

Jesus Christ is the Author and Finisher of faith, the first and the last in salvation. Well, therefore, do the Scriptures say much of him. If we would know God, we must know Jesus Christ whom he has sent. No man can come to the Father but by the Son. It is a great matter to view Christ aright. He is called by many and various names. He is said to be the Door, the Way, the Truth, and the Life. He is the Shepherd, Husband, Savior, and Mediator. Isaiah 9:6 says, His name shall be called Wonderful, or a Wonder. Let us dwell a little on this aspect of his character. It is wonderful. Before entering at length into this matter, it must be stated that the aid of the Holy Spirit is necessary to enable any man to see the wonders in Christ's character rightly. If the Holy Ghost does not give us spiritual vision, Christ will be to us as a root out of dry ground. Jesus Christ, then, is Wonderful:

He has, by his Sonship with God, all the perfections which we ascribe to the Father or the Spirit. He is infinite, eternal, and unchangeable in his being, wisdom, power, holiness, justice, goodness, and truth. He is everywhere present. He searches the heart. He is the Almighty. He has life in himself. He knows all things. He is called God, the true God, the mighty God, the Lord, the King of kings. By his own power, he opened the blind eyes, unstopped the deaf ears, healed the lepers, and raised the dead. The greatest wonder in the universe is God himself. Great is the mystery of godliness, God manifest in the flesh. Even Thomas, with all his unbelief, at last cried out, My Lord and my God. Christ, then, is Wonderful, as he is God.

Nor was his public teaching less admirable. Never man spake as this man. He had the Spirit of God, but not by measure. He preached to men in the last stages of moral corruption, with their passions heated by their sad social and political state. He warned men against pride, error, and wickedness of every kind. Earth has never seen such a preacher as Jesus, so plain, so benign, so mighty in word as well as in deed. Though possessed of miraculous power, he never used it to bring evil to any. "When reviled, he reviled not again; when he suffered, he threatened not." By practice as well as by precept, he taught the best lessons of meekness, humility, love to God, love to man, and forgiveness to foes.

If these things be so, why do not all men receive Christ? How can they reject him? If anything about him is more wonderful than anything else, it is his love and pity. True, he offers not present ease, or repose, or favor with men. But he promises crowns and kingdoms to all who receive his salvation. O let us receive him in all his fullness and in all his wonders. "If we be dead with him, we shall also live with him: if we suffer, we shall also reign with him: if we deny him, he also will deny us." ~William Swan Plumer

NETHERLANDS REFORMED CONGREGATION

Sioux Falls, SD



*To the end that my glory may sing
praise to thee, and not be silent. O LORD
my God, I will give thanks unto thee for
ever. Psalm 30:12*

Services at 9:30 a.m. and 2:30 or 6:30 p.m.