



Spirit of Grace

Herald

THE MINISTRY OF DENNIS
& BENEDICTA POLLOCK

December, 2015

Spirit of Grace Ministries

P.O. Box 2068

McKinney, TX 75070

(530) 712-4253

Email: grace@spiritofgrace.org

Website: www.spiritofgrace.org

Jesus, the Gentleman

That Jesus was born in a stable seems one of history's greatest ironies. God makes an appearance upon the stage of human drama, and is born as a baby in a habitation for livestock.

Our Savior ended up in the barn for the same reason He has been cast out and kept out of people's lives for the last two thousand years – *there was no room for Him* in the inn. Behind this simple thought is a truth that affects every one of us every day. Even as a newborn, Jesus was demonstrating a simple, yet powerful reality, and that reality is this: Jesus is a Gentleman who goes where He is made welcome and quietly leaves when it is made clear He is not welcome. We find this scattered throughout the gospels in such a way as to be unmistakable. It is summed up in this: **Jesus was always powerfully drawn to those people and places where He was welcomed and sought after, but soon left those situations and places where He was not wanted.**

When Jesus began to talk with the Samaritan woman at the well of Jacob, she knew immediately He was no ordinary man. Within a short conversation, He revealed His knowledge of her five previous husbands, her present immoral relationship, and proclaimed Himself as the Fountain of Living Waters.

She was so impressed that she went back home without her water pot. Gathering her neighbors and townspeople together, she brought them to Jesus. When they found out for themselves the divine grace and mysterious attraction of this Jewish prophet, they "urged Him to stay with them" (John 4:40).

Jesus clearly had a busy schedule and a divine agenda. But a big part of that agenda had to do with responding to the requests of those whom God had touched. Thus we find that He didn't make an excuse, or inform them of His crammed itinerary – He simply stayed there two more days, just as they had requested.

We find that the Jesus revealed in the gospels is a very accommodating Savior. Most highly successful men keep themselves on strict schedules, and woe to that man or woman who tries to persuade them to deviate from their pre-set plans. Yet the most important Man that ever lived, the Man who had no time for Himself was always ready to change everything to respond to the request of a single common man or woman. When people asked Him to come and heal a loved one, He always responded.

We have no record whatsoever of Jesus telling someone that He simply was too busy to do that. It seems that a simple request had a mysterious influence over Jesus, making Him willing to change His plans and bringing all His formidable powers and will to bear on the particular problem at hand.

The Jesus we find in the gospels is amazingly accessible and compliant. He goes where He is asked, grants requests to those who utter them, heals those who come to Him, and changes His schedule immediately to satisfy the demands of those who need

His personal attention. Is it any wonder that enormous crowds constantly surrounded Him?

Until Jesus came, the Jews saw God as the One who thundered from Mount Sinai, and whose presence inspired terror. Now God was revealing Himself in a whole new way. Without compromising His holiness, He was showing, through Jesus, that He is our compassionate and caring Father, whose good pleasure it is to respond to the hurts and requests of His children.

What a Savior we have! Awesome and yet approachable, spotless yet merciful, as we read the gospels we see the willing Jesus – willing to forgive, willing to respond to our requests, and willing to come into our lives and situations with His magnificent grace, and bring about positive change.



Jesus, the Gentleman

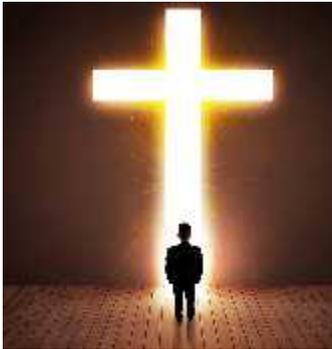
There is but one question to consider. Is the Jesus we call upon in heaven a different Jesus than the One we read about in the gospels? Did He somehow change when He took His position seated at the right hand of the Father? Is He no longer moved with compassion at the feelings of our infirmities? Has He lost His willing nature by spending time in the realm of glory? Do His tears of compassion no longer flow?

The Bible's answer is a resounding No! Jesus is "the same yesterday, today, and forever" (Hebrews 13:8). **The same loving, compassionate, accessible, concerned, caring, powerful Savior who walked the dusty roads of Israel two thousand years ago is now seated at the right hand of the Father. He still cares, He still listens to the stumbling requests of desperate men and women, and He still makes His dwelling place in the lives and hearts of those who want Him.** But He must be invited. He must be asked. He is a Gentleman.

BECAUSE AMERICA AND THE WORLD ARE STARVING FOR THE KNOWLEDGE OF THE BREAD OF LIFE, OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST:

In the Coming Year we are committed to increasing our capacity for video production, and to reaching out through videos to feed Jesus' sheep and to present Christ to the lost. To do this well, we will need to purchase additional video equipment.

We need your help—will you support this video outreach by sending us a generous donation this month?



Our Gift for Everyone who Contributes \$100 or More to Spirit of Grace Ministries in December:

THE GOSPEL OF JOHN - A verse by verse audio expositional study of this amazing book by Dennis Pollock

—A wonderful way for you to learn more about Jesus as you spend time with Dennis in this detailed study of Jesus' life and ministry.

—This study comes as a 21 CD series or you can request these audio teachings as **high-res mp3 files for your phone, computer, or mp3 player**. To know Jesus well, you can do no better than to read and study the Gospel of John.

—This series is yours upon request when you contribute \$100 or more to our ministry this month. **However, you must request it!**

(Any money given in excess of the funds needed will be applied to our African missions.)

Spirit of Grace Ministries, PO Box 2068—McKinney, TX 75070 www.spiritofgrace.org