

Love Jesus, the True Tabernacle, who is full of Grace and Truth.

John 1:14-18 (Pew Bible p. 1043) And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth. 15 (John bore witness about him, and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks before me, because he was before me.'") 16 For from his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. 17 For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. 18 No one has ever seen God; the only God, who is at the Father's side, he has made him known.

1. The invisible God "sets up his tent" among us. V. 14

a. A problem for us: God is invisible. V. 18

Exodus 33:20 But," he said, "you cannot see my face, for man shall not see me and live."

1 Timothy 1:17 To the King of the ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.

b. God comes close, closer, closer still, closest.

Exodus 40:33 – 34 So Moses finished the work. 34 Then the cloud covered the tent of meeting, and the glory of the Lord filled the tabernacle.

2 Chronicles 7:1 As soon as Solomon finished his prayer, fire came down from heaven and consumed the burnt offering and the sacrifices, and the glory of the Lord filled the temple.

John 1:14 ...the Word became flesh and dwelt among us

Galatians 2:20 I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.

2. Some of us need to put “amazing” back into “grace.” V. 14, 16-17

a. Back to the basics: in Jesus we see glory – the glory of God. Vss. 1, 14

John 1:14 ...we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father,

Matthew 17:2 And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became white as light.

b. Jesus is full of grace and truth, solving the problems of sin and ignorance.

John 1:16-17 For from his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. 17 For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.

Romans 6:23 For the wages of sin is death, but the free [*grace*] gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Ephesians 2:8-9 For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, 9 not a result of works, so that no one may boast.

c. What characterizes your life? Our church? Grace and Truth?

Ephesians 4:32 Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you.

Ephesians 4:15 Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ...

3. Let's know Christ and make him known! V. 18

a. Jesus Christ has made God known to you. v. 18

John 6:46 not that anyone has seen the Father except he who is from God; he has seen the Father.

John 14:9 Jesus said to him, “Have I been with you so long, and you still do not know me, Philip? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, ‘Show us the Father’?”

b. Jesus Christ makes God known through you.

1 John 1:1-3 ... concerning the word of life— 2 the life was made manifest, and we have seen it, and testify to it and proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and was made manifest to us— 3 that which we have seen and heard we proclaim also to you, so that you too may have fellowship with us; and indeed our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ.

In preparation for this message Pastor John is grateful for the insights of Don Carson, Kevin DeYoung and Scott Sauls.

For a digital version of today's sermon, go to bit.ly/nscsermonnotes. For a digital version of the 2020 Bible Reading Plan in 1 year or 2 years, go to bit.ly/1YearBibleReadingPlan.



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