

## Jesus: Full of Grace and Truth John 1:10-17

### Introduction:

#### A. Christmas

1. I'd like to begin with a confession: I love Christmas! I do truly love Christmas.
  - a) As I get older, it seems fewer things in life really capture my imagination the way they did in childhood.
  - b) Certainly many things are interesting to me, but not with the sense of wonder and hope I knew as a child.
  - c) Yet something begins to stir in my soul about this time every year.
  - d) I can almost feel it.
  - e) It speaks of something that settles all of time.
  - f) It is the coming of God to Earth in the form of a baby.
  - g) It is what we call Christmas.
2. Christmas never loses its wonder.
  - a) The activities may be exhausting, but what lies at the core of this celebration ignites my imagination.
3. The Eternal becomes so tangible.
  - a) Did He have to begin as a baby like you and I?
  - b) Was it so important that He talk with a Samaritan woman?
  - c) Did he have to touch a leper?
4. There is a peace...a sense that a blessing has been bestowed on earth...peace...hope.
  - a) That feeling is alive all over the world as millions celebrate Christmas.
5. I believe God wants us to know that CHRISTMAS IS THE REAL THING...
  - a) That it is Christmas in this world!
  - b) The Apostle John...who was a part of the life of Christ and knew first hand the child that was born in the stable offers the big picture of what was going on...

<sup>10</sup>He was in the world, and the world was made through Him, and the world did not know Him. <sup>11</sup>He came to His own, and His own did not receive Him. <sup>12</sup>But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name: <sup>13</sup>who were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.

<sup>14</sup>And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, ***full of grace and truth***.

<sup>15</sup>John bore witness of Him and cried out, saying, "This was He of whom I said, 'He who comes after me is preferred before me, for He was before me.'" <sup>16</sup>And of His fullness we have all received, and grace for grace. <sup>17</sup>For the law was given through Moses, ***but grace and truth*** came through Jesus Christ.

#### B. Grace

1. Grace is probably the most meaningful word in the language of men.
  - a) In the Bible the word *grace* means far more than it does when men use it.
  - b) To men the word *grace* means three things
    - (1) Grace is that quality within a thing that is beautiful or joyful.
    - (2) Grace is anything that has loveliness.
    - (3) Grace is a gift, a favor that someone might extend to a friend.
      - (a) The favor is always freely done, expecting nothing in return.
      - (b) The favor is always done for a friend.
2. However, when the early Christians looked at what God had done for men, they had to add a deeper, richer meaning to the word *grace*.
  - a) God had saved sinners, those who had acted against Him, therefore, *grace* became the favor of God showered upon men who did not deserve His favor.
  - b) *Grace* became the kindness and love that dwells within the very nature of God, the kindness and love that God freely gives to His *enemies*.

- c) God has done a thing unheard of among men: He has given His very own Son to die for His *enemies* (Romans 5:8-10).
  - d) No other word so expresses the depth and richness of the heart and mind of God.
3. Grace is both the desire and the ability to do God's will.

### C. Truth

1. Jesus Christ is the Embodiment of truth (John 14:6).
  - a) God not only talks to man about Himself, God shows man what He is like in the person of Jesus Christ.
  - b) You can look at Jesus Christ and see a perfect picture of the truth of God because Jesus is Truth
2. Jesus Christ is the Communicator of truth.
  - a) He fulfills all things and makes all things perfectly clear.
  - b) He reveals the ultimate meaning and end of all things.
  - c) He shows us the right way to the truth, and He enables us to choose the right way to the truth.
3. Jesus Christ sets men free from the sin that separates man and God, man and his world, and man and man.
  - a) He sets man free from the frustrations which he constantly experiences.
  - b) He frees man from the fears and weaknesses and defects that plague him.
  - c) Jesus Christ is the Truth and He said: "And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free" (John 8:32).

## I. At Bethlehem

### A. Truth at Bethlehem

1. Micah 5:2
  - a) "But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, *though* you are little among the thousands of Judah, *yet* out of you shall come forth to Me The One to be Ruler in Israel, Whose goings forth *are* from of old, From everlasting."
2. Isaiah 7:14
  - a) <sup>14</sup>Therefore the Lord Himself will give you a sign: Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a Son, and shall call His name Immanuel.
3. Luke 2:10-11
  - a) <sup>10</sup>Then the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid, for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy which will be to all people. <sup>11</sup>For there is born to you this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.
    - (1) Savior
    - (2) Christ
    - (3) The Lord

### B. Grace at Bethlehem

1. Luke 2:12
  - a) <sup>10</sup>Then the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid, for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy which will be to all people. <sup>11</sup>For there is born to you this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. <sup>12</sup>And this *will be* the sign to you: You will find a Babe wrapped in swaddling cloths, lying in a manger."
    - (1) Good tidings of great joy – to all people
    - (2) manger – humility – access to all
    - (3) shepherds – tell all
2. Matthew 2:1-2, 9-11
  - a) <sup>1</sup>Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, <sup>2</sup>saying, "Where is He who has been born King of the Jews? For we have seen His star in the East and have come to worship Him."
  - b) <sup>9</sup>When they heard the king, they departed; and behold, the star which they had seen in the East went before them, till it came and stood over where the young Child was. <sup>10</sup>When they saw the star, they rejoiced with exceedingly great joy. <sup>11</sup>And when they had come into the house, they saw the young Child with Mary His mother, and fell down and worshiped Him. And when they had opened their treasures, they presented gifts to Him: gold, frankincense, and myrrh.
3. Luke 4:18-19

- a) <sup>18</sup> *“The Spirit of the LORD is upon Me, Because He has anointed Me To preach the gospel to the poor; He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, To proclaim liberty to the captives And recovery of sight to the blind, To set at liberty those who are oppressed;”*<sup>19</sup> *To proclaim the acceptable year of the LORD.”*

## II. Calvary

### A. Truth at Calvary

1. Genesis 3:14-15
  - a) <sup>14</sup>So the LORD God said to the serpent: “Because you have done this, You *are* cursed more than all cattle, And more than every beast of the field; On your belly you shall go, And you shall eat dust All the days of your life.<sup>15</sup> And I will put enmity Between you and the woman, And between your seed and her Seed; He shall bruise your head, And you shall bruise His heel.”
2. Psalm 22:1
  - a) <sup>1</sup> My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me? *Why are You so far from helping Me, And from the words of My groaning?*
3. Psalm 22:6-8
  - a) <sup>6</sup>But I *am* a worm, and no man; A reproach of men, and despised by the people. <sup>7</sup>All those who see Me ridicule Me; They shoot out the lip, they shake the head, *saying*, <sup>8</sup>“He trusted in the LORD, let Him rescue Him; Let Him deliver Him, since He delights in Him!”
4. Psalm 22:16-18
  - a) <sup>16</sup>For dogs have surrounded Me; The congregation of the wicked has enclosed Me. They pierced My hands and My feet; <sup>17</sup>I can count all My bones. They look *and* stare at Me. <sup>18</sup>They divide My garments among them, And for My clothing they cast lots.
5. Isaiah 53:4-7
  - a) <sup>4</sup>Surely He has borne our griefs And carried our sorrows; Yet we esteemed Him stricken, Smitten by God, and afflicted. <sup>5</sup>But He *was* wounded for our transgressions, *He was* bruised for our iniquities; The chastisement for our peace *was* upon Him, And by His stripes we are healed. <sup>6</sup>All we like sheep have gone astray; We have turned, every one, to his own way; And the LORD has laid on Him the iniquity of us all. <sup>7</sup>He was oppressed and He was afflicted, Yet He opened not His mouth; He was led as a lamb to the slaughter, And as a sheep before its shearers is silent, So He opened not His mouth.

### B. Grace at Calvary

1. John 1:29
  - a) <sup>29</sup>The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, “Behold! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!”
2. Hebrews 2:9
  - a) <sup>9</sup>But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels, for the suffering of death crowned with glory and honor, that He, by the grace of God, might taste death for everyone.
3. Ephesians 1:7
  - a) <sup>7</sup>In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace

## III. The Resurrection

### A. Truth at the Resurrection

1. Psalm 16:10
  - a) <sup>10</sup> For You will not leave my soul in Sheol, nor will You allow Your Holy One to see corruption.
2. Romans 1:4
  - a) <sup>4</sup>*and* declared *to be* the Son of God with power according to the Spirit of holiness, by the resurrection from the dead.

### B. Grace at the Resurrection

1. Romans 1:4-6
  - a) <sup>4</sup>*and* declared *to be* the Son of God with power according to the Spirit of holiness, by the resurrection from the dead. <sup>5</sup>Through Him we have received grace and apostleship for obedience to the faith among all nations for His name, <sup>6</sup>among whom you also are the called of Jesus Christ;
2. Romans 4:25
  - a) <sup>25</sup>who was delivered up because of our offenses, and was raised because of our justification.

3. 2 Corinthians 4:14-15

- a) <sup>14</sup>knowing that He who raised up the Lord Jesus will also raise us up with Jesus, and will present *us* with you. <sup>15</sup>For all things *are* for your sakes, that grace, having spread through the many, may cause thanksgiving to abound to the glory of God.

4. Acts 17:31

- a) <sup>31</sup>because He has appointed a day on which He will judge the world in righteousness by the Man whom He has ordained. He has given assurance of this to all by raising Him from the dead.”

#### IV. The Ascension

##### A. Truth at the Ascension

1. John 16:7-11

- a) <sup>7</sup>Nevertheless I tell you the truth. It is to your advantage that I go away; for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you; but if I depart, I will send Him to you. <sup>8</sup>And when He has come, He will convict the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment: <sup>9</sup>of sin, because they do not believe in Me; <sup>10</sup>of righteousness, because I go to My Father and you see Me no more; <sup>11</sup>of judgment, because the ruler of this world is judged.

2. Acts 1:4

- a) <sup>4</sup>And being assembled together with *them*, He commanded them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the Promise of the Father, “*which*,” *He said*, “*you have heard from Me*;

3. Acts 2:32-33

- a) <sup>32</sup>This Jesus God has raised up, of which we are all witnesses. <sup>33</sup>Therefore being exalted to the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, He poured out this which you now see and hear.

##### B. Grace at the Ascension

1. John 14:2-3

- a) <sup>2</sup>In My Father’s house are many mansions; if *it were* not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. <sup>3</sup>And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, *there* you may be also.

2. Hebrews 7:25

- a) <sup>25</sup>Therefore He is also able to save to the uttermost those who come to God through Him, since He always lives to make intercession for them.

#### V. The Return

##### A. Truth at the Return

1. Jeremiah 23:5-6

- a) <sup>5</sup>“Behold, *the* days are coming,” says the LORD, “That I will raise to David a Branch of righteousness; A King shall reign and prosper, And execute judgment and righteousness in the earth. <sup>6</sup>In His days Judah will be saved, And Israel will dwell safely; Now this *is* His name by which He will be called: THE LORD OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS.

2. Jude 14-15

- a) <sup>14</sup>Now Enoch, the seventh from Adam, prophesied about these men also, saying, “Behold, the Lord comes with ten thousands of His saints, <sup>15</sup>to execute judgment on all, to convict all who are ungodly among them of all their ungodly deeds which they have committed in an ungodly way, and of all the harsh things which ungodly sinners have spoken against Him.”

3. Revelation 1:7

- a) <sup>7</sup>Behold, He is coming with clouds, and every eye will see Him, even they who pierced Him. And all the tribes of the earth will mourn because of Him. Even so, Amen.

##### B. Grace at the Return

1. Matthew 24:29-31

- a) <sup>29</sup>“Immediately after the tribulation of those days the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light; the stars will fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens will be shaken. <sup>30</sup>Then the sign of the Son of Man will appear in heaven, and then all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and they will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven with power and great glory. <sup>31</sup>And He will send

His angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they will gather together His elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other.

2. 1 Corinthians 15:51-57

- a) <sup>1</sup>Behold, I tell you a mystery: We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed—<sup>52</sup>in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. <sup>53</sup>For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal *must* put on immortality. <sup>54</sup>So when this corruptible has put on incorruption, and this mortal has put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written: “*Death is swallowed up in victory.*” <sup>55</sup> “*O Death, where is your sting? O Hades, where is your victory?*” <sup>56</sup>The sting of death *is* sin, and the strength of sin *is* the law. <sup>57</sup>But thanks *be* to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

3. 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

- a) <sup>13</sup>But I do not want you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning those who have fallen asleep, lest you sorrow as others who have no hope. <sup>14</sup>For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so God will bring with Him those who sleep in Jesus. <sup>15</sup>For this we say to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive *and* remain until the coming of the Lord will by no means precede those who are asleep. <sup>16</sup>For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. <sup>17</sup>Then we who are alive *and* remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord. <sup>18</sup>Therefore comfort one another with these words.