

Every Knee Will Bow

Have you done the Google map thing, or Mapquest? You're looking closely at an address, and you see a couple of intersecting streets. But you have no perspective. And then, wonder of wonders, you take advantage of technology and zoom out, and further out, until you see that address in light of the big picture. In worship this morning we will, with the aid of the Holy Spirit, try to see what God is up to, and how central Jesus is to all that is ahead, and as Dave preaches, what all that means to our lives right now.

Shout To The North

This world likes to think that Jesus is one of many choices we have in selecting a savior. The Bible shows a very different picture. Jesus is unique. There is no other like him. How so? Listen to Colossians 1:15ff.....

He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. For by him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things were created by him and for him. He is before all things, and in him all things hold together. And he is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning and the firstborn from among the dead, so that in everything he might have the supremacy. For God was pleased to have all his fullness dwell in him, and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making peace through his blood, shed on the cross.

In Christ Alone

What other faith religion could undo the consequences of the Fall. We humans were banished from God's presence, disqualified, a perfect relationship ruined. But then God took action.

*Once you were alienated from God and were enemies in your minds because of your evil behavior. But now he has reconciled you by Christ's physical body through death to present you holy in his sight, without blemish and free from accusation - if you continue in your faith, established and firm, not moved from the hope held out in the gospel. This is the gospel that you heard and that has been proclaimed to every creature under heaven, and of which I, Paul, have become a servant. **Colossians 1:15-23***

My Savior My God

Now listen to Paul on Mars Hill, telling a captivated audience of religious seekers of the one true God.

*The God who made the world and everything in it is the Lord of heaven and earth and does not live in temples built by hands. And he is not served by human hands, as if he needed anything, because he himself gives all men life and breath and everything else. From one man he made every nation of men, that they should inhabit the whole earth; and he determined the times set for them and the exact places where they should live. God did this so that men would seek him and perhaps reach out for him and find him, though he is not far from each one of us. 'For in him we live and move and have our being.' As some of your own poets have said, 'We are his offspring.' 'Therefore since we are God's offspring, we should not think that the divine being is like gold or silver or stone—an image made by man's design and skill. In the past God overlooked such ignorance, but now **he commands all people everywhere to repent**. For he has set a day when he will judge the world with justice by the man he has appointed. He has given proof of this to all men by raising him from the dead." Acts 17:24-31*

Jesus Shall Reign

OFFERING

In Isaiah, we see a vision of a far off time when the world raises its voice in unison to the one true God. As impossible as it may seem, there will come such a day. And it will be glorious and wonderful.

*They raise their voices, they shout for joy; from the west they acclaim the LORD's majesty. Therefore in the east give glory to the LORD; exalt the name of the LORD, the God of Israel, in the islands of the sea. **From the ends of the earth we hear singing: "Glory to the Righteous One."***

Isaiah 24:14-16

Righteous One

SERMON

Take Me As I AM

May God be gracious to us and bless us and make his face shine upon us, that his ways may be known on earth, his salvation among all nations. May the peoples praise you, O God; may all the peoples praise you. **Psalm 67:1-3**