

“Jesus Is Enough”
(Colossians 1:13-20)

If we profess that “Jesus is enough” for all we need to be made “right” before God and kept “right” by God, then we beg the question, “Who is He?” Paul detailed that somewhat in his letter to the Colossians (Col 1:13-20). I am certain we have considered this before in these newsletters, but a little review of the Truth never hurts! Paul insists that Jesus Christ is not revealed principle, revealed concept, or revealed example – He is Revealed Person (Jo 1:18; 14:9; 17:3).

Paul first presents Him as PERSONAL DELIVERER (Col 1:13-14). There is not a fact out there that is “enough” to save us. Only a Person can deliver or save persons. As the Person who is 100% Deity and 100% humanity, He alone is enough to fully rescue us “from” all that is against us and “for” all that God intends for us. He is enough to be our needs met!

He is also our PERSONAL DISCLOSER (Col 1:15). God’s “unseen” Person comes to us clothed in “seen” human flesh to fully exposit the character of God to us in our own “language”. He is God’s mind revealed and God’s heart expressed, making Him our inerrant, infallible Word on all things God. (Jo 1:18). Only God can make God known and Jesus alone is enough to do that.

He is also the PERSONAL DESIGNER of the universe (Col 1:16-18) – the “Thou” that precedes every “I”, the “Self” that creates (and re-creates!) every self. The life we are looking for does not have its origins in this world, but in the One Who created this world. That is a critical thought to living Christianly in this world. As the Subject before all predicates, we must learn to diagram every statement about life with Him as the Subject. All things that were created by Him are held together in Him (Col 3:17). Only in Him do we find enough to hold it all (and ourselves) together.

He has always been and always will be the PERSONAL DELIGHT of the Father (Col 1:19). Everything that pleases God is “in Christ”. If all the fullness, all the “enoughness” is in Christ, how much “enoughness” is outside of Christ? No wonder the Psalmist says, “All” my springs of joy are in You” (Ps 87:7). He alone is enough to give back to us our true, God-delighted humanity. There is nothing to add that is pleasing to God if everything pleasing to God is “in Christ” and He is in us.

Finally, Paul says that Jesus is the PERSONAL DESTINY for man (Col 1:20; Eph 1:9-10). He is both the simple reason for everything that is and where everything is headed. In Christ we are “moving” – moving toward an end – toward a reconciliation of all things in Christ. Yes, we are already reconciled in Christ, inwardly and eternally. But there is more to come – He is enough to reconcile all things – on earth and in heaven – with Himself. (Whatever cannot be reconciled in Christ will be consigned to hell.) A day is coming when our “context” will be perfectly matched to our “contents”. I think we can call that “a new heaven and a new earth.” I’m believing Jesus is enough for that as well – which changes everything about the story we now tell about the daily facts of our lives.

If we only knew Who we are dealing with...! (Jo 4:10)



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Greetings

February... Valentine's Day... "looking for love" month... Most everyone seems to be looking for love, not just in February, but year round. February may just be the month it hurts or stings the most when the love you're looking for can't seem to be found.

I'm not sure Jesus came to earth looking "for" love! What I am sure of is that He came looking "with" love. (Jo 3:16; Ro 5:8; Jo 13:1) John puts it like this, "Seeing the people, He had compassion for them" (Matt 9:36). True love isn't blind. True love sees what no one else sees!

Can you hear the devil accusingly saying to our Father, "What do you see in those self-serving, slow learning, hard-headed people?" I can certainly hear our Father responding, "Oh, I see in them what you will never see in them because you will never love them like I love them!" (Jo 3:16) Love sees through the veil of appearance. It sees the "need" behind the "fault". He saw we needed a Savior, and His love compelled Him to move in our direction to address that need, not just point out our faults.

How about we, the children of God, claim February not as the "looking for love" month, but the "seeing with love" month? I challenge you with a holy experiment. How about walking into a room, working out a relationship, even going to church... no longer looking "for" love but looking "with" love?

Be ready - you might be surprised by what you see!

Calendar

FEBRUARY

- | | |
|-----|---|
| 1-2 | Grace Baptist Church, Knoxville, TN
(865-691-8886) |
| 11 | Alachua Study |
| 16 | First Baptist Starke, FL |
| 23 | First Baptist Starke, FL |
| 25 | Ocala Study |

APRIL

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| 4-6 | Binghamton, NY |
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MAY

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| 17-22 | Anderson, SC |
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Praise & Prayer



For the "enoughness" of God's love



For our Full and Perfect Savior



To learn to look "with" love (not just "for" love)



For loving discernment to address others' needs behind their faults