



"And this is the commandment we have from Him, that the one who loves God should love his brother also." 1 John 4: 21

Sunday –August 27, 2023

To Know Christ...

How often do good and evil agree on anything? Seriously, can you think of any examples when good and evil reach the same conclusion? When Jesus was living on the earth, there was one thing that demons and Jesus' own apostles agreed on and even believed (James 2:19). Jesus is The Holy One! A demon once said to Jesus while in a synagogue, **"Let us alone! What business do we have with each other, Jesus of Nazareth? Have You come to destroy us? I know who You are—the Holy One of God!"** (Luke 4:34) The apostle Peter while many disciples were leaving Jesus because of His teachings said, **"Lord, to whom shall we go? You have words of eternal life. ⁶⁹ We have believed and have come to know that You are the Holy One of God."** (John 6:68-69; See Acts 3:14 too) Did you notice that the demons and the apostles both agree on who Jesus is? THE HOLY ONE OF GOD! The demon saw beyond just Jesus' physical presence, the demon could see Jesus for who He genuinely is in the spiritual realm. Peter exclaimed Jesus as "the Holy One of God" as well, also focusing on Jesus' words guiding them (and us) to Eternal Life in Him. What do you say about Jesus by your life?

Paul wanted the saints at Philippi (as well as us) to see the reality of who Jesus is now. God highly exalted Jesus because of His humble obedience, even to His death on a cross. For this reason, God **"bestowed on Him the name which is above every name, ¹⁰ so that at the name of Jesus every knee will bow, of those who are in heaven and on earth and under the earth, ¹¹ and that every tongue will confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father."** (Philippians 2:8-11) When the Lord returns, no matter where your eternal dwelling will be (either with the Lord or in torment), EVERYONE will recognize Jesus as the Lord. Every knee will bow before King Jesus, every tongue will proclaim that Jesus Christ is LORD. When the Holy One is revealed, every righteous person and every unrighteous person will say the same thing (confess = "to say the same thing"). Jesus is Lord; Jesus, the Holy One of God. Faith will become sight! A few will bow the knee & confess Jesus as Lord just as they did during their

earthly life in humble obedience. Then they will continue in eternal life with their Lord. However, many will then bow the knee & confess for the first time, then head to destruction having never heeded the words of eternal life. In the end, those who are good and those who are evil will certainly agree on who Jesus is, but their eternal existence will be completely different. Have you bowed the knee to the Lord in humble obedience to His words of Eternal Life? Nothing to gain by delaying any longer ... listen to Jesus' words in Mark 16:16, "**He who has believed and has been baptized shall be saved; but he who has disbelieved shall be condemned.**"

- Carey Terry