

Kington Baptist Church

MESSAGE BOARD – 63

Here is the BIG question. It was put into my mind by a conversation I had just last week. The conversation was about Jesus, and was prompted by a book about Jesus this person was reading. He wanted to tell me that, according to this book, the miracle of the loaves and fishes was no miracle at all. It was, so this book maintained, a way of drawing attention to the inadequate nutrition of the diet of the poor people in those times!

Of course, a ridiculous suggestion! But behind this quite ridiculous suggestion is a deeper issue. It is the BIG question the world wants answered – it is this: *Can you prove to me that Jesus was the Son of God?*

Now before we can answer this vital question, it is important that we enquire as to just what kind of *proof* is it that will satisfy a person who asks this question? Do you want what is called ‘empirical proof’, proof of touch and sight, as Thomas insisted on before he’d believe that Jesus had risen from the dead? Or do you want biological proof, such as a scientist would give? Or historical-critical proof? Or do you forensic proof, as a lawyer would give? In other words, is the ‘proof’ you want something to satisfy idle curiosity or do you want proof that will give you a certain and solid foundation to build your life on and that will sustain and support you in death?

But the fact is there is no other proof that Jesus is the Son of God than the proof that Jesus himself gives. And that proof is proof only to *faith*. All other types of ‘proof’ can easily be argued away. And they have been. That doesn’t mean they are not true. But it means that they will never convince anyone who is not prepared to accept the ultimate proof: *the Word of Jesus himself!*

That’s the *scandal* of the gospel. It stands apart from anything else. It humbles us. The gospel demands to be taken on its own terms. It never submits to man’s judgement, like a specimen in a test-tube, or a criminal in the dock! It is ridiculous to think that man, blind as he is to spiritual truth, could decide the truth of God, who is TRUTH! The gospel never allows us to circumvent or dispute the word of him who says of himself, ***I am the Truth!***

We hear all sorts of opinions about Jesus, many preposterous, some offensive. Newspapers, magazines, books, radio, television all want a say – as if they had any authority in such matters! We hear about Jesus in the Word of God. Now you choose, to base your life and soul, your life and eternal future, on the vacuous opinions of men and or on the solid rock of the testimony of the Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of God? That’s the challenge of faith – simply to trust God, who can be trusted! As the great Apostle Paul said: ‘*What if some have no faith, does that make faith in God worthless? By no means! Let God be true, and every man a liar!*’ (Romans 3.3-4)

And the *best* way to be certain about Jesus? ***Follow him!***