LOCATING GOD

He is the Creator of all thing. The ever present, all powerful, all wise God over all thing. He is transcendent, magnificent and beyond comprehension to the mere mortals He created. Yet, He condescends to visit us, dwell with us and manifest Himself to us in ways that are wonderful, exciting and beautiful.

In the beginning he walked and talked with Adam & Eve in the Garden, yet their fall revealed their lack of comprehension of the depth of His love and the power of His purpose in them.

In the law He spoke to Moses and the Children of Israel of His will and of those things that pertained to the ways of God and of those things that protected man from self-destruction.

In the years following He manifest himself to them by his presence in the Ark of the Covenant and His manifest presence in the Holy of Holies.

He was with the three Hebrew Children in the fiery furnace, with Daniel in the Lions Den, and throughout history, God has been involved with His creation and their lives and their direction.

God has always been with us.

Then, in the infinite mind of God, He decided to come to us and walk among us and to be in the form of man, yet wholly God. So, He became man, was born as men are born and in human flesh manifested Himself in the man Christ Jesus, who was the express image of God and the exact representation of the infinite, all powerful and all wise creator God. In Him dwelt all of the fullness of the Godhead bodily.

Then came the crucifixion, and at the moment of His death, the veil of the temple was torn from the tip to the bottom as God made the profound statement that He would no longer be in the box, no longer in the Ark, no longer located in the temple in the Most Holy Place. He was moving from the Old Covenant to the New, for the place of His presence into a New Covenant by which He was no longer with, but now in His people.

50 days later, on the day of Pentecost, the disciples were in the Upper Room, awaiting the promise of the Father, and on each of them sat a tongue of fire, that entered them and became Christ in us. Paul writes about the wonder of Christ in you the hope of glory. The New Testament is full of phrases and statements about the phenomenon of the entrance of Christ into those who receive Him and of the wonder of Christ-inside-mindedness.

So where is God? He is not resident in any one denomination because of the purity of their doctrine. He is not standing in any one nation because of their purity of worship. He cannot be located by external means, by scholarly investigation, by behavioral observation or by any means other than His residence within the saints (Not only Saints as an office or hierarchical position), those who profess His name and invite Him into their lives.

We tend to make His presence too fragile and too complex, when it is oh so simple. God, the transcendent, all-powerful, all-knowing Creator of all things is in His people. And here is the underscoring concept of the significance of His presence: In Christ was all of the fullness of God, and in Christ in us, there is the continuity of His presence on the planet, in us with all fullness and power and beauty and potential.

If this is true, then why do we look for God to come to us and revive us or do for us or manifest Himself to us? HE IS ALREADY HERE, IN US.

Let that sink in for a moment. Let the ramifications of that truth rattle your brain. He is not out there to be coerced to come here. He is already here, in you.

It is not a matter of finding God but of releasing Him to be what He is and always has been. Revival is not an event that comes, but a realization of He who is and of our openness to release His presence in all of its glory and power. Christ in you the hope of glory!

Pastor Dave