

Credo: Paper One

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I Timothy 3:16 Great indeed, we confess, is the mystery of godliness:

He was manifested in the flesh, vindicated by the spirit, seen by angels,
was proclaimed among the nations, believed on in the world, taken up glorified.

Ephesians 4:10 He who descended is he who also ascended far above all the heavens,
so that he might fill all creation. And these were his gifts that some should be apostles,
some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers,
to equip God's people for his service, for building up the body of Christ.

So shall we all attain to the unity of faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God,
to mature manhood, to the measure of the full stature of Christ.

Daniel 2:27 Daniel answered the king and said, "No wise men, enchanters, magicians, or astrologers can show to the king the mystery that the king has asked, but there is a God in heaven who reveals mysteries, and he has made known to King Nebuchadnezzar what will be –

Join me on a journey of "thinking" - or better yet, "re-thinking." This is a quest "to know God" - not "about God" - to know and be known. [*Ephesians 1:17 that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of him, having the eyes of your hearts enlightened, that you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power in us who believe, according to the working of his great might*]

Truth 1: What we mean when we say "God" - is the God of the Gospel

- a. He who turns toward us - who revealed his Godself.

Hebrews 1:1-4 Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers in the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us in his Son, whom he appointed the heir of all that is, through whom also he created the cosmos. He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature, and he upholds the universe by the word of his power. After

making purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited far superior to theirs.

- b. This incarnation - invasion of our world - by the Divine - is our open widow to God
 - a. A God who came to us in Jesus
 - b. A God who asks:
 - i. Come to me beyond your traditions (Mark 7:13 "making void the word of God through your tradition which you hand on.")
 - ii. Leave your former concepts (Colossians 2:8 See to it that no one makes a prey of you by philosophy and empty deceit, according to human tradition, according to the elemental spirits of this creation, and not according to Christ.)
 - iii. Learn of Me! (John 14:6 Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father, but by me.)

c. 2 Corinthians 4:6 For it is the God who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Christ.

- d. The one the witnesses speak and testify to:
- e. This witness has given us one (1) foundation truth
 - a. So let's look at Just one such man - A man we'll call "John of Jerusalem" in the way that we speak of "Simeon [Peter] of Bethsaida" and "Saul [Paul] of Tarsus."

John 3:16 For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, that everyone who believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. God sent the Son into the world, not to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him.

1 John 1:1 That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we looked upon and have touched with our hands, concerning the word of life-- the life was made manifest, and we have seen it, and testify to it and proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and was made manifest to us-- that which we have seen and heard we proclaim also to you, so that you too may have fellowship with us; and indeed our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ.

1 1 John 2:4 He who says "I know him" but disobeys his commandments is a liar, and the truth is not in him; ⁵ but whoever keeps his word, in him truly love for God is perfected. By this we may be sure that we are in him: (Read 1 John 4:8-11; 1 John 4:16-&)