

A Reason to Celebrate

Scripture John 1:1-5

“¹Before the world was created, the Word already existed; he, [meaning Jesus] was with God, and he was the same as God, ²From the very beginning the Word was with God. ³Through him, God made all things; not one thing in all creation was made without him. ⁴The Word was the source of life, and this life brought light to mankind. ⁵The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has never put it out.”

Three Kings Day is also known as Epiphany that is celebrated on January 6th. Twelve days after the Christmas season ends. The twelve days after Christmas honor the Biblical story of the Kings who traveled to the town of Bethlehem to present gifts to the baby Jesus.

Three King’s Day is a magnificent tribute to a Historical and, spiritual journey that celebrates the life and promise of Jesus Christ.

___Ends Teaching moment___

Sermonic Text;

“⁴In Him was Life and the Life was the light of men. ⁵And the light shines on the darkness, for the darkness has never overpowered it.”

Subject: “A Reason to Celebrate”

We’ll find, when we read the Gospel of John, in so many ways, it is quite different than the other gospels. // John’s gospel takes us behind the scenes of Jesus’ ministry.

Thereby, allowing us to see the origin and the divine nature of this Jesus. In the Gospel of John, you’ll see that John uses symbols from common experiences such as light and darkness, and other symbols...

.. This gospel is considered by some scholars as the most precious book in the New Testament.

.. They, scholars, allege that it feeds mankind's mind and it nourishes the heart because they are where the soul rests.

.. As he, Jesus, chose his friends the Gospel of Mark tells us, Jesus simply spoke the word, "*Believe.*"

.. Research said, this, Jesus did not say to his disciples, "I have a theological system which I would like you to investigate; nor did He say, "I have theories that I would like you to think over. Jesus said, '*Follow me!*'"

I believe that is ... A Reason Enough to Celebrate.

.....In the Bible, we can read that Jesus did not require an audience in order to exert power. He was just as prepared to do the work of His Father in any small circle as He was in a great crowd.

In the gospel of Luke Jesus announces, "*The spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to preach Good News to the poor...*"

.. The Word who is the Christ is the gift of Grace and Mercy. That is The Reason for the Season, the Word, who is the Christ, is a summons for patience, and the summons for Hope.

My job, today, is a simple one. It is to tell you: Don't give-up on your dreams... The Christ is "The Reason for the Season," and that is *Reason enough to Celebrate.*

Without a doubt, there will be many times when we are upset and even angry. Because I believe that we are living to-day in an atmosphere of despair. People despair of the world and their surroundings.

Often times, we despair of disease-soaked and ruined nations; some one might be shuddering dread as we examine our nation slums and urban blight in our cities, and about our lost children.

As I searched and researched this particular scripture, I might be still searching it if I hadn't known how and where to look.

For me, this is not an easy Scripture. For some reason though, this Scripture took me back to one of my preaching classes.

This class that has three professors, and three guest lectures. It is two intimidating semesters.

...The professors know how to preach and most of the students do not. In one of our preaching assignments each student is required to lead the class by talking about him or / herself, and their Christian journey for thirty-minutes. [Thirty-minutes] ...The assignment does not require any research. However, there are certain components expected in the course.

...Some of the students stumbled through their thirty-minutes, and some of them were fantastic. For me, there was one student whose leadership, stood-out far beyond the others. He kept referring to himself as a Mutt-Christian. 'I've tried many different denominations, and now, I'm so confused. I don't even know who or what to believe anymore,' he said.

.. After class I mentioned, to him, how much I enjoyed his leadership. He said, 'You know what Marrie? I'm really concerned and worried about my Christian journey and I'm concerned about my soul.'

_ Without a doubt, there will be times when / and if we are willing, the Holy Spirit can show us ways to make obstacles into opportunities.

_ Often times, for many of us, we are far too busy. We are expected to be over here, over there, and never in one place long enough to get one Real job done.

_ But, there will be times when your darken days begin to beam with Joy, and we don't even know the reason why.

_ In this text, [our sermonic text] we are told that Jesus/ Word is the light, and it will not be over-come by darkness. That is a Reason to Celebrate.

**** Before I close, John's gospel reveals to me that this Jesus Christ is the Light of the world, and If you are willing to gain knowledge of Him:**

**** His message is what God has to say to you,
His message is the fullness of what God has to give to you and the
essence of all that God wants us to be. That is the Reason for the
Season. ... That is A Reason to Celebrate.**

... The image of God revealed,
... That is a Reason to Celebrate,
... The fullness of God imparted,

**__ Surly there will be many times when we are not at our best; and we
too might be concerned about our Christian journey and our soul.
There will be times when good things will happen to you;
If that--is well with you, you have a Reason to Celebrate.**

The messages of Jesus are--Good News according to (Galatians 2: 5).

...It is the Good New of Salvation according to Ephesians 1: 1.
...The glory of God reflected; ...the grace of God extended, and the
power of God demonstrated.

... The heart of God expressed, and the Salvation of God provided. In
Him we have A Reason to Celebrate.

May God bless You.

