

OUR SINLESS YET SYMPATHETIC SAVIOUR – Stephen Wallace (SW)

#2 Put Off Thy Shoes - part II

**Why is it so important to study deeply into this topic (the nature of Christ)?
(Numbers 1 and 2 were studied in Take Off Thy Shoes – part I)**

3. If we don't have a correct understanding of Him (Christ) and His nature, we cannot understand the plan of Salvation.

Pamphlet – The Sufferings of Christ, page 5

...The Son of God is the center of the great plan of redemption...

Review And Herald, August 15, 1893.1

...In him is found the complete system of truth...

Two classes of heresies – (SW)

a) Antinomianism – cheap grace, suggests that we can be saved without obedience to God's law, and are saved by grace only. Typically they believe in once saved always saved.

b) Legalism – righteousness by works. Gaining our salvation on the bases of our performance.

Spalding And McGann 149.2

Christ's sympathy was not impaired by his sinlessness.

4. There is an urgency for unity among us as a people on this central issue, that we might proclaim with one voice the gospel message to a dying world, that needs so desperately to hear it.

1 Corinthians 1:10

Now I beseech you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye all speak the same thing, and that there be no divisions among you; but that ye be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment.

1 Testimonies 417.2

God is bringing out a people and preparing them to stand as one, united, to speak the same things, and thus carry out the prayer of Christ for His disciples. "Neither pray I for these alone, but for them also which shall believe on Me through their word; that they all may be one; as Thou, Father, art in Me, and I in Thee, that they also may be one in Us: that the world may believe that Thou hast sent Me."

“Jesus Christ and His Humanity is everything to us. It is not a side issue.” (SW)

Review And Herald, February 18, 1890.17

If there is a point of truth that you do not understand, upon which you do not agree, investigate, compare scripture with scripture, sink the shaft of truth down deep into the mine of God's word. You must lay yourselves and your opinions on the altar of God, put away your preconceived ideas, and let the Spirit of Heaven guide you into all truth.

Gospel Worker 251.1

The study of the incarnation of Christ, His atoning sacrifice and mediatorial work, will employ the mind of the diligent student as long as time shall last; and looking to heaven with its unnumbered years, he will exclaim, "Great is the mystery of godliness!" [1 Timothy 3:16.]

1 Corinthians 13:12

For now we see through a glass, darkly; but then face to face: now I know in part; but then shall I know even as also I am known.

Review And Herald, August 2, 1906.11

My brethren and sisters, make the Scriptures, which contain the alpha and the omega of knowledge, your study. All through the Old Testament and the New there are things that are not half understood.

1 Selected Messages 179.3

...There are those who pick out from the Word of God, and also from the Testimonies, detached paragraphs or sentences that may be interpreted to suit their ideas, and they dwell upon these, and build themselves up in their own positions, when God is not leading them. Here is your danger. {1SM 179.3}

1 Selected Messages 42.2

...The testimonies themselves will be the key that will explain the messages given, as scripture is explained by scripture. Many will read with eagerness the messages reproving wrong, that they may learn what they may do to be saved. . . . Light will dawn upon the understanding, and the Spirit will make an impression on minds, as Bible truth is clearly and simply presented in the messages that since 1846 God has been sending His people. These messages are to find their place in hearts, and transformations will take place.-- Letter 73, 1903.

“What He (Christ) was in His nature was directly related to what He came to do. In order to understand His nature we must first understand His purpose for becoming Incarnate...Jesus Christ was custom built to accomplish the job. Not vice versa.” (SW)

Three basic purposes for Christ’s becoming incarnate; (SW)

a) He came to reveal to us and the universe, what God is like. To reveal His character, and to personify His law, a transcript of that character, and to be for us as our substitute and our example, in life and death, all the law of God demands of us. That we by His forgiving and enabling grace, through the imputation, and impartation of His righteousness might have both a title and fitness for heaven. In light of that purpose, what did He need to be in nature to accomplish that purpose?

b) He came to reveal to us, and to the universe, what Adam could, and should have been, and to be for us all that Adam was to have been, but through sin failed to be, the pure and holy representative and noble father of a loyal and obedient race. In light of that purpose, what did He need to be in nature to accomplish that purpose?

c) He came to reveal to us what we, though fallen, can become. Namely, overcomers, and to provide, by living a consistent and completely victorious life, a perfect pattern for us to imitate, and to be for us a sympathetic High Priest and elder brother, acquainted personally with our weaknesses, and aware experientially of what it is like to be tempted in all points like as we are. What did He have to be in nature to accomplish this purpose?

He perfectly accomplished all three in the same nature. (SW)

Hebrews 3:1

Wherefore, holy brethren, partakers of the heavenly calling, consider the Apostle and High Priest of our profession, Christ Jesus;

Review And Herald, February 18, 1890

...Is not this a time when it would be highly proper to fast and pray before God? We are in danger of variance, in danger of taking sides on a controverted point; and should we not seek God in earnestness, with humiliation of soul, that we may know what is truth?

Review And Herald, November 3, 1904.5

...All who search the Scriptures with humility of heart will be taught of God. "Hear ye this, O house of Jacob, which are called by the name of Israel, and are come forth out of the waters of Judah, which swear by the name of the Lord, and make mention of the God of Israel, but not in truth, nor in righteousness. For they call themselves the holy city, and stay themselves upon the God of Israel; the Lord of hosts is his name. I have declared the former things from the beginning; and they went forth out of my mouth, and I showed them; I did them suddenly, and they came to pass."

...The Son of God is the center of the great plan of redemption...Pamphlet–The Sufferings of Christ, page 5