



God has come to stay.

Celebrate God's Presence.

"that they may all be one; even as Thou, Father, art in Me, and I in Thee, that they also may be in Us; that the world may believe that Thou didst send Me." (John 17:21, NAS77)

John 17:21 (NKJV italics mine)



If yesterday is a thing and tomorrow is a different thing then, the NOW is an escape artist so elusive it is only known by definition and rumor from a few mystics. But what if the NOW is all we have, and it is a conscious, reflexive person and not a fleeting experience? Sounds like the NOW is just what we encounter, as long as we are not regretting the past nor fretting over the future. And this is the premise I propose. The life we see, the life we are living, **is it**, only we don't like **it**, the NOW. Well, not as much as we think we can if...

This fact is declared in the Book of Romans which we can read in the New Testament of the Bible which says that no human is without excuse for not knowing God...well let me just quote it.

20 For from the creation of the world, his invisible attributes, both his eternal power and deity, are discerned clearly, being understood in

the things created, so that they are without excuse. 21 For although they knew God, they did not honor him as God or give thanks, but they became futile in their reasoning, and their senseless hearts were darkened. 22 Claiming to be wise, they became fools, (Romans 1:20-22 NASB 77)

Yes, even after knowing all we had to know in the NOW we were fooled into thinking we had to know more. Of course the *know more* includes experiencing something different, changing, to personally excel, progress, become better and a myriad of other 'not there yet' stuff.

When we are in charge, we take an obscure road to a destiny not promised just to prove we can do it. In doing so we have lost our way in a jungle of self made promises most of which never come to pass. In short, our I becomes a fading self-made collage without a canvas other than time. No wonder we cringe at the thought of the end of time and desire a life of progressing instead of living a life in the NOW.

Jesus said something very interesting concerning time and his place in it. He declared he was the first and the last.

"I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end."

(Revelation 22:13, NAS77)

This is an immediate challenge to us who claim him as our LORD or if we simply say he was a very, very good teacher. For us then it becomes a waste of time to try and alter the past or divine and dictate the future unless of course there is no Jesus with whom to deal and his teachings are false.

Here then is the rub. If Jesus is the beginning and the end he is the middle which is the NOW. In union with him we know that we know the NOW. Not as that mystic's periodic peek into a shimmering flutter of life, but the very mundane life we experience, the one which needs no dressing much less alteration. It is the NOW, the life we wake to and discover and which can really upset our best plans. It is the life that looks broken but echos every word of God's intention. It leaves us totally embroiled in living while being receivers, even expressions of the ability (power) of the wind. When we come to the humiliation of submission, we, like the leaves are blown green side up in the spring, gray side up in the summer, and separated from the branch in the fall. When we are totally engaged with what life supplies and demands, we can give thanks to God for it or miss God.

To conclude, the convergence of life is in the person of God, in the NOW and he will be what he will be, even NOW and NOW and



From the desk of your friend in Christ Jesus,

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