

Reflections on the message by Nolan Bradshaw on Sunday 27th June 2010

“Come and See” John 1:43-51

Nathaniel overcame the prejudice of those times. What did he see? Someone who followed the fads and fashions of the day? Or someone who wanted to be popular? Someone who was afraid of men? How refreshing for Nathaniel to meet this Man. Here was no television evangelist attempting to impress a large audience. This Man spoke with power. This Man made no great spectacle with smoke and laser displays; but He stilled storms and healed the sick. What a CV He had!

A native American visited a mega-church in the USA. His friend who took him there asked him after the service what he had thought of it. The reply was, “Big wind, loud thunder, no rain”. An Anglican bishop once said that when Paul came to a place there were either a riot or a revival, but when he, the bishop, came to a place there were only cucumber sandwiches and tea!

Oh that we would see *this* Jesus, and overcome the propaganda we get in these days. Philip didn’t answer Nathaniel’s question, “Can anything good come out of Nazareth?” Philip knew that if he just met Jesus all his doubts would be satisfied. Oh to see *this* Man, not what the modern media say He is.

This Man perfected everyone He met. He produced either such faith in people that they would die for Him, or hatred towards Himself; but no-one could ignore Him.

Jesus added to His CV the ability to know the character and thoughts of everyone He met (John 1:47, John 4:29). Come and see this Man who knows everything about you. Despite rejections and unbelief in Him, He is One who is willing to forgive people their sins; One who is willing to die in their place; One who has conquered death. The call still goes out today – “Come and see”. One word from Him will persuade you. He will forgive you your sins.

What is the alternative? What does this week have to offer? You just have to look at what is available on television this week to realise that the world has nothing that can compete with what this Man offers.

How do we meet Him in the 21st Century? Jesus says, Just ask (Matthew 7:7-8). You will say, Surely not! How hard do you want it to be? If it is so simply, why don’t you just do it? It was never meant to be difficult. Jesus Christ says, Spend time with Me and you will see great things (John 1:50). This has been the testimony of many in BFC. God still speaks and has changed many lives here.

Are you brave enough to overcome your prejudices. Jesus says, Come to me all of you who are weary and carry heavy burdens, and I will give you rest (Matthew 11:28). The Bible and Jesus still speak today. The invitation is the same as that given to Nathaniel on that day: Come and see!