

Blessed to Be a Blessing – May 1, 2011

No Doubt!

“And Thomas answered and said unto Him, ‘My Lord and my God!’”

John 20:28

The resurrection of Jesus from the dead removes all doubt as to who He really is. Only the true God could accomplish such a feat. For the average observer, when Jesus was subjected to crucifixion there surely were doubts produced about His divinity—no matter what He had said about Himself. However, the truth of the resurrection dispels all doubts and boldly proclaims the truth: This Jesus is God!

Man’s idea about what God is and should be and how God should conduct Himself differs sharply with what God says about Himself. Who really would envision a God that would humble Himself and subject Himself to death in order to defeat death? Such an idea is ridiculous to the human mind. Human reason assumes that if God is all powerful He could just banish death and make all sorrow go away. In His sovereign Majesty He could just wipe it all away.

No one should question the sovereign Majesty of God. But God is also truthful. He said the penalty for sin is death and it is---spiritual, physical, and eternal death. God does not go back on His Word. He aimed to collect the price of sin and see also that the demands of His law were fulfilled. These are things we could not do for ourselves.

God is also merciful. In loving-kindness for His creation he did not want to see them punished eternally for their sin. He did the only thing He could do to fulfill His Word and accomplish His mercy. He took our place. It was His intention right from the start to do these things for us that we might have the gift of everlasting life. No wonder Paul asks the rhetorical question in His letter to the Romans... “therefore, if God is for us, who can be against us?”

Thomas had his doubts. He shouldn’t have. He should have set aside the frailty and faultiness of human reason and clung to the holy and

immutable Word of God. Jesus said He would rise from the dead and He did—not just for Thomas, but for you and for me also. The debt for sin was paid and God is now reconciled to man.

Worldly sophistries and philosophies still echo the doubts of Thomas. “Show me”, they cry and they ridicule faith. As Christians we are tempted to find all the physical evidence we can to build the case for the resurrection. How clear the words of Abraham to the rich man in hell ring at all times---“if they do not hear Moses and the prophets, neither will they be persuaded though one rise from the dead.”

No doubts. Moses---the Prophets---the Apostles all witness to the fact that Jesus is God---our God, who did the unthinkable. He dies for our sins. His sacrifice is accepted. We have that proof in God’s holy Word. Rejoice! Have no doubt. As Jesus lives, we also shall live in glory with Him.

Pastor Jacobs

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