

Christ – God Expressing Himself - REVELATION

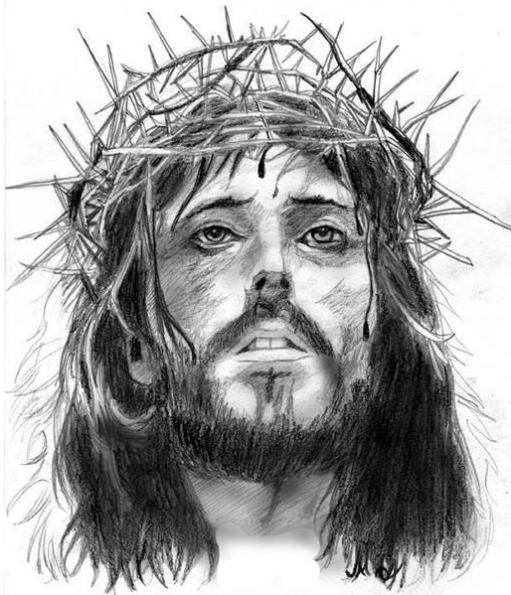
Galatians 1:1-5

Paul an apostle – not from men nor through man, but through Jesus Christ and God the Father, who raised him from the dead – and all the brothers with me,

To the churches of Galatia:

Grace to you and peace from God the Father and our Lord Jesus Christ, who gave himself for our sins to deliver us from the present evil age, according to the will of our God and Father; to whom be the glory for ever and ever. Amen.

- a) Paul defines himself and his credentials.
- b) The original target recipients were several small churches of Asia.
- c) Best wishes.
- d) Messiah
 - 1) Who gave himself up
 - 2) Our Liberator
 - 3) The present evil age
 - 4) The acts on earth are in the mind (will) of God
 - 5) God as Father



Originally the Word existed: the Word was oriented to God for the Word was God. He was toward God in the origin. Through him all things came into being, not one thing that exists came into being except through him. What came into being in him was life; life that was the light of humankind. And that light shines in the darkness, and darkness could not squelch it. [John 1]

Before time – when nothing existed outside of God – before creation – when there was nothing distinct from God which could be said to exist – God determined – “anticipated” – willed – purposed – elected – within himself to be the God he is FOR US. He created all with a goal for all creation to center end to exist for Christ – in Christ. **God made himself the God he is to be for us.**

John 1:14 Καὶ ὁ λόγος σὰρξ ἐγένετο And the Word was made -became - flesh and tabernacled (temporarily) among us, and we saw his glory- the glory of the one and only, full of grace and truth, who came from the Father.

When scripture came to be written – it was followers of Christ finding their way – understanding their all knew understanding of what God had done among them -REVELATION – EPIPHANY.

I.

- a. This is what Paul defined – beginning with I Thessalonians and Galatians.
- b. We seek to know the God who reveals himself in Christ

II. The Scriptures are the God inspired record of God’s revelation of his Godself

- a. Biblical truth has a unitary truth

- b. The knowledge of the God who began with Abraham creates a people
 - c. It is systematic, but it is not a system
- III. The Deity of Jesus of Nazareth is central to this reality
- a. A new knowledge of God revealed in Jesus deeds and teachings
 - b. All we can know of God is what he reveals - The Revelation is Christ Jesus
 - c. God "from the bosom" of God alone is grace and truth - John 1:18
- IV. Incarnation
- a. Jesus full humanity - John 1:15
 - i. The Word assumes sinful fallen flesh in Jesus
 - ii. He who has "no knowledge of sin" becomes Sin
 - iii. He sanctifies life in the flesh in conception - into forever
 - b. The full divinity
 - i. The only guarantee of reconciliation
 - ii. Divinity assures communion
 - iii. Jesus is Lord! There is no "God behind him"
- V. And then - understanding the cross and the resurrection.

Through the law I died to the law so that I may live to God.³⁰ I have been crucified with Christ, and it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me. So, the life I now live in the body, I live because of the faithfulness of the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me. (Gal 2:19 NET)

You foolish Galatians! Who has cast a spell on you? Before your eyes Jesus Christ was vividly portrayed as crucified! (Gal 3:1 NET)

Now, brothers and sisters, if I am still preaching circumcision, why am I still being persecuted? In that case the offense of the cross has been removed. (Gal 5:11 NET)

Those who belong to Christ have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. (Gal 5:24 NET)

Those who want to make a good showing in external matters are trying to force you to be circumcised. They do so only to avoid being persecuted for the cross of Christ. (Gal 6:12 NET)

May I never boast (glory) except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, through which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. (Gal 6:14 NET)

Praise the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly realms, for as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him. He destined us in love to be his sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will, to the praise of his glorious grace which he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. In him we have rescue through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace which he lavished upon us. For he has made known to us in all wisdom and insight the mystery of his will, according to his purpose which he set forth in Christ as a plan for the fulness of time, to unite all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth. In him, according to the purpose of him who accomplishes all things according to the counsel of his will, we who first hoped in Christ have been destined and appointed to live for the praise of his glory. (Ephesians 1:3-12)