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*"Christ caring for People
through People"*

December 26, 2010

Isaiah 63:7-9 (The Message)

I'll make a list of God's gracious dealings, all the things God has done that need praising,

All the generous bounties of God, his great goodness to the family of Israel—Compassion lavished, love extravagant. He said, "Without question these are my people, children who would never betray me." So he became their Saviour. In all their troubles, he was troubled, too. He didn't send someone else to help them. He did it himself, in person. Out of his own love and pity he redeemed them. He rescued them and carried them along for a long, long time.

Psalm 148 (The Message)

Hallelujah! Praise God from heaven, praise him from the mountaintops;

Praise him, all you his angels, praise him, all you his warriors,

Praise him, sun and moon, praise him, you morning stars;

Praise him, high heaven, praise him, heavenly rain clouds;

Praise, oh let them praise the name of God - he spoke the word, and there they were!

He set them in place from all time to eternity; He gave his orders, and that's it!

Praise God from earth, you sea dragons, you fathomless ocean deeps; Fire and hail, snow and ice, hurricanes obeying his orders; Mountains and all hills, apple orchards and cedar forests;

Wild beasts and herds of cattle, snakes, and birds in flight; Earth's kings and all races, leaders and important people, Robust men and women in their prime, and yes, greybeards and little children.

Let them praise the name of God - it's the only Name worth praising.

His radiance exceeds anything in earth and sky; he's built a monument - his very own people!

Praise from all who love God! Israel's children, intimate friends of God.

Hallelujah!

Hallelujah indeed!

God has come. Christ Jesus is here. He is alive.

And His Spirit lives within you and I today.

God, our infinite, eternal creator has come as a baby human to share his love with us.

God has wonderful and awesome ways of getting things done. Imagine that there was an insect that you were fascinated by that was in danger of dying by landing on a hot stove. Imagine that you didn't want that tiny beautiful little bug to die. Imagine that you desperately wanted to communicate with that insect to protect it. What would you do?

God had a similar problem. These tiny finite imperfect little creations called humans were foolishly destroying themselves through sin. God loved them and wanted to communicate his love and a means of salvation to them. So what to do? For God the answer is now clear. He became one of us. Beyond human logic and imagination he visited this tiny planet and was incarnate – 'enfleshed' as an infant, a babe in a manger.

What a God!!

Rejoice. Be glad. Celebrate in His Love; for we are His, Eternally.

Amen.

(Rev.) John McGurrian