Into Humanity

Divine Descent – Part 1 of 3 Pastor Randy Lanthripe December 5, 2021

The Creator came to relate to the people He created

John 1:1-3 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ² He was with God in the beginning. ³ All things were created through Him, and apart from Him not one thing was created that has been created. (CSB)

Genesis 1:1 In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. (CSB)

John 1:14 "The Word became flesh and dwelt among us. We observed His glory, the glory as the one and only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth." (CSB)

Colossians 1:15-17 He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. ¹⁶ For everything was created by Him, in heaven and on earth, the visible and the invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities - all things have been created through Him and for Him. ¹⁷ He is before all things, and by Him all things hold together. (CSB)

The Creator went to great lengths to connect with us

- From birth to death, He walked in our shoes.
- He wanted us to feel understood

Jesus had a mixed reception from the people He made

John 1:10-13 He was in the world, and the world was created through Him, and yet the world did not recognize Him. ¹¹ He came to his own, and His own people did not receive Him. ¹² But to all who did receive Him, He gave them the right to be children of God, to those who believe in His name, ¹³ who were born, not of natural descent, or of the will of the flesh, or of the will of man, but of God. (CSB)

- All were slow to <u>recognize</u> Him
- Many <u>rejected</u> Him

Isaiah 53:3 He was despised and rejected by men, a man of suffering who knew what sickness was. He was like someone people turned away from; He was despised, and we didn't value Him. (CSB)

A few received Him

John 1:12 But to all who did receive Him, He gave them the right to be children of God, to those who believe in His name. (CSB)

My Next Step Today is to...

- ☐ Respond to the Jesus by receiving Him (John 1:4-5)
- ☐ Prepare my own home and heart as I...(choose 2-3)
 - O Put up lights (Jesus is the light)
 - Wrap Christmas presents (commemorate Jesus as God's present to us)
 - O Put up my tree and decorations (God's love for us is evergreen in Jesus)
 - O Sing hymns about Jesus' arrival (Joy to the world)
 - O Read John 1 (Reflecting on receiving Jesus)
 - O Watch the "Chosen" pilot or Christmas special and ask God to capture my heart this season