

Matthew 11:1-6

March 31, 2019 – Rev. Rick Lyon

Intro

James 1:6-8 - He who *doubts* is like a wave of the sea, driven and tossed by the wind... he is a *double-minded* man.

Matthew 3:13-17 - Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan River to be baptized by John. But John tried to prevent Him, saying, "I need to be baptized by You..." When Jesus was baptized, immediately He went up from the water, and the heavens opened and He saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and settling on Him. And a voice from heaven said, "This is My beloved Son, in whom I'm well pleased!"

John 1:33-34 - Then John testified, "I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove and resting on Him... I've seen and testify that this is the Son of God."

#1 - Doubts are fostered by difficult circumstances.

v.2 says he was in prison.

Matthew 14:3-4 - Herod arrested John and bound him and put him in prison because... John told Herod, "It's against God's law for you to marry her."

Matthew 11:1-6

March 31, 2019 – Rev. Rick Lyon

#2 - Doubts grow in isolation

John 20 - On the first day of the week, when *the disciples were together...* Jesus came and stood among them... Thomas one of the Twelve, *wasn't with the disciples.*

Hebrews 3:13 - *Encourage one another* daily... so that none of you will be deceived by sin and hardened against God.

Hebrews 10:25 - Don't neglect meeting together, as some people do, but encourage one another,

#3 - Doubts come from a wrong concept of God and His work.

v.2 - When John had heard in prison about *the works of Christ*, he sent two of his disciples and said to Him, "Are you the Coming One, or do we look for another?"

Matthew 3 - John the Baptist said to the Pharisees and Sadducees, "Who warned you to flee from the *wrath* to come?... He who is coming after me... *will thoroughly clean out* His threshing floor, and gather His wheat into the barn; but *He'll burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire.*"

Defeating Doubts

Matthew 11:1-6

March 31, 2019 – Rev. Rick Lyon

#1 - Bring your questions to Jesus.

Isaiah 35:4 - Your God will come with vengeance; with divine retribution.

Isaiah 35:5 - Then the eyes of the blind will be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped. Then the lame will leap like a deer. And the mute tongue shout for joy.

Jesus: "Narrow is the gate and difficult is the way that leads to life." (Mt. 7:14)

Acts 14:22 - "We must go through many hardships to enter the kingdom of God."

Paul: We share in Christ's sufferings so that we may also share in His glory. (Rom. 8:17)

#2 - Listen and gain understanding.

Romans 8:28-29 - All things work together for good to those who love God and are called according to His purpose... *to be conformed to the image of His Son.*"

#3 - Understand your limitations.

Matthew 11:1-6

March 31, 2019 – Rev. Rick Lyon

"For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are My ways higher than your ways, and My thoughts than your thoughts." (**Isaiah 55:9**)

Deuteronomy 29:29 - The LORD our God has secrets known to no one. We are not accountable for them, but we and our children are accountable forever for all that He has revealed to us.

- **God is too kind to do anything cruel.**
- **God is too wise to make a mistake.**
- **And God is too deep to explain Himself to you and me.**
