

'The Son of God and the Lord of Glory Series'

Sermons in the Gospel of John

Message 15 - 'A Bringer of Blessing' John 1: 39 - 42



The remarkable events of Andrew and John's encounter with the Saviour are brought to our attention in these verses. When a person meets Jesus Christ, it is a life-changing encounter that has eternal results. As we can see from Andrew's reaction to such an encounter, when a person gazes on the loveliness of Christ, and receives Him as their Saviour, there is anticipation of dwelling with Him. Jesus Christ changes lives, and we see this happen in these verses. We can also see the concern of a man changed by Christ to bring this wonderful news to others. We can consider two things:

A New Life (v39b) - Andrew was present, but we are also able to identify the other person present with him as John, the author of the Gospel. This first meeting with the Saviour, was the start of John's journey with the Messiah and his firsthand observation of His life and ministry. In seeking the Saviour, they were given the opportunity to talk with Him, a gracious invitation was given to them, 'Come and See'. What love and tenderness there is in these words, the opening of a wide and effectual door full of blessing. What a tragedy if they had refused such an invitation! What an occasion it was too! It seems clear that the Lord would have opened their minds to understand the Scriptures. They had no doubt that He was the Messiah, and that from this point they would live for Him, loving Him, worshipping Him, following Him, serving Him.

A New Mission (v40-42a) - Andrew is the great bringer. In John's Gospel, there are two other occasions when Andrew brings someone to meet Christ (John 6:8-9; John 12:20-22). His heart goes to his brother, and he wants his brother to come to Jesus. Andrew displayed a number of things:

His Passion for Christ - After meeting Christ, Andrew is so taken with Him, and enamoured with Him, that He wants the world to know. There is a fire in his heart that Christ has set ablaze, and he wants others to know it too. Have you ever encountered Jesus Christ like this? How do I know that passion? By coming to the cross, and seeing there all that the Saviour did to make you His, to save you. When we spend time with Jesus Christ, sitting at His feet, dwelling on His Word, allowing the distractions of this world to be removed, we become clear in our priorities.

His desire for the Lost - Andrew wants to share this fantastic news and experience with those who do not know. Andrew in simplicity seeks out his brother and urges him to come with him to the Saviour. Those of us who know the Lord need to examine ourselves in the light of this desire. How is our concern for those around us? Andrew had a desire for those outside of Christ, how we should heed his example.

His Simple Statement - As one preacher stated, *'The Gospel is gloriously simple, and simply glorious!'* So, what did Andrew say, 'we have found the Messiah'. I have found Jesus! Our message is the same, we have found Jesus, and He is wonderful, and we want you to come to Him! Andrew might never have expounded deep theological truths, but he was incredibly important in bringing people to Christ. He certainly preached Christ in his work as a personal soul winner. You might feel inadequate in your ability to express some of the wonderful truths of the Gospel to others, but you can say that you have found Jesus, and also you can bring people to hear of Him, to meet Him!

His Urgency - After this life-changing encounter with Jesus Christ, Andrew first found his brother. He immediately looks to have an effect on those around him, not least his family first. He sees the importance, and the urgency of their condition and need, and how Christ is the only Saviour of the World.



Penzance Baptist Church

'Upholding the Ordinary Means of Grace'

Pastor Jonathan Stobbs