

GOD CAME NEAR - PART 2

1 John 1:1-10 (December 29, 2024)

...you what we have seen and heard, so that you also may have fellowship with us. And our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son, Jesus Christ. **4** We write this to make our joy complete. **5** This is the message we have heard from him and declare to you: God is light; in him there is no darkness at all. **6** If we claim to have fellowship with him and yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not live out the truth. **7** But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all sin. **8** If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. **9** If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness. **10** If we claim we have not sinned, we make him out to be a liar and his word is not in us.

(Continued from Part 1)

III. THE LIFE ACCOMPLISHES THE PURPOSE OF GOD.

1. God's purpose can only be accomplished in us:

By our first recognizing truly and fully what we are, and then acknowledging our state before him.

2. These attitudes will keep the purpose of God from being accomplished in us.

- (1) If we try to maintain our fellowship with God independently of moral considerations
 - a. We say that we have fellowship with him
 - b. Yet we walk in darkness.

In that case we are

- (a) false in word (we lie)
- (b) false in practice:

- (2) If we deny that sin is the great barrier to fellowship with God
 - a. we are self-deceived
 - b. "the truth is not in us"
- (3) If we say that we have not sinned
 - a. we are putting the lie on what God has said;
 - b. God's Word is not in us.

IV. GOD'S PURPOSE IN REVEALING HIMSELF MAY BE ACCOMPLISHED IN US IN THESE PRACTICAL STEPS.

1. CONFESSION "If we confess our sins" (v9)

- (1) Confession before God;
- (2) Confession and restitution before man where the wrong has been to man

Results: **Forgiveness** and **Cleansing** (these are guaranteed to the penitent by the faithfulness and the justice of God.)

2. WALKING IN THE LIGHT

- (1) Fellowship
- (2) The efficacy of the blood of Christ

V. APPLICATION

What we believe and how we live go together.

Ephesians 4:25-32

25 Therefore each of you must put off falsehood and speak truthfully to your neighbor, for we are all members of one body. **26** "In your anger do not sin": Do not let the sun go down while you are still angry, **27** and do not give the devil a foothold. **28** Anyone who has been stealing must steal no longer, but must work, doing something useful with their own hands, that they may have something to share with those in need. **29** Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen. **30** And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. **31** Get rid of all bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander, along with every form of malice (no ill will at anyone) **32** Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

1. What does it tell us about God that God is Light?
2. What might be some of the reasons that human beings are not able to know God by their own ideas apart from God's self-revelation?
3. The Bible says that God has used Jesus' followers' foolish preaching to save those who believe. Why do you think He chose to use preaching (message sharing) as the main tool to save us?
4. What are the purposes of Christmas (the Incarnation - Jesus became a man to dwell among humanity) according to 1 John 1:1-10?
5. What are some of the reasons people reject/hesitate to accept the true meaning of Christmas (God came near to have fellowship with us)?

I AM INTERESTED IN TAKING A CLASS FOR MY SPIRITUAL GROWTH.

- () Membership 101
- () Maturity 201
- () Ministry 301
- () Mission/Evangelism 401

OTHER CLASSES

- () Foundations for basic Christian doctrines
- () Fresh Start for starting my faith in Christ
- () How to do daily Quiet Time with God

NEED TO TALK TO A PASTOR?

- () I would like to talk with a pastor to understand the biblical view on a subject.
- () I would like to know what it means to be a member of MBF (NVCCC)

ANY OTHER QUESTION? LET US KNOW, PLEASE.
