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“ADORE HIM – HE IS THE SON OF GOD!”

‘Season of Adoration’ Series – Part One

(John 1:1-4; Colossians 1:13-17; Mark 1:10-11)

Intro ... Today, in this service, we have entered into a most significant season of the year – the Advent Season ... four Sundays out of fifty-two that have almost universally recognized over the centuries as weeks of preparation for the Celebration of the Birth of Jesus Christ.

Some years I preach a unique Advent Series of messages ... This is one of those years.

The title of this year’s little Advent Series is ...

“Christmas: A Season of Adoration”.

“Adoration” ... Here’s how Mr. Webster defines the term:

*“to pay divine honors to; to honor highly;
to love intensely; to admire greatly; to worship*

Now with that definition in mind, consider with me our Series Key Concept and an accompanying Exhortation ...

SERIES KEY CONCEPT ...

CHRISTMAS should be a ‘Season of Adoration’.

Exhortation:

Let us truly ‘**ADORE** our **SAVIOR**’ this Christmas Season!

The Christmas Season should be a season of adoration ...

It provides a unique opportunity to focus upon the One who came to save us from our sins. Let us ‘Adore Him’ this Christmas Season.

During this Advent Season, I would draw your attention to **four attributes** of Christ that should stir feelings of adoration within us.

The first is identified in **Today's Key Concept ...**

TODAY'S KEY CONCEPT ...

He is most **WORTHY** of our adoration –
He is the **SON** of **GOD!**

Remember the first part of Webster's definition of Adoration ...

"To pay divine honors to"

God is the only one upon whom 'adoration' can be properly focused. And so this is where we begin: Jesus Christ is worthy of our truest and purest adoration for He is (in fact) the very Son of God!

Consider these facts about him clearly laid out in the Scripture ...

*** HE HAS EXISTED FROM THE BEGINNING**

"In the beginning was the Word" – John 1:1

In the beginning (before anything else was) there was God ...
Father and Son and Holy Spirit.

John could have also said ... *"In the Beginning of the Scripture was the Word"*. In the opening pages of the Book of Genesis, the very first book of the Bible, we read *'Let us make man in our image'* ...

We also read ... *'And God said (employing the power of 'the Word') let there be light and there was light'* ...

Earlier Moses had written *'And the Spirit of God hovered over the waters'*. And there He hovered awaiting direction and then implementation of his role in the grand scheme of things.

The Son of God was with the Father and the Holy Spirit from the very beginning and He was himself divine – part of the eternal family of God. We include Him in our worshipful adoration because He is indeed Divine – the Eternal Son of God.

Secondly, John goes on to say that ...

*** HE HAS CREATED ALL THINGS**

"All things were made by him" – John 1:3

*"In the beginning was the Word and the Word was with God
and the Word was God ... All things were made by him ..."*

The Bible declares that Jesus Christ was the agent of creation – What the Father conceived the Son achieved ... When the Scriptures tell us that the heavens declare the Glories of God, the Son of God is included in that Glory ... He is worthy of our Adoration!

And now we shift to another inspired New Testament writer – The Apostle Paul. Here's what Paul wrote to the Colossian believers relative to the one they had accepted as their Savior ...

*** HE SUSTAINS ALL THINGS**

"In him all things hold together" – Colossians 1:17

Now actually since Paul knew that the Colossian Believers probably didn't have easy access to the Books of Moses, he backed up and gave himself a running start into this new revelation.

Here's how he put it (listen as I read)...

*"He (Jesus Christ) is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation.
For by him all things were created: things in heaven and things on earth ...
all things were created by him and for him. He is before all things
and in him all things hold together."
(Colossians 1:15-17)*

The mysterious forces that physicists are forever seeking (and sometimes discovering) that flow throughout the vastness of space and that seem to '*tie all things together*' are in fact powerful expressions of Christ's Will.

His is the real name of all those mysterious forces. He sustains all things – He holds all things together.

The writer of the Book of Hebrews adds a significant clarification when he says in Hebrews 1:3 ...

'The Son sustains all things by His powerful word.'

Is it any wonder then that He could simply 'speak a word' and the wind and the waves obeyed him? Is it any wonder that he could simply speak a word and '*death released its hold on Lazarus*'?

With his own powerful word and will he sustains all things – he holds them together in a masterful harmony.

And now as just an aside but an important observation and application:

In him WE are held together!

Think of this, the One who literally holds the entire universe together – who sustains it all by the power of his word - has said to us ...

'No one can remove you from my hand'.

He holds us close; He holds us tight; He '*holds us together*'!

He is the great sustainer ... He is worthy of our Adoration!

Now let's allow the Apostle Paul to take us a few steps further for not only has the Eternal Son of God created all things and not only does he sustain all things, it could actually be said that ...

**** HE CONTAINS ALL THINGS***

"God was pleased to have all His Fullness dwell in him." – Colossians 1:19

This is a phenomenal statement – a declaration that everything that the Scripture declares to be true of the God's character and nature is true of Jesus Christ.

That's why when Phillip asked Jesus to "*Show us the Father*", Jesus could say

*"Phillip ... If you have seen me (truly seen me),
you have seen the Father."*

That why Jesus could say (and why he so enraged the Jewish leaders of his day when he did say) ...

"I and the Father are One".

This, of course, is still a stumbling block, a statement that is offensive, to Jewish people everywhere. But it is the very thing that we Christians affirm and it provides one more reason for us to 'Adore Him'.

Paul now builds upon the observation that '*the Father was pleased to have all of the Fullness of God dwell in Christ*' by telling the Colossian believers (and us) that ...

*** HE RECONCILES ALL THINGS**

"And through him to reconcile all things to himself" – Colossians 1:20

Jesus Christ, since he contains all the holiness and purity and loveliness of God, is most qualified to act as the agent this time of a spiritual creation.

By his willing death on Calvary as the perfect sacrificial lamb, Jesus Christ has provided the way whereby the Father can reconcile himself to a once-sinful but now atoned-for world.

Jesus has provided the way for the Father to offer the gift of forgiveness to all who will receive it. Such a Savior is most worthy of endless adoration!

Is it any wonder then that this next statement can be made ...

*** HE IS DEARLY LOVED OF THE FATHER**

"You are my son whom I love – with you I am well-pleased" – Mark 1:11

What father would not love a son like that? What father would not be '*well-pleased*' with a son like that? And during the days of his earthly sojourn, Jesus was well-aware of His Father's Love.

In the parable of the vineyard, Jesus points out that as a last resort, the owner of the vineyard whose tenants have so disrespected him and so badly treated all the servants that he had sent says (Luke 20:13)...

"I will send my son, whom I love – perhaps they will respect him."

Jesus knew where he stood with the Father – He relied upon His Father's Love – He connected with the Father's Love – He powerfully demonstrated his confidence in His Father's Love when with perhaps the last breath to be expelled from his body he said ...

"Father, into your hands I commit my spirit".

He was absolutely confident in his Father's love – He demonstrated for us that such confidence is possible even at the very moment of death and for that We Adore Him!

Two things yet to say as we draw near the close of this litany of 'Adoration-Worthy' Realities concerning Jesus Christ ...

*** HE IS THE HEAD OF THE CHURCH**

"He is the head of the body, the church" – Colossians 1:18

Here is the point that Paul wanted to be sure that the Colossian Believers understood and embraced ...

This Jesus – this eternal dearly-loved Son of God – this one who created all things and who sustains all things – This is the One who is the Head of the Church ... His is the name they bear ... He to be Adored whenever they gather for worship.

And now one last thing – one last reason to Adore the Lord Jesus Christ ...

*** WE HAVE BEEN PLACED IN HIS KINGDOM**

"He (the Father) has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the Kingdom of the Son He loves ..." - Colossians 1:13

Salvation has been granted to us – New life has been birthed within us – We have been brought into His Kingdom and will live with Him forever!

Has it happened to you? Have you been brought by a Loving Heavenly Father into the Kingdom of the Son He Dearly Loves.

Jesus once said ...

*"No one can come unto me unless the Father draws him."
(John 6:44)*

Have you heard His Voice ... Have you responded to His Call?

What better time than this Christmas Season to open your heart to him and to respond to His Call to trust yourself to Christ His Son!

And so as we conclude this initial message of our Advent Series, allow this first great attribute of Jesus Christ to draw from you a proper response ...

Final Thot ...

**JESUS CHRIST IS THE ETERNAL SON OF GOD...
THIS CHRISTMAS SEASON ... LET US ADORE HIM!**