**Scripture Readings:** Exodus 20:1-17 & John 1:1-36

**Singing:** 256:1-3 – 123:1 – 161:1-3, 8-9 – 87:1-3 – 392:1, 2, 6

The Question: *Did I receive Him or will you receive Him?*

**The Receiving of Jesus**

I. Why we are to receive Him? II What it is to receive Him?

III. What it does when we receive Him?

**I. Why we are to receive Him?**

A. Who He is Who we are to receive.

 1. Besides being God, Creator and Maintainer, He is the Savior (Light)

 a. what did He come to do?

 b. our life will remain a ‘chain with each link broken’ without Him

B. Only way for *our relationship with God to be restored is by rec Savior*

 1. God made Him the *Mediator or Savior* to reconcile God and us sinner

 a. why did God do this? (John 3:16)

b. what only will reconcile a holy God and unholy sinner?

 2. So all Scripture calls us to *receive Him* as Israel received blood of lamb

**II. What is to receive Him?**

A. Though God calls us to receive Him, He does more than calling: John 6:44

 1. He brings sinner to *receive Him*:

 a. God uses many different matters to lead sinners to Christ

 b. Each way will lead to an increasing *sin-awareness that humbles*

 c. All who receive Him do this because of God’s work within (v. 13)

 • The moment that you really believe in Christ, however

feeble is because you are born of God. The weakness of

your faith may make you unconscious of the change, just as a new-born infant knows little or nothing about itself. But where there is true faith there is always real new birth, and where there is no saving faith there is no regeneration.

B. What is it to receive Him?

 1. Text explains it as *believing on His Name (= Person)*

 a. begins with *receiving testimony God gave about Jesus* ***as true***

 b. yet it is not just receiving God’s testimony but **receiving Him**

 • Ryle: *to receive Christ is to receive Him as a wife receives her*

*husband on her wedding day – takes him as her husband*

 • Henry: *to believe on His Name is to assent to Gospel discovery*

*and consent to Gospel proposal, concerning Him*

 c. this receiving of Him is as vital as “I will” in marriage and it

**unites a sinner with Christ** (Gal 3:26)

 2. Examine: *Have you received Him? Do you believe on His Name?*

 3. Question: What hinders you to receive Him?

**III. What does it when we receive Jesus or to believe in Him?**

A. To ‘as many as receive Him’ *He gave power to become sons of God*

 1. ‘as many as’ is *literally ‘whosoever or whatsoever person’*

 2. all who ‘receive Jesus as Father’s Gift’ change their ***status*** (Gal. 3:26)

a. definition of ***‘power’*** to become the sons of God

b. lit: He gave them the **privilege** of adoption into God’s family

 3. When we receive Christ we receive Him and all His as our own

**Application**

A. Linger not as time is short and eternity long and unchanging!

 1. No sin angers God more than the disdain of His Gift!

B. Without receiving Him you cannot claim to be a child of God

C. What Biblical marks ascertain that I have received Him?