



Sermon Notes: Believing Is Seeing

1. The statement of Jesus' mission.

- a. Jesus came to proclaim good news to the poor.
- b. Jesus came to proclaim liberty to the captives.
- c. Jesus came to proclaim sight to the blind.
- d. Jesus came to liberate the oppressed.
- e. Jesus came to proclaim the ultimate jubilee.

2. The implication of Jesus' mission.

- Jesus was claiming to be the Messiah.

3. The testing of Jesus' mission.

- a. The people say, "Seeing is believing."
- b. Jesus says, "Believing is seeing."

4. The rejection of Jesus' mission.

- Those who want to rely on their own performance and pedigree rather than grace will always reject Jesus.

Gospel Applications:

1. You must confess your brokenness if you want grace.
2. You must choose trusting over testing.



Application Questions: Believing Is Seeing

1. How were you encouraged this week by Jesus' victory over temptation *for you*? How did this affect the way you faced your own temptations?
2. Where do you identify as home or your hometown? How do you feel about this place – and why?
3. What does Jesus' habit of attending worship services at the synagogue teach you about Jesus? What does it teach you about the importance of corporate worship with a community of faith?
4. Why do you think Jesus' mission is so centered on proclamation (with 4 of 5 parallel phrases focusing on proclaiming freedom and favor)? What are the implications of this for Christian mission today?
5. Consider each of the four categories of people Jesus spoke of in Luke 4:18. What are some literal and spiritual examples of each condition?
 - Poverty:
 - Captivity:
 - Blindness:
 - Oppression:
6. Of the 4 categories/conditions in #5, which do you most identify with and why? How do you know from this story that it's okay for you to recognize this brokenness in yourself?
7. Imagine you grew up in the same small town as Jesus. You knew he was a good, polite kid who grew into an honorable man. But all of a sudden, this carpenter's son is a famous rabbi who's saying he's the Messiah. How do you think you'd react to Jesus?
8. What are some differences between a "seeing is believing" and a "believing is seeing" approach to God? Where in your life do you see yourself doing the former?
9. What's one thing you will do this week to trust, rather than test, Christ?