

GCFSM SUNDAY BULLETIN

FEBRUARY 18, 2024
BULLETIN ISSUE #7



SERMON OUTLINE

JESUS AS THE ETERNAL GOD

REV. LITO VILLORIA | JOHN 1:1-18

The prologue of the Gospel of John establishes at onset that Jesus is our Eternal God who preexisted with the Father. He is the Word who took on human flesh displaying the fullness of God's glory and grace. The rest of the gospel expounds this foundational truth which is the anchor of our redemptive journey as disciples of Jesus.

In this first sermon, we will learn five (5) key theological truths about Jesus as our Eternal God. Truths that serve as the foundation of our faith upon which everything is built upon.

First, Jesus is the Preexistent Word. He is the eternal, divine Word who is the ultimate revelation of God's person and work. He

preexisted with the Father before creation. He is equal with and shares the same essence as God the Father and God the Spirit (1:1-2).

Second, Jesus is the Agent of Creation. He is the source of everything that came into being. Nothing came into existence without Him. He created all things, everything was created for Him, and He holds everything together (1:3).

Third, Jesus is the Source of Eternal Life. He is the fountain of life to those who will have an intimate relationship with Him. The life that He gives enables those who believe to receive divine revelation. He gives them enlightenment in seasons of darkness (1:4-5).

Fourth, Jesus is the True Light. He is the ultimate revelation of God for man to recognize their sinfulness. John the Baptist was sent by God to bear witness about Jesus. However, Jesus was rejected by His own people. But to all who received and believed in Him, He gave them the right to become God's children (1:6-13).

And fifth, Jesus is the Incarnate Word of God. He is the Word, the Only Son of the Father, who became fully man. He dwelt temporarily on earth to reveal His and the Father's glory. All who believe in Him will experience God's never-ending grace (vv.14-18).✱

FACING THE GIANTS

T. KAREN MONROY

We have just concluded the month of January and February is now upon us. For some, the year might have started like any other year. For others, it may have already been a rollercoaster ride wherein a lot of twists and turns have already been experienced.

No matter which category you can identify with, the reality is that we are still in the early part of 2024. We are just getting started and we will still experience many things in the future. These things, maybe planned or unplanned, wanted or unwanted, might bring us joy or even sorrow. This only means that as we continue in our journey, we will not only experience wonderful things but also overwhelming, daunting and challenging times that can become our giants! These "giants" are something that we need to overcome for us to move forward.

One of my favorite Bible stories is that of David and Goliath. It never fails to amaze me how a young shepherd boy who was only out on an errand could have the confidence to take on Goliath, a giant who was

very experienced in battle. Imagine David stepping out to battle against a formidable foe armed only with a sling and five smooth stones.

From the bystanders point of view, David was in no way equipped for battle. He was unprepared and an underdog going against a champion who was over nine feet tall and covered in heavy armor. It was obviously an uneven fight in which one could have already predicted the eventual outcome. However, the Lord was on David's side!

1 Samuel 17:37 David said to Saul, *"The LORD who delivered me from the paw of the lion and from the paw of the bear will deliver me from the hand of this Philistine."*

What trust and confidence David had in the Lord!

This continued on as he confronted Goliath in 1 Samuel 17:45-46, *"You come to me with a sword and with a spear and with a javelin, but I come to you in the name of the LORD of hosts, the God of the armies of Israel, whom you have defied. This day the LORD will deliver you into my hand, and I will strike*

you down and cut off your head..."

David said nothing about the size of the giant because he was focused on God and he knew that His God is bigger than this enormous opponent.

Like David, we all face different kinds of "giants" in our lives. It may be a struggle in a relationship, sickness, injury, family related issue, work or even financial difficulty. But just like David, may we have confidence and faith in the Lord that He will deliver us from these challenges whether here on earth or in heaven because the battle belongs to Him and the Lord will fight our battles!

Whatever you may be going through, God wants you to know that He sees you, He loves you, and He knows where you are.

It is my prayer that we will continue to choose to trust and run to God no matter what because we have a God who will always be bigger than all our formidable giants combined! ✱

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