

Living in The Fullness of God

John 1:14, 16-17 - *14 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. 16 And of His fullness we have all received, and grace for grace. For the law was given through Moses, but grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.*

1. Jesus came to us full of grace and truth.

- a) Grace speaks of His disposition toward us, of God's benevolence - independent from the works required by the Law of Moses.
- b) Truth speaks of the certainty, reliability and the integrity of this message. It can be trusted because it is true. It can be believed and embraced.

"Truth" is a central topic in the gospel of John as well as in his epistles. It is mentioned at least 25 times. John probably received a revelation of the importance of truth when he heard these words from the very lips of Jesus:

- **John 8:32** - *And you will know the **Truth**, and the Truth will set you free.*
- **John 14:6** ... *I am the way, **the truth**, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.*

Or the question that Pontius Pilate asked in **John 18:38**: "*what is truth?*"

Jesus came full of grace and full of the kind of truth that can be relied upon because it is absolute, it is dependable and can be believed. It produces results: people are set free.

2. Jesus came to fill us with His fullness

V.16 - *And of His fullness we have all received ...*

Jesus came to fill our emptiness with His fullness.

- a) Jesus came to fill us with everything He was filled with.

Unlike Eastern religions that teach 'nothingness' and 'emptying of ones'self', Jesus' message is one of fullness, not emptiness.

- b) Jesus came to fill us with His life
 - **John 10:10AMPC (AMPLIFIED BIBLE)** - *The thief comes only in order to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have and enjoy life, and have it in abundance (**to the full**, till it overflows).*

Life to the full, till it overflows!

This is the life Jesus is filled with: He is *the way the truth and the life!* – Jesus came to fill us with it.

Legally, this abundant life is ours. It is our inheritance. However, it needs to be claimed, it needs to be believed. It doesn't just drop on us from the ceiling: we must take hold of it in the secret place with God, with our bible open and through prayer.

c) *And of His fullness we have all received!*

That is such a powerful statement! It is a rather BIG statement because Colossians says,

- **Colossians 2:9** - *For in Him dwells all the fullness of the Godhead bodily;*
- **Colossians 1:19** - *For it pleased the Father that in Him all the fullness should dwell*

Paul also prayed for the Ephesians, that they would be filled with the fullness of Jesus:

- **Ephesians 3:19b** - *that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.*
- **Ephesians 1:22-23** - *²²And He put all things under His feet, and gave Him to be head over all things to the church, ²³which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills all in all.*

The church is to contain *the fullness of Him Who fills all in all!* Wow. That is so powerful.

3. Jesus came to bring us grace upon grace

V.16 *And of His fullness we have all received, and grace for grace!*

The Passion Translation says, *grace heaped upon more grace!* - The work of God is continual.

- **Lamentations 3:23 NLT** - *Great is his faithfulness; his mercies begin afresh each morning.*

Conclusion

As I said last week, quoting from Philemon 1:4-7, we need to acknowledge every good thing we have received in Christ!

When we go through tough times it is easy to focus on what we don't have, what we can't do and how powerless we may be feeling. It is easy to succumb to anxiety and catastrophic scenarios, and depression.

God calls us to focus on what we do have and on what belongs to us in Christ.

- **1 Corinthians 1:4-7** - *I thank my God always concerning you for the grace of God which was given to you by Christ Jesus, ⁵ that you were enriched in everything by Him in all utterance and all knowledge, ⁶ even as the testimony of Christ was confirmed in you, ⁷ so that you come short in no gift, eagerly waiting for the revelation of our Lord Jesus Christ*
- **Colossians 2:9-10** - *For in Him dwells all the fullness of the Godhead bodily; ¹⁰ and you are complete in Him, who is the head of all principality and power.*

We are nor orphaned and helpless in this world. God didn't leave us to fight battles in our own strength. We were not left empty. No, He came so we might be filled with all that He is filled with!

Join me in this confession:

“I am in Christ. He hasn't left me empty or deficient, but I have become a recipient of the fullness of Christ and grace upon grace. I am enriched in everything and I am complete in Christ! I can do all things through Christ Who strengthens me. I take hold today by faith of all He has for me and I will live in the fullness of God.”