

Reborn Connected (Part 2)

As newly created ones fully connected to Christ's Life we are free to be made whole and well and to bear witness to the Only One able to do so - Jesus Christ Our Lord!! And we can start taking about living with "Uncommon Sense" in a senseless world.

Only the fullness of Christ Himself is adequate for such Uncommon Sense. Which begs the question, "What is He full of?" John 1:14 says He is "full of grace and truth." Think about it... what is missing in a senseless world? How about grace and truth? What do you think might change tomorrow if everyone's point of reference became absolute truth, i.e., "What God says"? What if the compelling motive force for our every choice began to be God's gracious concern for the needs of others? Talk about a new world!

Only in a personal connection to the One full of grace and truth can such a transformation take place. Grace and truth are not social constructs or relational commodities - they are the character of Christ! And they are not to be separated. Seek uncommon sense in Truth alone and you'll land in the "ditch" of legalism. Seek uncommon sense in Grace alone and find yourself in the muddy waters of license. Legalists want to dismiss grace, the licentious want to disregard truth and both end up paddling around in the seas of life with one oar in the water and wonder why they keep going around in circles. Want to live with uncommon sense in a senseless world? Don't seek the life of wisdom in truth or in grace - seek it in Jesus Christ... the One uncommonly full of both.

When we choose Christ as our Source and Supply of uncommon sense, the very Person of grace and truth goes to work in our lives. He acts - He justifies, He sanctifies, He glorifies. His uncommon sense empowers and transforms - doing for us, in us, through us what we cannot do for ourselves. We call that grace! He reveals - He enlightens, He convicts, He teaches. His uncommon sense corrects and liberates - protecting us from the captive and disintegrative fallen powers disconnected from Christ. We call that truth!

This is the gracious and truthful One at work in our lives. To abide in Him, to abandon to Him - the One full of Grace and Truth - in the obedience of faith, is to be in the best posture possible to live with uncommon sense in a senseless world.

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Greetings

In last month's newsletter you may have found an obvious error - "we are no longer 'salves' to sin." Since a "salve" is what alleviates or relieves discomfort, the last thing we want to do is "smooth over" sin and its consequences! (It should have read "we are no longer SLAVES to sin!" Better, right?)

Point being? As we are "writing" the story of our lives, we all make "typos" from time to time - inadvertent errors that can be humorous, benign, or even misleading. Also, there are times that, even when we know better, we foolishly make a wrong choice. And the consequences can be light, shameful, or even painful.

And so? We may wince or blush or sob over such things... "but God!" But God - sovereign, loving, redemptive God is always at work. Never on our own (alone), He has promised to buy up such "messes" and to convert them... into assets, into transformative agents, into "messages" even! Nothing is wasted.


What a mighty God we serve! What a caring Father we have! What a Fearless Lover is our God! Ever for us, ever with(in) us, ever ready to release His character through us! Make sure this month to walk in a passion for what is possible because of the One Who has the final word.


CALENDAR


MAY


7,14,21,28	FBCA
9	Alachua Study
25	Summit Baptist, High Springs, FL (352-318-2463)
30	Ocala Study

Praise and Prayer

 Uncommon Grace and Truth to live by

 Uncommon possibilities in Christ

 Uncommon transformation in our lives

 Uncommon gifts of grace and truth
for others

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