

The Wednesday Word, Jan. 23, 2013: Wonderful, Wonderful Jesus

...the grace of God that brings salvation... Titus 2:11

Let me make a bold statement-- Jesus Himself is the grace of God! In His doing, dying and rising again He gave us the summary of grace. In His doing, dying and rising again, He gave us God. The law was given by Moses, but grace and truth came by Jesus Christ (John 1:17). Think of how Jesus once said, "I am the truth"(John 14:6). He is the truth, but He could just as easily have said, "I am the grace of God." Jesus is the full revelation of God. He is the One in Whom we see and meet the grace of God. Moses and the Law brought condemnation, but Christ, the God/Man, ushered in grace.

He is wonderful!

Look again in Titus 2:11 and see that grace is the bringer of salvation. I love that word "brings" in that verse. God did not merely send salvation, He brought it. Nor did He entrust the bringing of salvation to anyone other than Himself. He by-passed the angles and archangels refusing to use them as His messengers in this matter. I think I see Him talking to Gabriel and saying, "Gabriel, you are a trustworthy servant, both faithful and true, but I cannot send salvation with you. Furthermore, faithful as they are, I must also bypass the seraphim and cherubim and every heavenly being for I must, by Myself, bring salvation to my people."

He is Wonderful!

Consider Him, stepping out of eternity and into time and descending to earth. Down, down, down he descends till He takes His place as the tiniest of embryos in The Virgin's womb. Down He comes from heaven to be born among us. Down He comes into the midst of our rebellion and misery. Down, down He comes till He becomes our substitute at the cross. For it was there at the cross He was wounded for our transgression and bruised for our iniquities. There at the cross, He intercepted the wrath of God that was headed straight for us. There at the cross, He who knew no sin became sin on our behalf.

He is Wonderful!

The grace of God has indeed brought salvation. Our gracious Saviour didn't stand in heaven and shout, "Come up here and, if you are able to climb up this far, I will save you." No indeed, He came, out of heaven, to seek and to save that which was lost and it was only when He had made His descent from the heavenly realms that he said "Come unto me" (Matthew 11:28). He is Wonderful! Don't you think so?

Like the good Samaritan of old (Luke 10), Jesus came to where we were and brought salvation with Him. He came to where we were and found us dead in trespasses and sin. He came to where we were to save us, to die for us and to rise again for us. And, today, He continues to come to where we are, to, by His Spirit, raise us up to new life. It is all by grace that does this.

He is Wonderful!

Remember this, however, our only qualification for His grace is our sinfulness. Our only plea is that we are ruined. He will not accept any attempt on our part to save ourselves, for it is His grace alone that brings salvation.

He is Wonderful!

“But don’t we need faith?” Yes indeed, faith takes a hold of our Salvation but we don’t depend on our faith or the fact that we have it. We don’t depend on the fact that we have been converted to Christ or rest on the fact that we have had a change in our life. No indeed, we depend on the wonderful person of the Lord Jesus, the One who lived and died in our place. He is the Saviour, He is the bringer of Salvation (Isaiah 61:10). He is the grace of God. He is Wonderful!

And that’s the Gospel Truth!