

“Incarnation is translation. When God in Christ became man, Divinity was translated into humanity...but language is specific to a people or an area. No one speaks generalized language; it is necessary to speak a particular language. Similarly when Divinity was translated into humanity he did not become a generalized humanity. He became a person in a particular locality and in a particular ethnic group at a particular place and time. The translation of God into humanity whereby the sense and meaning of God was transferred was effected under very culture-specific conditions...Thus in translation the Word becomes flesh but not simply flesh...the Word was made human.... Conversion is the turning and the re-orientation of every aspect of humanity--culture specific humanity--to God. For Christ was the full expression of God in human medium.” --Andrew Walls in “Transmission of Christian Faith”

December 15, 2009

10 Days until the Nativity of Jesus Christ,

What does Christmas mean to me? Well, to put in context, we must remember that Christmas is when God took on flesh and dwelt among us, in the person of Jesus Christ. Christmas is a celebration of the incarnation of Jesus of Nazareth, the Savior of the world. And this means that we celebrate in the peace, hope, joy and love of the advent season of preparation.

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This past month has been a constant struggle to be renewed in my mind in Christ (Romans 12:1). I have had a few struggles, but I am constantly reminded of the first few verses of Psalm 27: “The Lord is my light and my salvation, whom shall I fear? The LORD is the strength of my life, of whom shall I be afraid? When the wicked, even my enemies and my foes came upon me to eat at my flesh, they stumbled and fell, though a host encamp against me, I will not fear, in this will I be confident.”

Just now, when I looked up the verse, I recognized an important continuation of the psalm, “One thing I asked of the LORD, that will I seek after, to live in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, and to behold the beauty of the LORD and to inquire in his temple” (Psalm 27:4)

We are created to worship God, in Jesus Christ through the Holy Spirit. Also, we are created to share God’s love with others, in the person of Jesus Christ. As David Bryant put it, “God loves his Son and has a wonderful plan for Him, to bring all the nations to His feet as Lord of all, and He loves you and me enough to give us a place in it.”

We are the Body of Christ here on earth. One friend from seminary, the Minh Towner, a Vietnamese woman who shared her powerful testimony of Christ freeing her from the oppressor and now Minh is a glorious witness to Christ. (Revelation 12:11)

What I would like to ask you today, is to take time and think about when Christ has freed you. Please pray with me for all those who are not free yet, but who are struggling. May the Blessing of Christ’s incarnation find you in a season of peace, hope, joy and love,

Your sister in Christ

Katelyn Hendrickson