

“Astonished At His Teaching”

Matthew 7:28; Matthew 22:33; Mark 1:22; 6:1-2; 11:15-18; John 7:46

Definition

- ▶ **“Astonished”** – *ekplessō*, from *ek*, “out of,” *plessō*, “to strike,” literally, “to strike out,” signifies “to be exceedingly struck in mind, to be astonished” (*ek*, intensive). (Vine’s Expository Dictionary of Biblical Words)
- ▶ They were amazed or filled with wonder by His teaching.

Astonished At Its Authority

- ▶ *“He taught them as one having authority, and not as their scribes.” Matthew 7:29*
- ▶ Christ teaching was different. *“Ye have heard it said” ... “But I say unto you.” Note: Matthew 5:17-20*
- ▶ Christ has all authority. Matthew 28:18; Ephesians 1:22-23, 5:23; Colossians 3:17
 - Authority of Moses. Matthew 17:1-5
 - Authority of religious councils.
 - Majority. Matthew 7:13-14
 - Preacher. 2 Timothy 4:2-4

Astonished At Its Simplicity

- ▶ Simple illustrations. Matthew 7:24-27
 - Common man understood. Mark 12:37
- ▶ Simplicity characterizes the teaching of Christ.
 - Understandable revelation. Ephesians 3:3-4
 - Understand what the will of the Lord is. Ephesians 5:17
 - Paul feared some would be moved from its simplicity. 2 Corinthians 11:3

Astonished At Its Simplicity

- ▶ Some make it complicated:
 - Catholicism – The church is the custodian and interpreter of truth.
 - Denominationalism – Truth cannot be understood without direct operation of Holy Spirit.
- ▶ Simplicity characterizes the Scriptures.
 - We can learn by searching. John 5:39; Acts 17:11; 2 Timothy 2:15; 2 Timothy 3:14-15.

Astonished At Its Contents

- ▶ Many things no doubt astonished His hearers.
 - Matthew 5:3 and the self righteous Pharisees. Luke 18:10-12
 - Matthew 6:1-4 and the scribes and Pharisees. Matthew 23:2-6
 - Matthew 5:31-32 and those who thought that one could put away a wife for any cause. Matthew 19:3
 - Matthew 5:38-41 and those who despised the Romans who forced them into service.

Astonished At Its Contents

- ▶ Things believed in the Bible that are NOT there:
 - December 25 is not the birthday of Christ.
 - That sinners are not told to pray for salvation.
 - That salvation is not by faith only.
 - That salvation is not by grace only.
- ▶ Things that ARE there:
 - Something To Do! Acts 2:37; Acts 9:6; 10:34-35; 16:30

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Astonished At Its Contents

- ▶ Things the Bible teaches that astonish.
 - There is one body. Ephesians 4:4 and it is the church. Ephesians 1:22-23; 5:23
 - There is one baptism. Ephesians 4:5, and it is a burial, Colossians 2:12, for remission of sins, Acts 2:38
 - That religious division is wrong. 1 Corinthians 1:10 and that Christ wants all who believe on him to be one. John 17:20-21

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Astonished At Its Duration

- ▶ Things the Bible teaches that astonish.
 - Heaven and earth will pass away, but His words will not. Matthew 24:35; cf. 1 Peter 1:23
- ▶ Relevant NOW! John 12:48
 - Homosexuality. Romans 1:24; Leviticus 18:22-23; Leviticus 20:13
 - Marriage. Hebrews 13:4; Matthew 19:9
 - Morals. 1 Corinthians 6:18

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Astonished At His Doctrine?

- ▶ In what way?
 - Because of its AUTHORITY
 - Because of its SIMPLICITY
 - Because of its CONTENTS
 - Because of its DURATION
- ▶ Will you believe and obey it?

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What Must I Do to be Saved?

- ▶ Hear the word of God. Romans 10:17
- ▶ Believe the Gospel. Mark 16:15-16
- ▶ Repent of sins. Acts 2:38; 17:30
- ▶ Confess faith, Acts 8:37
- ▶ Be baptized for the remission of sins. Acts 2:38; 22:16
- ▶ Be faithful unto death. Revelation 2:10

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