Astonished at His Teaching
(Matthew 7:28)

Introduction: 1.   If you could go back in time to hear someone speak, who would you hear?

2.   For me, I would go back two thousand years to hear Jesus speak.

3.   The reason for this choice is summed up in (John 7:46).

4.   What was it about the teaching of Jesus that made him so memorable, and what should we be doing to emulate him the best we can?

I.   Jesus Was the Master Teacher

A.   More than two dozen times in the gospel accounts, Scripture records that people were amazed and astonished after hearing Jesus speak.

B.   Three times in the book of Mark, people were amazed at his miracles, but seven times they were said to be amazed at his preaching.

C.   They hung on his every word (Luke 19:48).

D.   Although 2000 years have past, his words are still preached, memorized, and practiced today.

II.   Why Jesus Was So Amazing

A.   He spoke with authority.

    1.   (Matthew 7:29).

    2.   But what does that mean (John 7:48).

        a.   He taught the truth (Matthew 22:15; Titus 2:15).

        b.   He embodied the truth (John 14:6).

        c.   He had power to perform miracles (Luke 7:11-17).

B.   He turned social norms on their head.

    1.   His teaching was radical, unconventional, and challenging.

    2.   Six times…You have heard that it was said…but I say unto you…

    3.   First shall be last and the last shall be first (Mt. 20:16,26).

    4.   Hate father and mother (Luke 14:26).

    5.   Sell all you have and give to the poor (Matthew 19:21).

C.   He knew how to hold the attention of his listeners.

    1.   No one was bored by Jesus – they may have been offended or discomforted, but they weren't bored.

    2.   He used hyperbole (Mt. 5:29-30; Mt. 19:25; Luke 17:1-2).

    3.   He asked questions.

    4.   He used illustrations.

Conclusion: 1.   Do you agree with the assessment of the soldiers who said, "No man ever spoke like this man!" (John 7:46)?

2.   If so, should we not do our best to pattern our teaching to be like his?

3.   There is still a lost world out there who needs to be amazed at the words of Jesus!