

TUESDAY NIGHT AT THE CRESCENT

“THE HERALD”

A study of the life and witness of John the Baptist
TUESDAY, JUNE 5th, 1990

Subject: “The cost of following Christ”

Reading: Mark 6

1. A warning is given to all who would be caught in sin's black current; the story of the dance of death:
 - (a) The pre-determination towards sin; “the desire of the mind”.
 - (b) The suggestion of evil from without; Salome.
 - (c) The consent of the will; “The King was exceeding sorry”.
2. Some ironic facts about death:
 - (a) Although death is sure, its arrival is usually sudden and surprising.
 - (b) The way a person dies is occasionally the opposite of the way that person lived.
 - (c) Rather than death silencing a person's life, it usually underscores it.
3. The cost of following Christ; John was a burning and a shining lamp (John 5:35).
 - (a) If you would shine you must burn.
 - (b) If you burn you will shine.
 - (c) If you burn and shine God will provide the fuel.
 - (d) People will be judged with what they do with the opportunity the light has given them.
4. Why did God not immediately judge and slay Herod for slaying John? Because the day of judgement is not yet (Acts 17:31).
5. Christ's death and John's death compared:
 - (a) John's death was the end of his work. Christ's death was the beginning of his work.
 - (b) John's death affected his destiny. Christ's death affected ours.
 - (c) John had no control of his destiny. Christ had absolute control of his destiny.
 - (d) There was a rumour that John had risen from the dead but they had his body and could discount it. With Christ it was very different.
 - (e) John's disciples scattered never to corporately meet again after his death. Christ's disciples gathered and still corporately meet as a result of his death and resurrection.

*“It costs to follow Jesus Christ,
but it cost more not to”.*

Anon