

Brothers in Christ on Friday's in Donelson – Gary Allen Henecke DD

Now to him who is able to strengthen you . . . through the preaching of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery which was hidden for long ages but is now disclosed and through the prophetic writings is made known to all nations, according to the command of the eternal God, to bring about the obedience of faith - to the only wise God be glory for evermore through Jesus Christ! Amen. (Rom 16:25-27)

1. Revelation is not the mere giving and acquisition of knowledge or information - Revelation begins in God and is informative to us. It can exist because divine reason can communicate with and be meditated on and communicated by human reason. The mind of man can grasp a degree of knowledge and discuss the truth of God.
2. Mankind can fail even the purest revelation by denying, diminishing, or adding to the revelation. (Romans 1:21 for although they knew God they did not honor him as God or give thanks to him, but they became futile in their thinking and their senseless minds were darkened. Mark 7:8 You leave the commandment of God, and hold fast the tradition of men.” Then he said to them, "You have a fine way of rejecting the commandment of God, in order to keep your tradition!")
3. God's word means: God speaks or has spoken.
4. We Believers of Jesus hold that God chose to communicate in Jesus. He is the Word of the Lord. God spoke as man - more than as “a man”: Jesus is not the word about God but the Word of God - God speaking. John 14:9 “He who has seen me has seen the Father;”
5. The knowledge of God is always veiled - for our protection. Exodus 33:20 “no one can see me and live.” It came to us by mediation: **Deuteronomy 18:18 I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their brethren; and I will put my words in his mouth, and he shall speak to them all that I command him.** (Deut. 18:18 RSV) **Jeremiah 1:9 Then the LORD put forth his hand and touched my mouth; and the LORD said to me, "Behold, I have put my words in your mouth.** (Jer. 1:9 RSV)
6. The Logos of God himself is the only one who can validate his Word - we talk about God and often speak for God but it may or may not be God's word - he alone can affirm the word as his - and he is the Word.
7. God mysteriously reveals himself through creation to his creatures - if he speaks directly we would perish for we are mortal. He speaks to us by becoming us - it is in the union of divine and human that he reveals himself. He is among us (Emanuel) as Jesus and in us as Spirit. This is all centered upon and in the life and truth of the man Christ Jesus. This is revelation and this is reconciliation. **...Colossians 2:8 See to it that no one takes you captive through philosophy and**

hollow speculations, according to human tradition, according to the elemental spirits of this universe, and not according to Christ. In him the whole being of divinity dwells embodied and you have been brought to fulness in him.