

GOD'S PERSONAL APPEARANCE

John 1:14

Tonight we'll consider what John wrote about God's personal appearance in the person of Jesus Christ.

I. THE WORD IN FLESH

- God among us!

A. CHRIST'S REVELATION

1. The Creature

- a. The heavenly Creator (1-3) became a fleshly creature (14)
- b. The invisible became tangible > Col. 1:15 and Phil. 2:6-8
- c. Not born (coming into existence) but changed (becoming flesh)

2. His Clothing

- a. Clothed in human flesh – not a phantom or spirit
- b. Made of a woman - Gal. 4:4
- c. One of us so that He could relate to us - Heb. 2:14-18

B. CHRIST'S RESIDENCE

1. Dwelt: "Tabernacled"

- He pitched His tent in our camp

2. Mingling: Among us

- a. Matthew 1:21-23 > "Immanuel: God with us"
- b. Not above, below, around, near or behind > beside ... with us!

II. THE WORD WITH GLORY

- Glory before us!

A. THE GLORY DISPLAYED

1. We Saw

- a. Gazing upon God, not simply a glimpse
- b. God in full view - I John 1:1-2

2. His Glory

- a. "The beams of divine glory darting through the veil of human flesh" [Matthew Henry]
- b. The splendor flashed all around us! - Col. 2:9

Over please >

B. THE GLORY DEFINED

1. Only begotten type of glory
 - a. “Only begotten” does not refer to Christ’s origin but to His unique being
 - b. This is glory unlike any other - Heb. 1:1-3
2. The unique splendor of Christ - II Peter 1:16-18

III. THE WORD OF GRACE

- Grace to us!

A. THE ATTRIBUTES

1. Compassion: Grace
 - a. “The free and royal communication of unlooked for and undeserved love” [A.T. Robertson]
 - b. II Cor. 8:9 > The greatest gift exchange!
2. Revelation: Truth
 - a. Provision: John 14:6
 - b. Instruction: Matthew 5-7
 - c. Completion: The performance of OT promises
 - 41 times the gospels record “that Scripture might be fulfilled”

B. THE AMOUNT

1. An abundance: Full of
2. No limit or shortage: More than enough
3. That which overflows
 - a. That which we first notice
 - b. What stands out when you look at someone

CONCLUSION: Colossians 1:13-18

Through Christ, God reveals Himself and rescues us!

- Now that’s truly a significant and superior personal appearance!