

The Wednesday Word, January 8, 2020: A Simple Word for Us All

Have you been called to minister? Whether you know it or not, you have, all believers have. We're here to extend the claims and fame of Jesus. We're here to help non-believers and believers alike to see how wonderful Jesus is.

As God's servants, may we continually show each another that Christ is precious. May we be helped to know that our sins have been cast behind God's back (Isaiah 38:17). May we continually remind one another that the Lord's sacrifice at Calvary was so powerful that, although He is all-seeing, the Father will never again catch sight of our sins.

Consider this, God said that He beheld no iniquity in Jacob (Numbers 23:21). But there was iniquity in Jacob, lots of it! Was God lying? No, that would be impossible! (Numbers 23:19). But, here's the thing, because Jacob's sin was put away at Calvary, the Father could say I find no iniquity in Him. And He says the same about us.

Calvary! What a powerful sacrifice! Eternal glory is due to the lovely Lord Jesus Christ because of it! He is the fountain opened for sin and uncleanness! (Zechariah 13:1).

It is written, "Blessed are the people that know the joyful sound" (Psalm 89:15). In the Glorious Gospel of the Blessed God, we hear the 'joyful sound'...here's part of it.

Christ was made a curse for His people.

Under our sins, we can write in large, bold letters, "Cursed is every one that hangeth on a tree."

The English/Canadian theologian, Arthur Custance, astutely observed, "Any one of a number of deaths were possible for a condemned man under Roman law. That they should choose crucifixion was no accident since it was one form of capital punishment wherein a man was not merely put to death but was also accursed in the sight of God (Galatians 3:13). In other words, they forced upon Jesus, who was innocent, not merely the condemnation of the court, but the condemnation of God also." (Arthur Custance, Doorway Papers).

Christ took the death of His people, and now, death has no sting with which to wound God's elect. May we hear this frequently when we fellowship with one another.

But, it doesn't end there. Christ Jesus is now made the Righteousness of God to His people. And how is this done? It is done by imputation. The believer is now reckoned as having the actual, entire righteousness of Christ (see Romans 4:6-8; 3:21-22; 2 Corinthians 3:21).

Believers in their new identity in Christ have no sin, curse or death. That message will never grow old. We are declared not guilty for all eternity. As it is written, *"Who shall lay anything to the charge of God's elect? It is God who justifies. Who is he that condemns? It is Christ that died; yea, rather, is risen again, and is rather at the right hand of God (the place of power and acceptance) who also makes intercession for us"* (Romans 8:33-34).

If our dear ministers in the pulpit made the gospel more prominent, it would be a blessing to their ministries. It would also encourage believers to build one another up in the most holy faith and to strive earnestly for the name and fame of the Lord Jesus.

And that's the Gospel Truth!