*Thursday, May 3, 2012*

**Slice of Life**

1 Corinthians 13:9-11 For we know in part, and we prophesy in part. (10) But when that which is perfect is come, then that which is in part shall be done away. (11) When I was a child, I spake as a child, I understood as a child, I thought as a child: but when I became a man, I put away childish things. (KJV)

If you notice in these verses a change needs to take place so that we can see things from a new vantage point, that being from above and no longer limited to just what our carnal eyes see here below. A transformation takes place for those in Christ because they see the new man within them, and then start acting like Him as well.

Isaiah 9:6-7 For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace. (7) Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even for ever. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will perform this. (KJV)

Many people get pointed to a manger scene that took place some two thousand years or so ago, and portray our Savior strictly from an outward point of view. However, someone else also showed up with this child, otherwise it would not be a complete picture. Ever wonder why the two distinctions are made between a child born, and then a Son given?

Acts 4:10-12 Be it known unto you all, and to all the people of Israel, that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom ye crucified, whom God raised from the dead, even by him doth this man stand here before you whole. (11) This is the stone which was set at nought of you builders, which is become the head of the corner. (12) Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved. (KJV)

Actually, two births took place some two thousand years ago, one into the realm of the flesh and then another rebirth into the realm of the Spirit. This Son was given to mankind so that He could reveal God’s plan of salvation and reconciliation to a fallen carnal world.

Ephesians 2:13-15 But now in Christ Jesus ye who sometimes were far off are made nigh by the blood of Christ. (14) For he is our peace, who hath made both one, and hath broken down the middle wall of partition between us; (15) Having abolished in his flesh the enmity, even the law of commandments contained in ordinances; for to make in himself of twain one new man, so making peace; (KJV)

How do you see yourself when looking in the mirror, do you just see the outward version or do you see someone else within as well? Of these two, Jesus and Christ is one new man reborn, so that we can bear the image of our God. Without His Spirit bearing witness to ours how could we ever know the mystery of the gospel?

Acts 2:36-38 Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly, that God hath made that same Jesus, whom ye have crucified, both Lord and Christ. (37) Now when they heard this, they were pricked in their heart, and said unto Peter and to the rest of the apostles, Men and brethren, what shall we do? (38) Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost. (KJV)

There is so much more to this man Jesus of Nazareth than just what carnal people tell us. In fact, if any man has not a working knowledge of the Spirit of Christ who was in Him, then they are considered outsiders, none of His. Here is another little tidbit as well, baptism is something that takes place in the realm of the Spirit, baptizing or immersing spiritual people in living spiritual waters. All that other carnal stuff is partial, outward, and a total waste of time.