



"Christian faith occurs in the *encounter* of the believer with him in whom he believes. It consists in communion, not in identification, with him."

"Faith is a history, new every morning."

Karl Barth



FAITH IS...

- Not simply an intellectual concept, idea or theory
- An encounter with the living God through Jesus Christ
- Faith must be engaged "new every morning"



'YES' TO JESUS EVERYDAY

- Faith is not about keeping rules
- Faith is a mutual abiding in Jesus (Galatians 2:19-20)
- The relationship makes us a child of God



JESUS OUR ACCESS POINT TO A RELATIONSHIP WITH ABBA

"for in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith."

Galatians 3:26



NO LONGER WORKS OF LAW

- The door to Abba is not the Torah (the Law) but the person of Jesus (Galatians 3:23-25)
- The 'Law' served as a tutor / a disciplinarian (NRSV)/ a custodian (Greek) to bring us to the point of Jesus



'IN AND THROUGH CHRIST'

- Christ or Christ Jesus – 5x in 3 verses
- Names come in staccato style
- It is all about gift and God's grace

CONSUMING JESUS

THE RESULT

- We become children of God (v26)
- We find our identity in being God's children

CONSUMING JESUS

See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him.

1 John 3:1

CONSUMING JESUS

TWO IMAGES BAPTIZED INTO CHRIST CLOTHED WITH CHRIST

"As many of you as were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ."

Galatians 3:27

CONSUMING JESUS

WATER BAPTISM

- A symbolic entry point into a new relationship
- We turn from our ego to Jesus, from false to true self

CONSUMING JESUS

CLOTHED WITH CHRIST

- Each day we align ourselves with Jesus
- Our values share the values of Jesus
- Our loyalty is to Jesus

CONSUMING JESUS

LORD NOW!

- Jesus is not potentially Lord but Lord now - a decisive event has happened in Jesus
- We do not demand control but yield to Jesus
- The story of the rich young ruler as a paradigm for our age

**OUR RELATIONSHIPS
YOU ARE ALL ONE
IN CHRIST JESUS**

There is no longer Jew or Greek,
there is no longer slave or free,
there is no longer male and female;
for all of you are one in Christ Jesus.
And if you belong to Christ, then
you are Abraham's offspring, heirs
according to the promise.

Galatians 3:28-29

THREE POLARITIES

- Racial Grouping** - "Jew or Gentile" -
life in Christ - not based on ethnicity
- Economic Grouping** - "slave or free"
-not based on money/class
- Gender Grouping** - "male or female"
-not based on sexuality

EMBRACE GOD'S GREAT WORK

- We are invited to embrace it together - 'heirs' together - Abraham's seed
- Working together as children of God

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