

A couple of weeks ago Jill chose to lead us in singing Charles Wesley's hymn, Hark The Herald Angels Sing. As we sang, I thought to myself, "Wow! What a great Christmas message." That is when it hit me that it was an answer to my prayer for the topic of this Christmas message. The song refers to the angels that sang to the shepherds who were watching over their flocks at night. Luke tells us, <sup>9</sup> *And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with great fear.* <sup>10</sup> *And the angel said to them, "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people.* <sup>11</sup> *For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.* <sup>12</sup> *And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger."* <sup>13</sup> *And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying,* <sup>14</sup> *"Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!"* Luke 2:9-14

What an incredible experience that must have been. It is as if the curtain separating heaven and earth opened and shepherds were enabled to see the praise of heaven. The glory of the Lord shone around them. A holy light illuminated the field, the sheep, and the shepherd's cave. Glory is a light that has a profound sense of holiness. The angel was no little baby cherub, but as in all cases in Scripture, a supernatural warrior aglow from being in the presence of God. No wonder the shepherds were filled with great fear. They would never forget that night or the message they heard, or the family they found in the manger (Luke 2:16<sup>i</sup>).

The song writer takes Luke's expression, "they were praising God" and attempts to guess what the words of their praise song from what we know in Scripture. **"Hark! The herald angels sing Glory to the new-born king"** - He is telling us, "Listen to their song of praise coming from these messengers of God!" He changes "Glory to God in the highest" to "Glory to the newborn King!" The reason he could call Jesus a king is from the fact that He is born in the city of David in which the prophecies predicted an eternal king from the lineage of David would be born. The Ancient of Days, born in Bethlehem of Ephrathah is worthy of our praises. Glorify Him (Micah 5:2<sup>ii</sup>)! Glory be to Him, means that we should honor, worship, and adore Him. It had been 400 years since a descendant of David sat on a throne. Finally, He has come, destined to reign in the hearts of men.

**Peace on earth and mercy mild.** He is God's offering of peace. He is the mild mercy of God for all who will receive Him. Mankind longs for peace, not just the absence of conflict, but peace in our hearts knowing we are right with our Maker, that we will not be condemned when He comes to judge the earth (Psalm 96:12,13<sup>iii</sup>). It is a mild mercy, for He does not force anyone to receive it. He just holds it out to all who will come and take it. Jesus offers us His peace (John 14:27<sup>iv</sup>). Do you have peace in your heart? Have you received Him as your merciful King? This leads us to the next line.

**God and sinners reconciled"** This is how the peace comes to us. Jesus was born to offer Himself on our behalf. We were born separated from God. Jesus came to reconcile us by taking the punishment we deserve. You may have had the joy of being reconciled with a family member that you were at odds with. What a special thing that is when forgiveness erases the past wrongs and the resulting pain. We were at odds with God, trying to be our own god as we lived in rebellion toward what we instinctively knew God

desired (Romans 5:10<sup>v</sup>). Jesus was born to reconcile us to God. He came to take the justice our rebellion deserved. What a joyful line, “God and sinners reconciled.”

**Joyful all ye nations rise Join the triumph of the skies** The song the angels sang was for the whole earth, for the angel declared it was “*good news of great joy that will be for all the people.*” It was joy to the world. The writer calls to all nations to stand and sing this with the angels. In a way, it is being fulfilled this very day, for around the globe in every nation there are those who rise to sing of Jesus’ birth and the reconciliation with God that He brought us.

“Join the triumph of the skies” is asking all nations to sing with those angels about the victory this babe would bring to the world. It is a triumph over death and hell. It is triumph over our sin sick souls. It became the victory over death, hell, and the grave. Could there be a greater victory?

**With angelic host proclaim "Christ is born in Bethlehem"** All nations stand up and sing with the angels that the promised Messiah has been born where the prophet Micah predicted, the little town of Bethlehem. Bethlehem means house of bread. No wonder then that Jesus said He is the bread of life (John 6:35<sup>vi</sup>).

Now Wesley adds more reasons to praise Him with the angels. **Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace!** This is old English which means to enthusiastically proclaim this babe is from heaven. In other words, it was a divine conception. When the angel told Mary she would give birth to the Savior she asked, “How, as I have never known a man” (Luke 1:34<sup>vii</sup>)? The angel told her she would conceive by the Holy Spirit (Luke 1:35<sup>viii</sup>). That is the same as saying the babe is heaven born.

Prince of Peace is His title. This takes us to Isaiah 6, a prediction 700 years before Jesus’ birth that said God would give us His Son, and two of the names given were “Everlasting Father and Prince of Peace (Isaiah 9:6<sup>ix</sup>). Why would He be called this? As we saw earlier, He reconciles us to God, which means to make peace between us and God. And that gives us peace in our hearts. One day He will bring peace to the earth, and to His own He will give His eternal peace (John 14:27<sup>x</sup>).

**Hail the Sun of Righteousness!** This title comes from the last Old Testament prophet. He predicted, <sup>2</sup> *But for you who fear my name, the sun of righteousness shall rise with healing in its wings. You shall go out leaping like calves from the stall.* Malachi 4:2 Jesus brings the greatest healing of all, healing of our sin sick souls (1 Peter 2:24<sup>xi</sup>). That unloading of our burden of sin causes us to leap like calves from a stall. Have you ever seen calves penned up in a stall released into a pasture? The jump and kick like they are experiencing some joyful release of energy. I hope that is how you feel because the Sun of Righteousness has healed your soul.

**Light and life to all He brings Risen with healing in His wings** Light and life to all is a prediction from Isaiah 49:6 <sup>6</sup> *he (the Lord) says: “It is too light a thing that you should be my servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob and to bring back the preserved of Israel; I will make you as a light for the nations, that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth.”* The Messiah came not just for Israel, but to bring light to the world. Jesus said, *“I am the light of the world.”* John 8:12<sup>xii</sup> It was a declaration that He fulfilled this passage. He came to illuminate our darkness. Isaiah saw this future day coming. <sup>1</sup> *Arise, shine; for thy light is come, and the glory of the LORD is risen upon thee.* <sup>2</sup> *For, behold, the darkness shall cover the earth, and gross darkness the people: but the LORD shall arise upon thee, and his glory shall be seen upon thee.* Isaiah 60:1,2 (KJV)

**Mild He lays His glory by** Philippians 2 tells us that Jesus emptied Himself to become a man (Philippians 2:5-7<sup>xiii</sup>). He set aside His glory that is described in Revelation chapter one (Revelation 1:13-16<sup>xiv</sup>). The outward glow that is a manifestation of glory, the glow upon those angels as they sang, Jesus laid aside to come mildly into this world. He will come in power and glory when He returns, but for us to hear Him and see the nature of God exhibited in a human body, he had to lay His glory aside. It exuded from Him when He was on the Mount of Transfiguration and the disciples said His was shining like the sun (Matthew 17:2<sup>xv</sup>). If He came with that glory, we would not consider Him fully human. It would be hard to relate to Him.

**Born that man no more may die** - Why would He lay His glory aside and enter His creation? It was so that we might not die the second death (Revelation 20:6<sup>xvi</sup>). He came to give us everlasting life! That is more than breathing and a heartbeat. It is the ever-abiding Spirit of God within us! He took the curse of sin which is death so that we might be found righteous before God (2 Corinthians 5:21<sup>xvii</sup>).

**Born to raise the sons of earth** - He laid His glory aside and became a human to show us how to live, which in turn raised us to a higher quality of living. There are books written about the great difference in human history before and after Christ. But He was also born so that one day everyone who has received Him will be raised. He will return with our spirits and our bodies will be transformed to eternal ones fit for heaven and rise to meet our spirits in the air (1 Thessalonians 4:14-17<sup>xviii</sup>). Charles called us sons of earth because from dust we came and to dust we return (Genesis 3:19<sup>xix</sup>). But the Creator is going to rearrange those atoms in a new way that is fit for heaven.

**Born to give them second birth** - He also laid His glory aside so that we could be born-again, or as Jesus put it, born from above (John 3:3<sup>xx</sup>). That is the new nature within, the Holy Spirit in our spirit who has different desires than we had before. It is the death nell of our old fallen nature. It is new life within us, that everlasting life that filled with joy and peace. That is why we should harken to the song the angels herald, and glorify the new-born King.

**Come, Desire of nations, come,** - How the godly in the earth had longed for the coming of the Messiah! The depravity of man causes such distress, death separates us from those we love, wars bring such suffering and loss, greed wreaks such havoc on the poor, injustice seems to never end. The prophets' predictions of the coming Prince of Peace seemed to just be a dream of something too good to hope for. Then four-hundred long years without the voice of a prophet and finally John the Baptist's voice rang out, "Prepare ye the way of the Lord" (Matthew 3:3<sup>xxi</sup>)!

**Fix in us Thy humble home;** - He came to make His home in us. John 14:23 <sup>23</sup>  
*Jesus answered him, "If anyone loves me, he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our home with him.* The abiding presence of the Holy Spirit, the three in one God takes up His residence in the humble home of our bodies. What a descent! From the throne in heaven to these humble temporal bodies that house our spirits. The Desire of nations is alive and working in us. His home is in us, and our eternal home is in Him.

**Rise, the woman's conqu'ring Seed,** Charles now turns to the first promise of Jesus being sent into the world to cancel the curse for those who put their faith in Him. Genesis 3:15<sup>xxii</sup> predicted the male child (seed) that would come from Eve's lineage would crush the deceiving serpent's head, but His heel would be wounded in the process. A careful

reading of Scripture shows this theme of the seed as it goes down through the generations. We can see the line because of the promises God spoke to them. Abraham was told that his seed would bless the world (Genesis 18:18<sup>xxiii</sup>). The same promise was given to Isaac and Jacob. Judah was told his seed would have the scepter and to Him the people would render obedience (Genesis 49:10<sup>xxiv</sup>). King David was told His seed would reign forever (Psalm 89:4<sup>xxv</sup>). But the rest of the promise of His coming is stated in the next verse of this hymn.

***Bruise in us the serpent's head.*** – Jesus crushed the authority of Satan on the cross but was mortally wounded in the process, just as Genesis 3:15 predicted. But notice that Charles writes “bruise *in us* the serpent’s head.” The power of Christ in us can break the authority of Satan over our sinful lives. He is asking the Seed of the woman, Jesus, to free us from the power of sin, to end Satan’s authority over our lives. We replace that evil authority with the authority of Christ who is our life (Colossians 3:4<sup>xxvi</sup>).

***Now display Thy saving pow'r,*** Christ has been born and lived the perfect life and died for our sins and rose victorious (1 Corinthians 15:3,4<sup>xxvii</sup>). This verse asks for the saving power merited for us on the cross to be displayed in our lives. In other words, he is asking for the power of Jesus to make us holy be demonstrated in us. It is Christ who works in us to will and to do His good pleasure (Philippians 2:13<sup>xxviii</sup>). The work of God’s grace in us helps us to be living sacrifices, joyfully and willingly giving ourselves in service to our King. It is all by His grace. We simply look to Him and gratefully give ourselves to His service, waiting on His direction and power to do His will, not our own.

***Ruined nature now restore;*** - When Adam sinned his godly nature was ruined. We inherited that ruined nature from Him. Paul wrote to the church in Rome, <sup>12</sup> ***Therefore, just as sin came into the world through one man, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men because all sinned***—Romans 5:12 The nature in which God created Adam and Eve was declared by God to be very good (Genesis 1:31<sup>xxix</sup>). Our ruined nature can only be restored to what is very good by rebirth in Christ.

***Now in mystic union join Thine to ours, and ours to Thine.*** This is how we are restored, reborn, or as Jesus said, born-again. How is it that we can be in Christ and He in us? At the same time Jesus is in the Father and the Father is in Jesus (John 14:11<sup>xxx</sup>; 17:23<sup>xxxi</sup>) This is that mystical union of the nature of the Father in the Son and the Son in us. Our fallen nature dies away, and the new holy nature increasingly grows within us. It is as if our hearts become a new Bethlehem where Christlikeness begins to grow and mature in us. We call this the process of sanctification. Our personality is mystically joined to Christ’s nature.

***Adam's likeness, Lord, efface,*** Efface means to erase or make insignificant. What Charles is asking of the Lord is to make our old fallen nature that we inherited from Adam insignificant. Apostle Paul called it being crucified with Christ (Galatians 2:20<sup>xxxii</sup>). He said he died daily (1 Corinthians 15:31<sup>xxxiii</sup>). Every day the Apostle made his old nature insignificant. This is our daily battle. The New Testament uses the word “flesh” for that old nature. Paul tells us the flesh is always at war with our spirit and our spirit always at war with the flesh (Galatians 5:17<sup>xxxiv</sup>). Every moment one or the other is in control. Charles is praying that the Lord makes that old flesh nature insignificant. We say Amen! Do it in us Lord Jesus. We cannot do it ourselves. We need Him to do it in us.

***Stamp Thine image in its place:*** As the Lord Jesus erases that old nature, we are asking that the Lord replace it with His likeness. This includes all the fruits of the Spirit,

Love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control (Galatians 5:22,23<sup>xxxv</sup>). These attributes need to become our new nature. When pushed or pressured, these need to be what comes out from our innermost being (John 4:14<sup>xxxvi</sup>).

I like that he used the word stamp. He draws that from Scripture as well, for the Word is used of Jesus, who is the image of God (Hebrews 1:3<sup>xxxvii</sup>). It comes from the use of a seal or signet ring. Looking at Jesus we see the clear impression of the Father. To stamp something requires pressure. God uses pressure to mark us with His likeness. Ease and comfort will not change us. We need to be stamped with the image of our Savior.

**Second Adam from above.** Now Charles is referring to a passage in Romans 5 in which Paul says that Adam was a type of the Savior to come. <sup>18</sup> *Therefore, as one trespass led to condemnation for all men, so one act of righteousness leads to justification and life for all men.* Romans 5:18 He repeats the idea to the Corinthians. <sup>45</sup> *Thus it is written, "The first man Adam became a living being"; the last Adam became a life-giving spirit.* 1 Corinthians 15:45 The first Adam ushered in the fallen nature while the second Adam, our Lord Jesus, ushered in the new nature making restoration possible.

**Reinstate us in Thy love.** Man once walked with God in the Garden of Eden. Imagine the rich fellowship and the wonder of those conversations. But when man disobeyed communion was broken. To be reinstated, we needed the expression of God's great love for us, the solution to our sin sick souls. And as Jesus said in John 3, that would be similar to bronze pole and snake that the Israelites in the wilderness had to look to for healing from the snake venom. We have the venom of sin in us from birth, and to be reinstated into fellowship with God, the love of God sent Jesus to receive the justice we deserved (John 3:14-16<sup>xxxviii</sup>).

**Let us Thee, though lost, regain, Thee, the Life, the inner man:** The old English is a bit hard to understand, but what Charles is saying could be worded, "God, let us lost souls regain You, the Life, the inner man." God never left us. We left Him. He has always pursued us to make us His own. Even though we are lost, children of wrath, and rebels against the goodness of God, by God's grace we ask to have the blessed fellowship with God restored. We want Christ who said He is the Life (John 14:6<sup>xxxix</sup>). We want a spiritual inner man, not a fallen soul with its evil desires. That is to regain the fellowship that was lost in the Garden.

**Oh, to all Thyself impart,** - We want all to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth (1 Timothy 2:3,4<sup>xl</sup>). Evangelism and revival are the cry of every heart yielded to the love of God. We want our loved ones and acquaintances to receive Jesus. We want the lost world to be redeemed. What a transformation of civilization would take place if the world operated from the life of Christ in them! But then, that is heaven. Man has been given the freedom to reject the love of God. God will not impart Himself to those who do not want Him. He will not violate our will or force Himself on us. It would only make our rebellion even more deserving of wrath. God is not willing that any should perish, but He limits Himself by letting us decide for or against His goodness.

**Formed in each believing heart.** Paul said he labored in prayer until Christ was formed in the Galatian believers (Galatians 4:19<sup>xli</sup>). He is only formed in the believing heart. That does not mean simply an acknowledgment of His existence, but to receive Him as Lord. <sup>12</sup> *But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God,* <sup>13</sup> *who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.* John 1:12,13 Do you hear the message heralded by

God's messengers? In this season as we celebrate the birth of Jesus and all it means to us, and all it reveals to us of God's love for us, will you be born-again? *Oh to all Thyself impart, Formed in each believing heart!* May it be so!

Questions:

- 1 What does the title mean? Refer to?
- 2 Who does Micah predict to be born in Bethlehem?
- 3 How can we have divine peace?
- 4 From what verses did Charles get the title "Sun of righteousness"?
- 5 What does "lay His glory by" refer to?
- 6 What reason does the song give for the birth of Jesus?
- 7 In whom does He make His home in us?
- 8 What is the promise of the Seed?
- 9 What is Adam's likeness? Who is the Second Adam?
- 10 Where is Jesus formed today?

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<sup>i</sup> **Luke 2:16 (ESV)**

<sup>16</sup> And they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in a manger.

<sup>ii</sup> **Micah 5:2 (ESV)**

<sup>2</sup> But you, O Bethlehem Ephrathah, who are too little to be among the clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to be ruler in Israel, whose coming forth is from of old, from ancient days.

<sup>iii</sup> **Psalms 96:12-13 (ESV)**

<sup>12</sup> let the field exult, and everything in it! Then shall all the trees of the forest sing for joy <sup>13</sup> before the LORD, for he comes, for he comes to judge the earth. He will judge the world in righteousness, and the peoples in his faithfulness.

<sup>iv</sup> **John 14:27 (ESV)**

<sup>27</sup> Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid.

<sup>v</sup> **Romans 5:10 (ESV)**

<sup>10</sup> For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, now that we are reconciled, shall we be saved by his life.

<sup>vi</sup> **John 6:**<sup>35</sup> *Jesus said to them, "I am the bread of life; whoever comes to me shall not hunger, and whoever believes in me shall never thirst.*

<sup>vii</sup> **Luke 1:34 (ESV)**

<sup>34</sup> And Mary said to the angel, "How will this be, since I am a virgin?"

<sup>viii</sup> **Luke 1:35 (ESV)**

<sup>35</sup> And the angel answered her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be called holy—the Son of God.

<sup>ix</sup> **Isaiah 9:6 (ESV)**

<sup>6</sup> For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

<sup>x</sup> **John 14:27 (ESV)**

<sup>27</sup> Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid.

<sup>xi</sup> **1 Peter 2:24 (ESV)**

<sup>24</sup> He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed.

<sup>xii</sup> **John 8:12 (ESV)**

<sup>12</sup> Again Jesus spoke to them, saying, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."

<sup>xiii</sup> **Philippians 2:5-7 (ESV)**

<sup>5</sup> Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, <sup>6</sup> who, though he was in the form of God, did not

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count equality with God a thing to be grasped, <sup>7</sup> but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men.

<sup>xiv</sup> **Revelation 1:13-16 (ESV)**

<sup>13</sup> and in the midst of the lampstands one like a son of man, clothed with a long robe and with a golden sash around his chest. <sup>14</sup> The hairs of his head were white, like white wool, like snow. His eyes were like a flame of fire, <sup>15</sup> his feet were like burnished bronze, refined in a furnace, and his voice was like the roar of many waters. <sup>16</sup> In his right hand he held seven stars, from his mouth came a sharp two-edged sword, and his face was like the sun shining in full strength.

<sup>xv</sup> **Matthew 17:2 (ESV)**

<sup>2</sup> And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became white as light.

<sup>xvi</sup> **Revelation 20:6 (ESV)**

<sup>6</sup> Blessed and holy is the one who shares in the first resurrection! Over such the second death has no power, but they will be priests of God and of Christ, and they will reign with him for a thousand years.

<sup>xvii</sup> **2 Corinthians 5:21 (ESV)**

<sup>21</sup> For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

<sup>xviii</sup> **1 Thessalonians 4:14-17 (ESV)**

<sup>14</sup> For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have fallen asleep. <sup>15</sup> For this we declare to you by a word from the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will not precede those who have fallen asleep. <sup>16</sup> For the Lord himself will descend from heaven with a cry of command, with the voice of an archangel, and with the sound of the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. <sup>17</sup> Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we will always be with the Lord.

<sup>xix</sup> **Genesis 3:19 (ESV)**

<sup>19</sup> By the sweat of your face you shall eat bread, till you return to the ground, for out of it you were taken; for you are dust, and to dust you shall return."

<sup>xx</sup> **John 3:3 (ESV)**

<sup>3</sup> Jesus answered him, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God." (See NIV footnote)

<sup>xxi</sup> **Matthew 3:3 (ESV)**

<sup>3</sup> For this is he who was spoken of by the prophet Isaiah when he said, "The voice of one crying in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord; make his paths straight.'"

<sup>xxii</sup> **Genesis 3:15 (ESV)**

<sup>15</sup> I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her offspring; he shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise his heel."

<sup>xxiii</sup> **Genesis 18:18 (ESV)**

<sup>18</sup> seeing that Abraham shall surely become a great and mighty nation, and all the nations of the earth shall be blessed in him?

<sup>xxiv</sup> **Genesis 49:10 (ESV)**

<sup>10</sup> The scepter shall not depart from Judah, nor the ruler's staff from between his feet, until tribute comes to him; and to him shall be the obedience of the peoples.

<sup>xxv</sup> **Psalms 89:4 (ESV)**

<sup>4</sup> 'I will establish your offspring forever, and build your throne for all generations.'" Selah

<sup>xxvi</sup> **Colossians 3:4 (ESV)**

<sup>4</sup> When Christ who is your life appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.

<sup>xxvii</sup> **1 Corinthians 15:3-4 (ESV)**

<sup>3</sup> For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, <sup>4</sup> that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures,

<sup>xxviii</sup> **Philippians 2:13 (ESV)**

<sup>13</sup> for it is God who works in you, both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

<sup>xxix</sup> **Genesis 1:31 (ESV)**

<sup>31</sup> And God saw everything that he had made, and behold, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.

<sup>xxx</sup> **John 14:11 (ESV)**

<sup>11</sup> Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me, or else believe on account of the works themselves.

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<sup>xxx</sup> **John 17:23 (ESV)**

<sup>23</sup> I in them and you in me, that they may become perfectly one, so that the world may know that you sent me and loved them even as you loved me.

<sup>xxxii</sup> **Galatians 2:20 (ESV)**

<sup>20</sup> 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.

<sup>xxxiii</sup> **1 Corinthians 15:31 (ESV)**

<sup>31</sup> I protest, brothers, by my pride in you, which I have in Christ Jesus our Lord, I die every day!

<sup>xxxiv</sup> **Galatians 5:17 (ESV)**

<sup>17</sup> For the desires of the flesh are against the Spirit, and the desires of the Spirit are against the flesh, for these are opposed to each other, to keep you from doing the things you want to do.

<sup>xxxv</sup> **Galatians 5:22-23 (ESV)**

<sup>22</sup> But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, <sup>23</sup> gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law.

<sup>xxxvi</sup> **John 4:14 (ESV)**

<sup>14</sup> but whoever drinks of the water that I will give him will never be thirsty again. The water that I will give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life."

<sup>xxxvii</sup> **Hebrews 1:3 (ESV)**

<sup>3</sup> He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature, and he upholds the universe by the word of his power. After making purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high,

<sup>xxxviii</sup> **John 3:14-16 (ESV)**

<sup>14</sup> And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, <sup>15</sup> that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. <sup>16</sup> "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.

<sup>xxxix</sup> **John 14:6 (ESV)**

<sup>6</sup> Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.

<sup>xl</sup> **1 Timothy 2:3-4 (NIV)**

<sup>3</sup> This is good, and pleases God our Savior, <sup>4</sup> who wants all men to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth.

<sup>xli</sup> **Galatians 4:19 (ESV)**

<sup>19</sup> my little children, for whom I am again in the anguish of childbirth until Christ is formed in you!