

DECEMBER 21, 2025

REDEEMER WEEKLY

REDEEMER CHURCH OF PIKETON, OHIO

-THE MORNING MESSAGE-

THE QUESTION, THE CHRIST, & THE KINGDOM

MATTHEW 11:2-11



Matthew 11:2-11

Now when John heard in prison about the deeds of the Christ, he sent word by his disciples 3 and said to him, "Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?" 4 And Jesus answered them, "Go and tell John what you hear and see: 5 the blind receive their sight and the lame walk, lepers are cleansed and the deaf hear, and the dead are raised up, and the poor have good news preached to them. 6 And blessed is the one who is not offended by me."

7 As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds concerning John: "What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed shaken by the wind? 8 What then did you go out to see? A man dressed in soft clothing? Behold, those who wear soft clothing are in kings' houses. 9 What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. 10 This is he of whom it is written, "Behold, I send my messenger before your face, who will prepare your way before you."

11 Truly, I say to you, among those born of women there has arisen no one greater than John the Baptist. Yet the one who is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.

In this morning's message, Pastor Jason Boothe leads us into one of the most surprising and tender scenes in the Gospels. John the Baptist, the fearless wilderness preacher, the forerunner of Christ, the man who once pointed to Jesus and declared, "Behold, the Lamb of God!"—now sits in a prison cell, weighed down with questions. From that place of suffering, John sends a message to Jesus that reveals both the honesty of his struggle and the depth of his faith: "Are You the One who is to come, or shall we look for another?"

Jesus' response is not rebuke, but reassurance. He sends back the testimony of His works, works that fulfill the ancient promises of Isaiah and confirm Him as the true Messiah. And far from shaming John, Jesus publicly honors him, calling him the greatest born of women, even as He reveals the astonishing privileges of those who belong to the kingdom today.

This passage reminds us that even the strongest believers can wrestle with doubt, and that our Savior meets His people in those moments with patience, truth, and grace. As Pastor Jason opens the Scriptures, may we be encouraged by the character of Christ, strengthened by His Word, and reminded of the greatness of the kingdom into which God has brought us by His mercy.



FOOLISHNESS AND THE POWER OF GOD

"For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us which are saved it is the power of God." -1 Corinthians 1:18



GREG FLANNERY

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Elders and Teachers



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Pastor/Elder



Jason Boothe
Pastor/Elder



Greg Flannery
Bible Teacher

The preaching of the cross appears as foolishness to the natural, fallen man who is perishing. It offends his sensibilities and contradicts the wisdom he trusts in. He has no use for it because he played no part in accomplishing it and feels no need for what Christ has done. Such men—ungodly and carried away by their own lusts—are blinded by Satan, the god of this world. To them, the gospel is hidden, and they remain lost.

Many within the realm of religion, having no true understanding of righteousness, regard the preaching of the cross as foolish unless it includes the sinner's cooperation—his will, works, or obedience—as the means of making the cross effectual unto salvation. In their minds, the cross is powerless unless man activates it.

But the crucified Savior brings peace and reconciliation to the people for whom He died. By the blood of His cross, God's people receive an acceptable righteousness and the forgiveness of sins. To those whom the Lord is pleased to save, the preaching of the cross is truly the power of God unto salvation. God's people are chosen in Christ, redeemed by His blood, and eternally secure by His accomplished redemption.

When this salvation is applied by the Holy Spirit, dead sinners are brought to life. Their eyes are opened to behold the beauty of the cross, their ears are opened to hear the gospel call, and their hearts are opened to rest in Christ alone for all righteousness and salvation, having no hope in themselves.

Whether the message is rejected as foolishness by those who are perishing or received as the power of God by those whom the Lord is saving, God is glorified in both. To some it is foolishness; to others it is salvation. But always—it is the cross.

Soli Deo Gloria!

Church Life News (DV)



Blessing Box Food Drive

Please bring in non-perishable foods for donation each Sunday as we stock up our Free Store Blessing Box to help families in need.

Visit the Church Website!

Visit our website at www.RedeemerPiketon.org for Bible study resources, past sermon and teaching videos, teaching series, articles written by our church teaching team, and so much more. New articles added regularly. Share the website with friends and family as a “go to” Gospel resource!

The Church at Worship Sunday December 21, 2025 11:30 AM



Opening Songs

Pastoral Prayer

Keith Boothe

Psalm Reading

Greg Flannery

Song

Sermon

Jason Boothe

Closing Prayer

Keith Boothe

Fellowship Dinner in Annex following the service. Everyone is welcome!

Nicene Creed

325 A.D.

I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible. I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages. God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father; through him all things were made. For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven, and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church. I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.



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