

The Inner Immense Fountain of God's Grace

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What about those times when it seems you have no inner life? Is it then possible to have life and hope and joy that will last---forever? Will this come from a fountain of merely your own making? Of hope in happy circumstances? Are you then safe from a terrible reversal and evaporation of that fountain? Truly safe from unbearable despair?

What about a fountain that is not of your own making? Jesus, the Christ (Messiah), "is the image of the invisible God...all things were created by Him, and for Him: And He is before all things, and in Him all things consist."¹ Seven hundred years before He came, the Prophet Isaiah wrote of Him: "For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counselor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace."² The grace, truth, and Holy Spirit of His Father in heaven was (and is) His Immense Fountain of Living Waters. He was (and is) one with the Father.³ Only from within Him---and those fully believing in Him---flow "rivers of living water."⁴ He is also the "Rock" of salvation.

The greatest, most precious reality in all existence is this Immense Fountain, which is called the grace of God. (It's also like a mighty ocean.) It's easily not seen because of that self-enthronement which most think is the way to go. But Jesus brings the Father's salvation with redeeming grace (an utterly undeserved *Gift*), truth, purity of heart and heavenly freedom through His Holy Spirit, yielding forth "love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance..."⁵ It courageously gives, forgives, overcomes and endures, resting only in God. It is the life "hidden with Christ in God."⁶

Jesus embraced His Father's Will: Taking upon Himself all our despair, evil and sin, He was "brought as a lamb to the slaughter."⁷ The Father gave His own Son to be the ultimate, final Sacrificial Lamb for us, soaking up and paying for all of our sins. Only His sacrificial bloodshed cleanses the soul purer than the purest driven snow, perfectly reconciling to God ALL who will simply believe and receive, acknowledging their sin and inner bankruptcy and crying out to Him! They actually receive His righteousness and purity as their own. They become one with Him---in His death on the cross to sin and in His burial and resurrection Life in the Spirit of the Father. (This is set forth and pictured in baptism). And they together become "one body" in Him, who is the Head over everything.

Jesus trusted in His Father, all the way to His own death on the cross, so that this Immense Fountain of the Father's Love and Grace would burst forth in *your* being. It unites Christ's own redeemed ones with Him in His mission and sufferings on earth, His joy in the Holy Spirit from heaven and, finally, His glorious return to earth for His own.

The contrast could not be more stark: There is only the everlasting Light, Life, Love, Power and Peace of God, bestowed freely on His children---and the everlasting destruction, death and darkness of the evil one, with his kingdom---and subjects, whose only possible destiny (without real repentance) is the everlasting, righteous wrath of God. All seeming "shades of gray" just evaporate in His presence. The message to all is this: "Repent and believe the gospel."⁸ Acknowledge Jesus as Lord openly. Let all of us completely humble ourselves in His presence...and feed on Him, the "Bread of Life."⁹

1. Colossians 1:17 2. Isaiah 9:6 3. St. John 10:30 4. Jeremiah 2:13; St. John 7:37,38 5. Galatians 5:22,23 6. Colossians 3:3 7. Isaiah 53:7
8. St. Mark 1:15 9. St. John 6:35 (Quotations from King James Version) *Visit www.beholdthelambogod.net *

