

Jesus Infinitely Over-Meets Our Needs

By Scotty Smith

“Jesus lives forever, and his priesthood is permanent. Therefore, he is able to save completely those who come to God through him, because he always lives to intercede for them. Such a high priest truly meets our need...” [Heb. 7:24-26](#)

Lord Jesus, trying to absorb all the wonders and riches of this passage is like a sponge attempting to absorb the entire “river of the water of life” ([Rev. 22:1](#)). Because of everything you’ve already done for us, your banner over us is love, your desire for us is constant, and your delight in us is endless.

We are citizens of heaven and Abba’s beloved children—fully forgiven, and robed in your righteousness. You haven’t saved us provisionally or partially, but *completely*. Hallelujah! Though our glorification remains in the future, it is just as certain as our already-received justification ([Rom. 8:30](#)).

Your intercession for us is as perfect as it is constant. Because of your first and future coming, we live with peace, eagerness, and hope. *Nothing* can separate us from your love, or sabotage our Father’s will for us. This very January Sunday, you are ruling the kings of the earth, and working in all things for our good. Saying you meet our needs is like saying Switzerland meets a skier’s “need” for mountains and snow. Oh, how you infinitely *over-meet* our needs, Jesus.

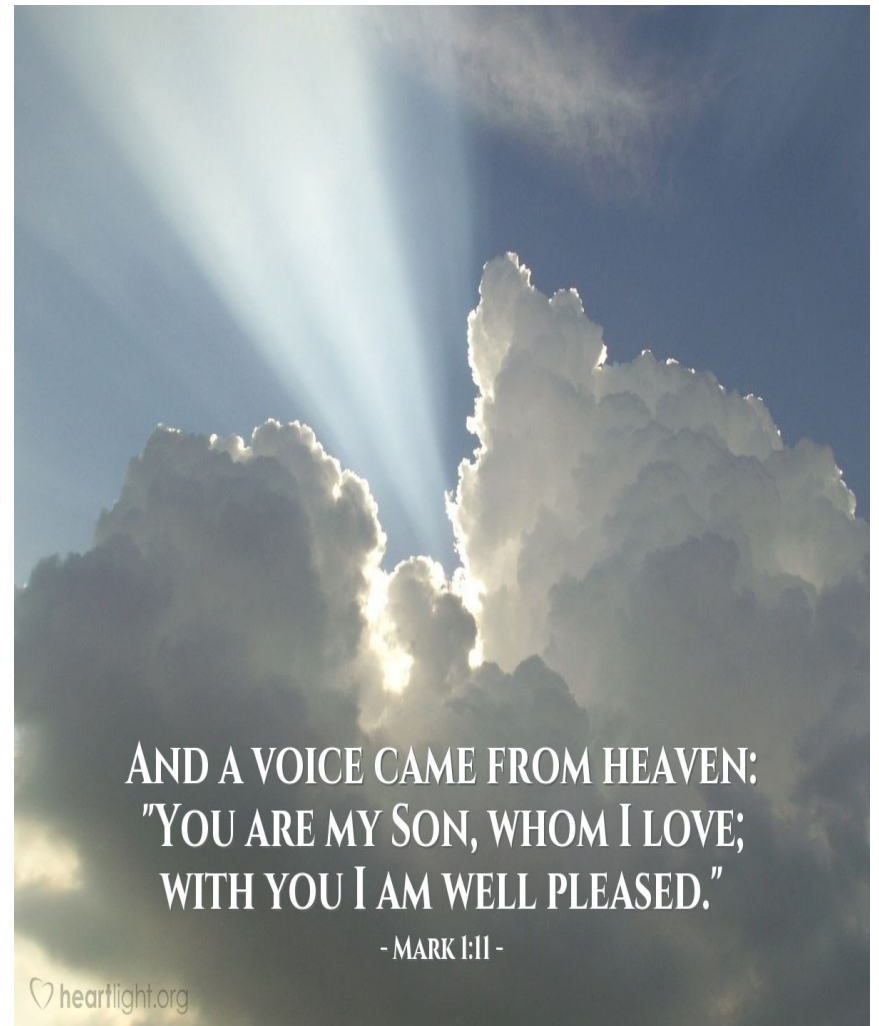
By the power of the Spirit, free us to live and love all the way into the new heaven and new earth. Should we draw our last breath today, we will gain our first glimpse of your unfiltered beauty. Hallelujah, and So *Very* Amen



January 30, 2022

10:30 A.M.

The Beginning of the Gospel



AND A VOICE CAME FROM HEAVEN:
"YOU ARE MY SON, WHOM I LOVE;
WITH YOU I AM WELL PLEASED."

- MARK 1:11 -

heartlight.org

Order of Service

Announcements

Welcome

Missions: Introducing Stephen and Kristen Scholl

Preparation for Worship

-----**God's Greatness**-----

Call To Worship

Hymn of Praise: "His Name is Jesus". Holden/Perronet

Prayer of Invocation

Affirmation of Faith: The Heidelberg Catechism , Q/A #1

Song of Praise: "All Because of Jesus". Steve Fee

Children are dismissed to Sunday School.

-----**God's Renewal**-----

The Law of God: Romans 6:1-4

Public Confession

Worship Leader: Let us confess our sins together.

Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon and Comfort: Isaiah 1:18

Song of Renewal: "Show Us Christ". Plank/Kauflin

-----**God's Grace**-----

Scripture Reading: *Mark 1:1-11*

Prayer

The Sermon

"The Beginning of the Gospel"

Song of Communion

"We Hunger and Thirst". Romanace/Couch/Fournier

Celebration of the Lord's Supper

Prayer of Approach

Scripture Reading: Mark 14:22-25 (Optional)

Holy Communion

-----**God's Blessing**-----

Parting Hymn

"The Cross has the Final Word". Cody Carnes

Benediction

God's Gracious Provision 1/23/2022

Attendance: 44

Offering: \$2544.00

Your offering may be place in the box at the Welcome Table.

Conclusion

This is the Lord Jesus, who is both God and man so that he is able to stand in the gap that separates us from God: the man who can identify with us in our weaknesses, who feels the cold as he stands on the riverbank and the wind dries him off; but who is also God the Son, with the authority and power of God, the authority that will be seen throughout his ministry as he heals diseases and drives out demons with a word—the one who is qualified and able to save us.³

If you believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, the Mighty One, the Savior who will give you new life, it changes you and everything about your life. It becomes the single most important thought and pursuit of your existence. It defines everything you think about you, everything you think about your world, everything you think about others.

¹Lane, W. L. (1974). *The Gospel of Mark* (p. 51). Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Co.

²Lane, W. L. (1974). *The Gospel of Mark* (p. 58). Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Co.

³Wilmshurst, S. (2011). *A Ransom for Many: The Gospel of Mark Simply Explained* (pp. 27–28). EP Books.

“When Jesus meets Martha we indeed get a glimpse of his deity and power – he’s God. But that doesn’t explain the totality of who he is. The very next moment, he breaks down sobbing beneath the weight of Mary’s grief and in the shadow of the grave. You would think that if a person were really divine, he wouldn’t be that emotionally exposed, but he is. So here we see deity joined to human vulnerability. His love pulls him down into weeping. Despite his claim that he is the resurrection and the life – that he is God – he responds to Mary in this way because he is fully human as well. He is one with us. He feels the horrific power of death and the grief of love lost.” —Tim Keller

John the Baptist, a crucial figure in the history of revelation and redemption.

Mark 1:6 (ESV)

Now John was clothed with camel's hair and wore a leather belt around his waist and ate locusts and wild honey.

John's dress and lifestyle were a protest against the godlessness and self-serving materialism of his day. It amounted to a call to separate oneself from the sinful culture, repent, and live a life focused on God.

The One who is Coming

Mark 1:7–8 (ESV)

And he preached, saying, "After me comes he who is mightier than I, the strap of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie. ⁸I have baptized you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

John's message is telescoped to focus upon a single theme, the proclamation of a person still to come who will baptize the people with the Holy Spirit.¹

The Unexpected Baptism

Mark 1:9 (ESV)

In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan.

John has been telling people to come out to him, to turn away from their sins, and be baptized in water to show their clean break with their past. But why should *Jesus* need to do that? Why does *he* need a baptism of repentance?

Words of Assurance and Affirmation

Mark 1:10–11 (ESV)

And when he came up out of the water, immediately he saw the heavens being torn open and the Spirit descending on him like a dove. ¹¹And a voice came from heaven, "You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased."

Jesus did not *become* the Son of God, at baptism or at the transfiguration; he *is* the Son of God, the one qualified to bestow the Holy Spirit. The rending of the heavens, the descent of the Spirit and the declaration of God do not alter Jesus' essential status, but serve to indicate the cosmic significance of Jesus' submission to the Servant-vocation and affirm God's good pleasure in his Son.²

Upcoming Events

Tuesday, February 2 6:30-8:00 P.M. Youth Group will meet at the Deicherts

Sunday, February 6 12:00 PM Congregational Meeting of GCC
Everyone is encouraged to attend.

Wednesday, February 9 7:00 P.M. Men's Small Group
Location TBD

Sunday, February 13 6:00 PM Super Bowl Party at the home of Pastor Rick and Barb

Sunday, February 20 6:15-7:15 P.M. House of Prayer
GCC Prayer Gathering for youth and adults—1300 High St

February 25-27 Youth Winter Retreat at Camp Sankanac
Pick up a flyer at the Welcome table.

March 18-19 Men's Retreat

Crossing Cultures International David and Mindy Nelson



MYANMAR

Many were forced out of their town as bitter fighting came upon it. They ran into the jungle to take refuge, where they encountered several of our CCI Myanmar area leaders and teachers. The CCI team took care of those people in need, and one area leader shared the good news of Jesus Christ. Ten of them accepted Christ as their personal Lord and Savior and made a public confession through water baptism. Praise God for how He works amid a war. Pray that these new believers will grow in faith, withstanding any persecution they face.

CCI

Praise the Lord for a safe flight from the USA to Albania for Dr. David Nelson. Others from the USA are en route to join David as he will be holding a Teacher Training Workshop (TTW), conducting a seminar and other training in the 9 days that they are in Albania.

CRU

Pray for Steve and Kristen Scholl as they begin their ministry with CRU. See the enclosed letter.

Prayer/Praise. January 30, 2022

- Pray for Cindy Yorgey, who has Covid. Pray that her sugar stays in the right range, oxygen level increases, and the nausea subsists. Pray for God's complete healing from the Covid.
- Pray for Sam Mace's brother, Bob, and his family. The family is experiencing serious health issues, and difficult decisions need to be made. Pray the family would sense God is with them amid all that is occurring in the family.
- Pray for Mike Row, who is in Berkshire Rehabilitation Center for PT. Pray for continued healing and strength for Mike.
- Pray for Mary Row, who is doing better and is back at school. Pray for God's continued strength and healing.
- Pray for the family of Mandi Yensan's friend, Tammy, who passed away. She never fully recovered after her hospital stay. Pray for Tammy's two daughters, her mom, and her sister during this time. Praise that Tammy accepted Christ as her Savior.
- Pray for Lizette Barret, the wife of a coworker of RuthAnn McCaffrey's husband. Lizette continues to be on a ventilator due to Covid, and doctors only give her a 10% chance. Pray for healing and a quick recovery for Lizette and God's strength for her husband, Eric.
- Pray for Jeremiah Mace's friend, Walter, who had an intervention. Walter lost his wife and is struggling at this time. Pray that Walter went to Teen Challenge and received the help he desperately needs.
- Pray for Donna Jenkins' nephew, Evan James, who has a very rare disease, CDA. Pray for healing for Evan and wisdom for his doctors.
- Pray for Austin, stepson of Lorraine Blanski's niece. Pray for strength, stamina, and a positive outlook with PT using his new prosthetics. Pray for Austin as he navigates his surroundings and his new life.
- Pray for Chris, son of Susan and Glen Williams. Pray that Chris completes his rehab program at Malvern Institute.
- Pray for Denny Bartchak. Denny has started physical therapy on his arm. He has received a good report from an MRI on his brain. Pray that he will soon be able to have the procedure to get the results of his bladder cancer treatments.
- Pray for Justine Schumaker. Pray for healing for Justine through her chemotherapy treatment.

Message

The Beginning of the Gospel

Mark 1:1–11 (ESV)

Questions

Perhaps there could be no more important questions than the three questions that are asked and answered by Mark. First “Who in the world is Jesus?” Second question: “Why in the world did He come? What is this life about?” And third question: “What does it mean to follow Him?”

Good News

Mark 1:1 (ESV)

The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

The Prophecies

Mark 1:2–3 (ESV)

As it is written in Isaiah the prophet, “Behold, I send my messenger before your face, who will prepare your way, ³the voice of one crying in the wilderness: ‘Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight,’ ”

Mark has quoted the prophecies of Isaiah 40:3 and Malachi 3:1. Those prophets, hundreds of years earlier, look forward to a day when God is going to do something new; this is all in God's plan. ‘Prepare the way for the Lord,’ he says. God is doing something new. This time it is not just another prophet who will come; it is the Lord God *himself* who is coming into the world. God is coming in human form in the person of Jesus Christ, God's final word to humanity.

John the Baptizer

Mark 1:4–5 (ESV)

John appeared, baptizing in the wilderness and proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. ⁵And all the country of Judea and all Jerusalem were going out to him and were being baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

Time and again in the Bible, the desert is where God takes people to meet with him. He takes them away from the places where they are comfortable, the busy situations they are embroiled in, out where there are no distractions and they can hear him speaking. **It's a biblical pattern, and here it happens again.**