

"Jesus Is Enough" (Question mark, or, exclamation point?)

His creative power is enough to bring everything into being that is (Jo 1:3). His riches are enough to supply what I need (Phil 4:13). His grace is enough to forgive all my sins (Eph 1:7). His truth is enough to set me free from every lie (Jo 8:31-32). His love is enough to cast out all my fears (I Jo 4:18). His death is enough to pay my every debt (Col 2:14). His life is enough to enliven me to live to the glory of God (Eph 2:5,6). His strength is enough for my every weakness (II Cor 12:9-10). He is enough to fully disclose and exposit God (Jo 1:18). He is enough to truly and completely reveal man (I Tim 3:16). He is enough to provide for an eternal and relational oneness between the two (Jo 14:20,23). He is enough to put us in such a oneness, keep us in such a oneness, and express Himself through such a oneness (Jo 17:11,20-24).

The issue, then, for us, is quite simple. When we say, "Jesus is enough", is that followed by a question mark or an exclamation point? He Who has come from heaven to earth comes with all the fullness, the entire contents, the complete supply of Divinity (Col 2:9), so that we might be "complete in Him" (Col 2:10). To receive Him is to receive the "full dose" of everything "pertaining to life and godliness." (II Pet 1:3,4) He came to be "enough" for us – to bring God's full intention for man in Himself. This is the testimony of Scripture, "God has given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son. He who has the Son has the life." (I Jo 5:11,12)

The apostles were constantly fighting against the liar and his deception(s) that Jesus is not enough. It's not any different today. Jesus Christ keeps "coming to His own" in all of His fullness, and His own "do not receive Him" as being enough! (Jo 1:11) When the Spirit of God says "Jesus is enough for you – He has filled you with the fullness of His Life", our response all too often is a question mark... "Really? Can that actually be true? Isn't that wishful thinking? Preacher talk? Triumphalistic theology?" Where are the exclamation points? "Yes, Sir! If You say so! I believe You! Thank You! Amen! May it be done to me according to Your word! Praise-allulia!"

Many will continue to "argue" with God, "That's too good to be true!" But it is "good", and it is "true"! It is long past time that God's children learn to "welcome Him, receive Him" (Jo 1:12) as our "Word" (Jo 1:1) from God on all things concerning life. For, "as many as receive Him, He gives them..." (We'll save that for next time – first, choose: "question mark" or "exclamation point".)

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Greetings

For 35 years we've been doing an annual "Florida Retreat" for locals and out of town guests. These events have provided some of our greatest blessings and some of our deepest joys. They've also been some of the most physically and psychologically demanding experiences of our calendar year.

However, it "seems good to the Holy Spirit and to us" that we not schedule one for 2025. I could give you plenty of "below the line" reasons for such a decision: rising costs, travel logistics, busy schedules, declining commitment levels... but, these would be just that, "below the line" reasons! Our indicators are more inner, more subjective, more personal than that. And the choice is a "faith" choice - there are some "doubts!"

Nevertheless, we will see what God does next with that choice. Confirm it, correct, tweak it, put it to bed and awaken it in an altogether new "form" - we'll see. Pray with us. Send us your thoughts. We value your input into this facet of OIC ministry. We will miss seeing many of you face-to-face at this retreat, but anticipate the work of the Christ who is "making all things new." (Rev 21:5)

Calendar


OCTOBER


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| 8 | Alachua Study |
| 22 | Ocala Study |
| 25-27 | Louisville, KY (502-664-5622) |


NOVEMBER


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| 12 | Sardis Bapt., Worthington Springs, FL |
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Praise & Prayer

 Jesus is enough!

 The Christ who makes all things new

 To live in His "enough-ness"

 His guidance for future ministry