

Scripture: 2 Corinthians 8 LD 14.35-36
Singing: 284:1-3 – 243:1-5 – 243:10-12, 14-15 – 112:1, 3

Introduction

- A. What does 'doctrine' (teaching of basic Bible truths) mean to you?
- B. The 'doctrines' of Jesus Christ are the *foundation* of true comfort
1. Take doctrine in 2 Cor. 3:21-23: *if in Christ, all things are yours!*
 2. Take doctrine of John 1:12-13 & Gal. 3:26: *if a true believer, then united!*
Catechism Q 20: *We are ingrafted into Christ by true faith and receive all His benefits as ours*

THE GLORY OF THE LORD JESUS CHRIST

I. His stunning stoop II. His comforting gift

I. The glory of the Lord Christ in His stunning stoop

- A. Bible is filled with stunning truths about God
1. But none is so great as truth in 2 Cor. 8:9; John 1:14; 1 Tim. 3:16
- And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us

- And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: God was manifest in the flesh.
 2. What is the most supreme mystery of Gospel of Jesus Christ?
 - a. it is (simple) story Mary told about angel's message: Luke 1:35
 - b. it is this **fact** of Gospel that makes sense of everything else in NT
- B. Consider the **grace** of our Lord Jesus Christ
1. grace defined
 2. grace here refers to His coming clothed in human nature
 - a. He cheerfully gave up *joys of heavenly worship* (Is. 6:1-3)
 - b. He hid *glories of Divine nature while living on earth* (Phil. 2:6-7)
 - c. He tasted every drop of suffering while in the flesh (Is. 52:14-53)

II. His comforting gift in this stunning stoop

A. He did that all entirely *for your sakes* ... who are they?

1. For all His people given Him by His Father from all eternity (John 17:6ff)
 - a. they were all like Ezek. 16:1-5; Eph. 2:1-3 (many lived 1 Cor. 6:11)

2. How do I know I am one of those?
 - a. examine fruits of gracious calling: 2 Cor. 13:5; Rom. 8:9; Phil. 3:3

B. He stooped into poverty to make you rich through His poverty: how?

1. He stepped as sinless man into our poverty & fallen world (John 1:14)

2. He lived in this poverty as sinless and perfectly holy man (Heb. 7:23)

Living the truth: Where sin abounded, grace much more abound! (Rom. 5:20)

A. His death bought your pardon from every sin (1 John 1:8)

1. By Him all that believe are justified from all things (Acts 13:38)

B. Yet as believers we are not saved only by Jesus' dying but also His **living**

C. You are invited to come to Him and assured of a welcome (John 6: 37)

All that Father give me shall come to Me; and him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out.

The Son of God became the Son of man in order that the sons of men might become the sons of God.

Christ became what we are that He might us what He is. (Athanasius)

Christ took our flesh upon Him that He might take our sins upon Him. (Watson)