



Sermon: "Jesus, The Gracious Word Made Flesh"

Scripture: John 1:14-18

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Sunday, June 11, 2017

Introduction: When Jesus Christ came to earth he cast aside the shadows of the Law and revealed the **reality** and **grace** of God as only He can.

I. In Christ, God's grace and reality were gloriously **displayed. (v. 14-16)**

To become flesh is to become **fully man**, in man's present frail, mortal condition.

Scripture: Isaiah 40:6; 1 Peter 1:24

What is the significance of the phrase "dwelt among us"?

Scripture: Hebrews 9:11; 2 Corinthians 4:6

In Jesus, mankind came face to face with God's glory in the form of Jesus. Only **spiritual blindness** remains.

II. In Christ, God's grace and reality may be fully **experienced. (v. 16-17)**

Scripture: Colossians 2:17; Hebrews 10:1

There was nothing wrong with the Law but it could not supply 2 things:

- Grace: So that transgressors could be **pardoned** and helped in their need.
- Truth: The **reality** to which all the types and shadows pointed.

Christ, by his atoning work, provided BOTH grace and truth!

He **MERITED** grace and **FULFILLED** the shadows!

III. In Christ, God's grace and reality is redemptively **explained. (v. 18)**

Scripture: Job 11:7-8; Deuteronomy 4:12; John 5:37; 6:46; 1 Timothy 1:17

A. Man's attempts to explain God result in **idolatry and heresy**.

B. All the explanation of God necessary for **salvation** is found in Jesus.

John declared the **DEITY** of Jesus Christ and the **ONENESS** of the Trinitarian relationship of the Father and the Son.

This claim that Jesus that is the eternal **Son of God** aroused the Jews to persecute Christ. (John 10:30-36)

To deny Jesus' **deity** is to refuse His explanation of God. The sinner who will not believe that Jesus is God's Son cannot be **saved**. (Joh 8:23-24)

“Because Jesus is the Son...He expounds to us whatever is necessary for our complete salvation and for a relative knowledge of God's work in creation and redemption, so that we may be means of them glorify our Maker and Redeemer.” (Hendriksen)

Conclusion:

How will you respond to His gracious incarnation? John 20:30-31

Questions to Consider:

1. Why is it so amazing that the eternal Word “became flesh” and “dwelt among us”? What difference does that make to your faith?
2. What are several glorious ways did Jesus display grace and truth in the Gospels?
3. How has mankind “received grace upon grace”? How have YOU received “grace upon grace” as a result of the incarnation of Christ?
4. What attitude do we normally have towards the Law of God? In what ways is the Law good? In what ways does the Law fall short of the reality of Christ?
5. What are some ways that the Law pointed to Christ?
6. Have you ever doubted the deity of Jesus? Why is that such an important point of belief (John 8:23-24)?
7. How do YOU need to respond to the reality and grace of Jesus today?