness and defeat He won the meed and crown. Think of Him allowing Himself, you might say, to get into a position of weakness. What for? To answer the whole sin question, to remove it before the sight of God eternally, and to have to say to your sins, bearing them in His own body on the tree. O beloved, take advantage of today, don't go on light about the gospel, don't go on light about the message of salvation, see that time is short. See, you might feel strong when you're young, you might feel the strength of youth, go anywhere, do anything, say anything, finally become weak when you're old, and you experience weakness. Christ was a real Man, Jesus is a real Man, He experienced weakness. Think of the weakness, think of how He was held, submitted to these men, and yet He looks on, and it's like a warning, like a warning of judgment, and He has to say to them, He answers them, He says, if I should ask you, ye would not answer Me at all, nor let Me go. He knew that the, you might say, the outcome was inevitable; God was over

it, God was in it to set us free. May we take advantage of it, may we find a real answer in our souls, and find power come into our life in testimony through answering to the glad tidings. For His name's sake.

B.D. Hales

Other booklets are available from:
Christian Doctrine and Gospel Publishing
Chelwood House, Cox Lane, Chessington
Surrey, KT9 1DN, England

www.christiandocctrineandgospelpublishing.org