

January 3, 2021

Coming to Jesus may seem like an impossible, or intangible, thing. He is God, existing in a separate place from us, which seems to far away how can we ever expect to be able to access Him? And yet, despite the wages of sin that have created a perceived separation between God and Man, scripture refutes the idea that we are separate and demonstrates again and again that the idea of “a God apart” is simply not true.

God instructed Moses “*have them make a sanctuary for Me, and I will dwell among them.*” *Exodus 25:8*. For 40 years, God lived with the Israelites in the form of a pillar of cloud during the day and a pillar of fire at night. (*Exodus 13:21-22*) and came down to take part in humanity as a little baby wrapped in swaddling clothes, who name was called Immanuel, meaning God with us. (*Matthew 1:23*) All of these demonstrate that God does not exist APART from us. Jesus assured us that He dwells with us, that He works through us, and that He longs to fill our hearts with peace and joy and love. The barriers that insert themselves between man and Jesus are many, but the biggest, largest impediment of all is the human heart.

The good news is that Jesus, although he invited us to “come” (*Matthew 11:28*), does not simply wait for us to take Him up on the invitation. He actively seeks us, day by day, calling us into a closer walk and relationship with Him. Consider the last 48 hours of your life, and ask Jesus to show you how He was there, with you, calling you and loving you.

Twenty-seven years ago I felt as if I could not come to Jesus. I had never consciously decided to live a life apart from him, but for eight years I had wandered off on my own and could not find even a scrap of desire to know Him again. When one doesn’t even want to be with Jesus, what sort of hope can there be?

Ah! More than can ever be imagined by the mind of man!

Jesus is actively seeking every one of us! He is present in our worlds, whether we are asking for Him to be there or not! He is calling, seeking, drawing as close to us as we will allow, eager and willing to transform our worlds. In Luke 15, Jesus talks about a shepherd searching for his sheep, about a woman searching for a lost coin. We--you and I--are the lost sheep or coin, and Jesus gave everything He was to save us. You can be sure that, after paying such an ultimate price for our salvation, He will not leave us alone to bumble our way happenstance into His kingdom.

*Isaiah 43:25 I, even I, am he who blots out your transgressions, for my own sake, and remembers your sins no more.*

*Luke 5:32 I came not to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance.*

*1 Timothy 1:15 Here is a trustworthy saying that deserves full acceptance: Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners—of whom I am the worst.*