

## **The Wednesday Word, August 20, 2014: Holding to the True Jesus**

“As man He walked, as God He talked:  
His deeds were miracles, His words were oracles:  
Of man the finest specimen, of God the full expression:  
Behold the Man! Behold thy God!  
Veiled in flesh, the Godhead see!  
Hail, Incarnate Deity!”

As true believers, we have the privilege to hold, defend and propagate the truth that the full revelation of the Almighty God Himself is in Christ alone. It is Jesus, the Lord from heaven, who is above all (John 3:31). He is the fullness of the Godhead bodily (Colossians 2:9). He both has and is the wisdom and the power of God (1 Corinthians 1:24). In Him dwells the fullness of the Godhead in all knowledge, power, grace, mercy, truth and holiness.

As gospel purposed believers, it is our privilege to propagate the message that the Lord Jesus possesses all that God is. If people want to know what God has said, we should point them to the words of Jesus. If they want to know how God acts, then we help them to study Jesus and see what He has done. Jesus is the unabridged version of God: He is the very mystery of God! Jesus is the full and accurate interpretation of the mind of God. To meet Him is to meet God. To be saved by Him is to be saved by God. He is the final word that God will ever speak about Himself (Hebrews 1:1-3).

It should be of no surprise, therefore, to discover that He is still despised and rejected by men. The radical Muslims, as they vie for world domination, witness against His deity. The Mormons and Jehovah Witnesses also deny that He is the Mighty God. They do not receive Him for who He is, the Lord from Heaven, and have, therefore, no authority to teach in His name. Indeed, in many Christian circles His identity has become blurred. Who then will stand up for Jesus in this generation? Will you?

Paul warned that another Jesus was being preached and accepted (2 Corinthians 11:4). But this Jesus was a fake. We need to realize that any Jesus who is less than the Divine/Human Savior in Whom alone is salvation is, ‘another Jesus’ and not the Jesus of the scripture. To present people with a Jesus who does not represent Himself as the exclusive way to the Father is to present a false Christ. To present a Jesus who is less than God is a betrayal! To present a Jesus whose work is unfinished is a mockery. To present a Jesus who is a reduced God and whose work must be augmented is a travesty!

According to some ‘enlightened’ pundits, however, it is not for us to get too specific. “Just love Jesus ... it doesn’t pay to get too technical, just love Jesus, a created Jesus or a Jesus who is less than God, any Jesus will do! ---Just love Him and everyone else--- that’s what it’s all about!” ---O hokey, cokey, hokey!

And indeed they are right, why should it matter which Jesus leads us? After all, God doesn’t really care which God we go after. Any old God will do! He didn’t mean it in the first commandment when He said, “Thou shalt have no other gods before me.” Let’s face it, the first commandment is really the first suggestion. Let’s not get too doctrinal!

But alas, I digress to sarcasm!

The truth is, we must have the correct God before us (See Exodus 20:2-3). And by the self-same token,

any old Jesus won't do either. The Jesus of the Scriptures is God manifest in the flesh (1 Timothy 3:16). He is the God/Man. And this same Jesus gave the somber warning in John 8:24, "Unless you believe that I am (HE), you shall die in your sins."

The deity of Christ is an amazingly joyful and life-giving truth. It's remarkable to consider that that man who lived in our place was our God. That man who hung on the cross for us was our God. That man who poured out His blood for us was our God. That man who paid our ransom was our God. That man who became a curse for us was our God. That man who became our surety and rose from the dead for us was our God. It is God Himself who has saved us!

And that's the Gospel Truth!