

John 1:40-42 *One of the two [Andrew and an unidentified disciple of John the Baptist] which heard John speak, and followed him, was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. ⁴¹He first findeth his own brother Simon, and saith unto him, "We have found the Messiah," which is, being interpreted, the Christ. ⁴²And he [Andrew] brought him [Simon Peter] to Jesus. And when Jesus beheld him, he said, "Thou art Simon the son of Jonah: thou shalt be called Cephas," which is by interpretation, A stone.*

I. Introduction

A. We are living in the last days (2 Peter 3:3); the days of perilous times

2 Timothy 3:1–5 *This know also, that **in the last days perilous times shall come.** ² For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous [greedy], boasters [arrogant], proud, blasphemers [ungodly], disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy [without reverence for anything], ³ Without natural affection [no sympathy, heartless], trucebreakers [refusing to reconcile], false accusers [slanderers], incontinent [without self-control], fierce [cruel, brutal], despisers of those that are good [disliking people simply because they do good], ⁴ Traitors, heady [reckless], high-minded [conceited, full of pride], lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God; ⁵ Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof [trying to appear like they are godly but not knowing the power that comes from Him]: *from such turn away.**

1. People of the last days

- a. Boasters, high-minded, or proud people
- b. Lovers of pleasure
- c. People despise those who are good
- d. People who have unnatural affection (alternate lifestyles)
- e. People who have a form of godliness

2. But God wants Christian to be very different

- a. As Christian grows in Christ, speak truth of doctrine in love

Ephesians 4:15 *But **speaking the truth in love**, may grow up into him in all things [our lives should mature and become more like Christ in every way], which is the head, even Christ:*

- b. As Christian, seek & pray for the peace of your city

Jeremiah 29:7 *And seek the peace of the city whither I have caused you to be carried away captives [Any you Jews, when you are captured by your enemy and taken as slaves to Babylon, live in peace with that city], and **pray unto the LORD for it: for in the peace thereof shall ye have peace.***

- B. John the Baptist was voice for the Lord
 - 1. Prophetic voice as told in the Scriptures
 - a. Voice of one crying in the wilderness – Isaiah 40:3
 - b. Voice of preparing the way of the Lord – Malachi 3:1
 - 2. Recorded in all 4 gospels – Matthew 3:1-3, Mark 1:1-4, Luke 3:2-4, John 1:22-23
- C. People's response to John the Baptist's preaching
 - 1. Jewish religious authorities (priests, Levites, & Pharisees)
 - a. They asked him "Who are you? – John 1:19
 - b. They asked if he was Elijah the Prophet, who had been promised to come back before the Messiah – Malachi 3:5-6
 - c. They asked if he was "the prophet" promised by Moses – Deuteronomy 18:15, 18
 - d. They asked if he was the coming promised Messiah
 - e. He answered all their questions by saying, "I indeed baptize you with water; but one mightier than I cometh, the latchet of whose shoes I am not worthy to unloose..." (Luke 3:16)
 - 2. Many were John the Baptist's disciples
 - a. John the Baptist preached God's message of repentance to all those he baptized
 - b. His disciples were all over the Roman empire – Acts 18:24-25, 19:3
 - 3. Two of John the Baptist's disciples are noted in this passage
 - a. Context (background) given in John 1:35-42
 - b. John the Baptist declares Jesus of Nazareth as the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world – John 1:29, 36
 - c. Those 2 disciples stopped following John and began following Jesus
 - i. They follow after Jesus of Nazareth – verse 37
 - ii. Jesus asks them who they're looking for – verse 38
 - iii. They ask him where he is staying – verse 38
 - iv. He directs them to come & see – verse 39
 - d. Presumed that one was John the Apostle, writer of John's gospel
 - e. The other was clearly identified as Andrew, the quiet brother of Simon (Peter)
 - f. Andrew's life changed because John the Baptist declared the Messiah

II. Voice of Compassion

A. Compassion of Christ

1. Jesus showed Andrew compassion by answering his questions
2. Andrew shared Messiah's compassion with his brother Simon
3. Jesus loved his disciples with all his heart
4. Most of Jesus' disciples were common working men with only a basic education
5. But being with Jesus gave them wise speech & use in Scripture

Acts 4:13 Now when they [the Jewish ruling counsel] saw the boldness of Peter and John, and perceived that they were unlearned and ignorant men [and they could see from their speaking that they were ordinary men with no special Bible training], they marveled; and they took knowledge of them, [and they remembered] that they had been with Jesus.

6. Jesus Christ brings spiritual awareness
 - a. Fresh anointing from God
 - b. Tender heart for other people

B. Mission of Christ

1. Andrew had a mission

- a. Andrew mission was finding the Messiah & sharing him

John 1:41 He [Andrew] first findeth his own brother Simon, and saith unto him, "We have found the Messiah," which is, being interpreted, the Christ.

- b. Seed planted by Andrew grew in his brother Simon's heart

Psalms 126:6 He that goeth forth and weepeth, bearing precious seed, shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves with him [The person who is sad when going out to plant seeds will return as a happy person with many crops when the harvest comes].

2. Christian has a mission – ministry & word of reconciliation

- a. Apostle Paul became a new creation in Christ when he became a Christian

*2 Corinthians 5:17 Therefore **if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature** [person]: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.*

- b. God reconciled Christians to Himself by Jesus Christ

*2 Corinthians 5:18 And all things are of [And this new person is from] **God**, who hath reconciled us to himself by Jesus Christ, and **hath given to us the ministry of reconciliation;***

- c. How does God reconcile us, even though we're sinners? God does not see us because we are in Christ, but rather sees His beloved Son.

2 Corinthians 5:19 *To wit* [The ministry of reconciliation means this:], **that God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto himself, not imputing** [charging] *their trespasses unto them; and hath committed unto us the word of reconciliation.*

- d. Christians are ambassadors for Christ

2 Corinthians 5:20 *Now then we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God did beseech* [plead with] *you by us: we pray you in Christ's stead* [we're asking you, and we are asking because Christ has sent us to do so], *be ye reconciled to God.*

III. Voice of Communication

A. Share the discovery

Romans 10:11 *For the scripture saith, "Whosoever believeth on him* [Christ] *shall not be ashamed."*

- 1. Not ashamed of the gospel of Christ

Romans 1:16 *For I* [Paul] ***am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ***: *for it is the power of God unto salvation to everyone that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.*

- 2. Give your reasonable service to God

Romans 12:1 *I beseech* [plead with] *you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.*

- 3. Joyful to sharing out of the heart

B. Share the truth

- 1. Andrew tells Simon of his discovery

John 1:41 *He* [Andrew] *first findeth his own brother Simon, and saith unto him, "We have found the Messiah," which is, being interpreted, the Christ.*

- 2. Gospel based on Jesus Christ

1 Corinthians 15:3-4 *For I* [Paul] *delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures; ⁴ And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures:*

IV. Voice of Cooperation

A. Christian cooperates

1. Andrew brought Simon & is an example of a Christian working together with Christ

1 Corinthians 3:9 *For we are laborers together with God: ye are God's husbandry [you are the field where God's seeds are planted], ye are God's building.*

2. God calls Christian to be His witness to everyone

Acts 1:8 *But ye [disciples] shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.*

3. Witnessing is ministry of everyone in the church (not just paid staff)

Proverbs 11:30 *The fruit of the righteous is a tree of life; and he that winneth souls is wise.*

B. God converts

1. Holy Spirit convicts the souls of men

John 16:8 *And when he [the Holy Spirit] is come, he will reprove [convict] the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment:*

2. Holy Spirit testifies of Jesus Christ

John 15:26 *But when the Comforter [the Holy Spirit] is come, whom I [Jesus] will send unto you from the Father, even the Spirit of truth, which proceedeth from the Father, he shall testify of me:*

3. God converts the soul on the foundation of Jesus Christ

1 Corinthians 3:11 *For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid [For no one can lay any foundation other than the one already there], which is Jesus Christ.*

4. Jesus the chief cornerstone

- a. Simon renamed to Peter, which means "small stone."

- b. Jesus called the chief cornerstone

Ephesians 2:20 *And are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, **Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone;***

- c. Peter calls Jesus Christ the chief cornerstone

1 Peter 2:6 *Wherefore also it [the spiritual house made of living stones (Christians)] is contained in the scripture, "Behold, I lay in Zion **a chief corner stone, elect, precious:** and he that believeth on him [Jesus] shall not be confounded [put to shame]."*

V. Conclusion

- A. God asks Christian to be God's voice

- B. Christian responsibility to speak out for God