

October 8, 2017

TIME OF REFLECTION

“At the cross God wrapped his heart in flesh and blood and let it be nailed to the cross for our redemption.”

~E. Stanley Jones (1884-1973), Methodist missionary and theologian

“This is that mystery which is rich in divine grace to sinners: wherein by a wonderful exchange our sins are no longer ours but Christ’s, and the righteousness of Christ not Christ’s but ours. He has emptied himself of his righteousness that he might clothe us with it and fill us with it; and he has taken our evils upon himself that he might deliver us from them.”

~Martin Luther (1483-1546), German reformer

“He Himself took on Him [our] burden...the holy One for transgressors, the blameless One for the wicked, the righteous One for the unrighteous, the incorruptible One for the corruptible, the immortal One for them that are mortal.... O sweet exchange! O unsearchable operation! O benefits surpassing all expectation! that the wickedness of many should be hid in a single righteous One, and that the righteousness of One should justify many transgressors!”

~The Letter to Diognetus, a 2nd century Christian document

“Wherever the knowledge of [justification through Christ alone] is taken away, the glory of Christ is extinguished, religion abolished, the Church destroyed, and the hope of salvation utterly overthrown.”

~John Calvin (1509-1564), Swiss reformer

“I could not have faith in God if I did not think he wanted to be favorable and kind to me.... Faith must spring up and flow from the blood and wounds and death of Christ. If you see in these that God is so kindly disposed toward you that he even gives his own Son for you, then your heart in turn must grow sweet and disposed toward God....”

~Martin Luther (1483-1546), German Reformer

Worship through the Word

SERMON – “Solus Christus: The Freedom of a New Mediator” – *Pastor Don Willeman*

SERMON PASSAGE – *Galatians 2:15-21 (NASB) and selected passages*

Galatians 2 (NASB)

¹⁵“We are Jews by nature and not sinners from among the Gentiles; ¹⁶nevertheless knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the Law but through faith in Christ Jesus, even we have believed in Christ Jesus, so that we may be justified by faith in Christ and not by the works of the Law; since by the works of the Law no flesh will be justified. ¹⁷But if, while seeking to be justified in Christ, we ourselves have also been found sinners, is Christ then a minister of sin? May it never be! ¹⁸For if I rebuild what I have once destroyed, I prove myself to be a transgressor. ¹⁹For through the Law I died to the Law, so that I might live to God. ²⁰I have been crucified with Christ; and it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself up for me. ²¹I do not nullify the grace of God, for if righteousness comes through the Law, then Christ died needlessly.”

John 3 (NASB)

¹³No one has ascended into heaven, but He who descended from heaven: the Son of Man.... ¹⁵so that whoever believes will in Him have eternal life. ¹⁶For God so loved the world, that

He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life.

1 Timothy 2 (ESV)

¹First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people.... ³This is good, and it is pleasing in the sight of God our Savior, ⁴who desires all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. ⁵For there is one God, and there is one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, ⁶who gave himself as a ransom for all, which is the testimony given at the proper time.

Matthew 11 (ESV)

²⁷“All things have been committed to me by my Father. No one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and those to whom the Son chooses to reveal him. ²⁸Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. ²⁹Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. ³⁰For my yoke is easy and my burden is light.”