

Good Morning Belfield Baptist Church Family and Friends.
Sunday December 6, 2020

Our Verses for the day: John 10: 7, 9-10 (KJV) ⁷ Then said Jesus unto them again, Verily, verily, I say unto you, I am the door of the sheep. ⁹ I am the door: by me if any man enter in, he shall be saved, and shall go in and out, and find pasture. ¹⁰ The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly.

Our devotion today as with each Saturday is an outline of the message at Belfield Baptist Church for December 6, 2020.

This message goes back to 1970 and a commitment I made to the Lord at that time. I was a young preacher, my first church, and I did not have a message for Christmas Sunday and it was Saturday night. I prayed and asked shared with God if He would give me a message, I would preach it ever Christmas season for as long as I was in the ministry and He has not told me and difference. I have stayed true to my commitment.

NO VACANCY: Micah 5:1-3, Luke 2:7, John 1:10-12

What I would like for us to do this morning is look at the conditions around the life of Christ and how he was and is and will be rejected by many.

In order to see the reason Jesus was rejected in His lifetime, we must look at the Jewish concept of Christ.

It is not the same concept that we have. They had developed the idea that the Messiah was coming to set up an earthly Kingdom. Up until then King David was their most famous king. They had loved David very much and was wanting someone else like him. They were expecting a great man to come and set up this kingdom and rule as David did. This was the concept that was gleamed from the Prophets and teachers and this is the concept that they still have.

The New Testament concept is a completely different idea. After looking at all the facts and scriptures we cannot accept the Jewish concept. We believe that Jesus came to save the world from sin and not to rule the world as a KING.

Today, I would like for us to look at why the NO VACANCY sign was out for Jesus.

In order to get a complete picture of Jesus, let us start with His birth and bring him up to our present day and time.

I. NO ROOM IN THE INN

1. Caesar Augusta sent out a tax decree that all people had to be taxed.

2. Joseph and Mary had to go to Bethlehem. (Here is where many people make a mistake about Mary. They say she should have stayed home. She had to go because the law required it. God was working through Caesar to get Mary to Bethlehem.)

3. It was time for the baby to be born: (a) No doubt Joseph went from one Inn to another knocking and asking do you have any room? We do not know how many inns were in Bethlehem. Finally, one person said, "You can use my stable, I will give you clean hay and it will be inside." This was probably the best; motel was not the place to have a baby. (B) So, Joseph gladly accepted this plan and the stable is where our Lord was born.

II. NO ROOM IN BETHLEHEM: Jesus was less than two years old and still living in Bethlehem when King Herod put up a No Vacancy sign for Him in that city, they had to flee to Egypt in order to save Jesus.

Greed and Jealousy was the reason. Mt. 2:13 **And when they were departed, behold, the angel of the Lord appeareth to Joseph in a dream, saying, Arise, and take the young child and his mother, and flee into Egypt, and be thou there until I bring thee word: for Herod will seek the young child to destroy him. **

III. NO VACANCY IN THE LAND THAT HE LIVED AS A MAN.

When Jesus was about thirty years old, He started his public ministry. Here was a preacher that was preaching a different kind of Religion. He was preaching a Religion based on Love and not Law.

1. Jewish religion had developed into a law religion. They had a law for everything you can think of. The Ten Commandments is the foundation of these laws. From these ten laws they developed a legal system.

2. Jesus had a different approach to this, which I like to call the Jesus Way. A Way based upon LOVE and nothing but Love.

A. A love of the father to send Jesus. John 3:16 **For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.**

B. A love of Jesus to come. Matthew 5:17 **Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets: I am not come to destroy, but to fulfil.**

C. He taught a love for humanity. To love all people, sick, old, enemies and the list goes on.

Yet with this fantastic way of life and with this great teacher the world turned against Him and put out the NO VACANCY SIGN again.

In John 19:16 we find: **Then delivered he him therefore unto them to be crucified. And they took Jesus and led him away. No room, No room**

IV. NO ROOM IN THE GRAVE... The cold dark grave that they put God's Son in could not even hold Him. **No room, No room.**

V. NO VACANCY UP THROUGH THE AGES: Yet the world has never opened the door to Jesus Christ. He and His ideas have never been accepted completely.

A. We have never had the peace He brought.

We had WW 1 To end all wars.

We had WW 2, Korean, Vietnam, Desert Storm, Iraq

B. We have never had the **Love** he spoke of.

C. Mankind has been too busy with himself to take time for Jesus, No Vacancy, No Vacancy.

It has been some **1987** years since He left in the form of a person, how will he be treated this year in your home?

VI. WILL YOU HAVE A NO VACANCY SIGN OUT?

1. In your Christmas giving: Will you give Jesus anything for His Birthday? Or will you give presents to everyone else and neglect Him?
2. In your social life: will you take Jesus with you to all your parties?
3. What about your family life?
4. In your own life? Where is Jesus at?

Conclusion: In closing I would like to challenge each one of us to take down our No Vacancy sign and let Jesus have complete control. **Let Him have his way in our lives.**

Ask yourself the question: What would Jesus have me to do?

As we move through COVID-19 this Christmas Season, let all of us put Christ and His Birth number 1.

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