



March 17, 2024

Jesus Saves!?

From the Tyranny of Aloneness

Luke 8:42-48

The Three-in-One Creator

Father, Son, Holy Spirit: a perfect community at the center of reality

Relationship is at the heart of everything!

Reproduction, pollinators, and molecules

Holy Roman Emperor Frederick II's 13 century language deprivation experiments

Salvation as the restoration of relationship with God, people, and the created order

Jesus' life and death bring reconciliation on all three planes

The Healing of the Woman with the Bleeding Disease as a Paradigm

Where is God: Psalm 44:11-16, 23-25

Perpetually ostracized from people: Leviticus 15:19-27

The woman had spent all her living on physicians: transactional relationships

Body gone haywire: Romans 8:20-21

The secretive touch of the fringe of his garment: *the slightest meekest request*

Power went from Him: *the reflex of God*

Daughter: the restoration of her relationship with God

In the presence of all people: *restoring to community*

Immediately healed: *the body restored to proper function*

Go in peace: three planes of relationship healed

How Jesus Today Continues to Save Us

Embracing Him (following Him) is to embrace God and be embraced by God: John 14:21-23

By example and empowerment, Jesus helps us forgive, love, and live in community: John 17:20-23

Jesus is going reconcile "all things": see Colossians 1:20, Ephesians 1:10

And in the interim broken phase, He saves us by giving us grace to overcome: John 16:33

Psalm 44

1 O God, we have clearly heard; our ancestors have told us what you did in their days, in ancient times.

3 For they did not conquer the land by their swords, and they did not prevail by their strength, but rather by your power, strength, and good favor, for you were partial to them.

5 By your power we will drive back our enemies; by your strength we will trample down our foes.

6 For I do not trust in my bow, and I do not prevail by my sword.

8 In God we boast all day long, and we will continually give thanks to your name.

9 But you rejected and embarrassed us. You did not go into battle with our armies.

10 You made us retreat from the enemy. Those who hate us take whatever they want from us.

11 You handed us over like sheep to be eaten; you scattered us among the nations.

12 You sold your people for a pittance; you did not ask a high price for them.

13 You made us an object of disdain to our neighbors; those who live on our borders taunt and insult us.

14 You made us an object of ridicule among the nations; foreigners treat us with contempt.

15 All day long I feel humiliated and am overwhelmed with shame,

16 before the vindictive enemy who ridicules and insults me.

23 Rouse yourself! Why do you sleep, O Lord? Wake up! Do not reject us forever.

24 Why do you look the other way, and ignore the way we are oppressed and mistreated?

25 For we lie in the dirt, with our bellies pressed to the ground.

26 Rise up and help us. Rescue us because of your loyal love.

All: Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, both now and always, and unto the ages of ages. Amen.

Prayer of the People

“O Lord Jesus Christ, Word and Revelation of the Eternal Father, come, we pray, take possession of our hearts, and reign where You have right to reign. So fill our minds with the thought and our imaginations with the picture of Your love, that there may be in us no room for any desire that is discordant with Your holy will. Cleanse us, we pray, from all that may make us deaf to Your call or slow to obey it, Who, with the Father and the Holy Spirit, are one God, blessed forever.”

William Temple, 1881-1944