

Tuesday's Touch ...#23

...from Pastor Ed ...June 30, 2009

Receiving Truth... Part 2 The Pre-eminence of Christ

Then said I, Lo, I come (in the volume of the book it is written of me,) to do thy will, O God. Heb. 10:7

And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith **which is in Christ Jesus.** 2Ti 3:15

And he said unto them, *These are the words which I spoke unto you, while I was yet with you, that all things must be fulfilled, which were **written in the law of Moses, and in the prophets, and in the psalms, concerning me.** Then he opened their understanding, that they might understand the scriptures ...*
Luke 24:44-45

*For had ye believed Moses, ye would have believed me: for **he wrote of me.** But if ye believe not his writings, how shall ye believe my words?* John 5:46-47

As we read and study the Bible, the first key to understanding and receiving truth is to recognize **the pre-eminence of Christ in the scriptures.** When Paul wrote to Timothy in 2 Timothy 3:15, he said that it was the Old Testament scriptures that could make him wise concerning Christ and salvation. Jesus said that Moses wrote about Him. Before he ascended to heaven he opened the apostles' eyes that they might see Himself in Moses and the Psalms, and in all the prophets (Luke 24:44-45). In Eph. 2:20 the apostles and prophets are called the foundation of the Church. Why would the apostles and prophets be included in the foundation with Christ? Not because they are equal to him, but because through their writings Christ, the only foundation (1 Cor 3:11), is revealed. The cleverly translated adage of Augustine is certainly true: **The New is in the Old concealed; the Old is in the New revealed.**

The Old Testament is, as it were, the womb from which the full revelation of Christ and the New Testament church is born. Before a baby is born, the amniotic fluid, the placenta, and the umbilical cord are all absolutely necessary. But when the baby is born all those things "pass away", and the baby emerges a living human being.

And so, all scripture must be viewed from the high vantage point of Mount Calvary. It is from the fullness of the New Covenant revelation of Christ alone that we may be able to properly discern Moses and the prophets. In Christ we see Christ. In Christ the entire Bible comes together as one glorious testimony of Christ and his kingdom- one grand epic love story of the Bridegroom and the Bride.

*Therefore, in the light of the New Testament, **we open our Bibles to the very first verse of scripture and we see Christ** (John 1:1-3; Genesis 1:1). As we continue, Christ is the image of God in which Adam was created (Heb 1:3, Colos 1:13, Gen.1:26-27); Christ is the seed of the woman to crush the serpent's head (Gal 4:4, Gen 3:15); Christ is the sacrifice to cover their shame (Heb 9:14, 10:14); Christ is the ark to carry them through the judgment (1 Pet 3:20-21). And so it goes. **When we finally come to the last verse of the Bible, we are left gazing at Christ (Rev 21:20).** This is why Charles Spurgeon taught his students that from whatever passage they were preaching- preach Christ!*

*While Christ has been progressively revealed as the scriptures have been progressively given in time, now, in the fullness of time, we must **begin** with Christ, and continue with Christ, until one day, in Christ, we shall know as we are known (1 Cor 13:12).*

*Only through the scriptures can Christ be known;
Only through Christ can their truths be shown.*

Father of Light,

We would see Jesus. Blessed Holy Spirit, open Him up to us in the Word you have given. Lord Jesus, make yourself pre-eminent in our understanding and in all our earthly priorities, so that "to live is Christ, to die is gain" (Phil 1:21). Knowing nothing but Christ and him crucified,

Amen

To comment, add a friend, or to ask more information about the salvation offered to us in Christ, please respond to: Tuesdays_Touch@SpringwoodChapel.com or pastored@SpringwoodChapel.com

*To be deleted from this email put 'Cancel' in the subject line.
© 2009 E.J.Ross III, Springwood Publications.*