

"GOD IS WHO GOD IS; THE GREATEST?" - SEPTEMBER 19, 2021
THE SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
JEREMIAH 11:18-20; JAMES 3:13-18(-4:3A, 7-8A); MARK 9:30-37
Promises for your pocket or purse - Take notes and carry them with you.

It is no secret, we live in an age when most people want to buy the greatest, work for the greatest, be the greatest, provide the greatest for their families, and encourage their kids to be the greatest in every way. Even when it comes to our spiritual walk and conviction, many people try to be the greatest. There is nothing wrong with doing our best, in fact, that is what God wants for us to do as well. Jesus reveals to us again today, 'the greatest follower,' 'the greatest believer;' these are measured by God quite differently than they are by society. God is, Who God is; The Greatest: Truth, Wisdom, Servant, Change, Grace! Are you still looking for the greatest? By The Holy Spirit and God's grace, we see all God is! This is the greatest: to surrender in faith. This is the greatest: our Savior Jesus Christ! We have The Greatest, and The Greatest has each of us!

1. Jesus reveals to us again today, that 'the greatest wisdom,' 'the greatest follower,' 'the greatest believer;' 'the greatest gifts,' these are measured by God quite differently than they are by society.
 - A. God provides for us the greatest wisdom to proclaim all God is.
James 3:13, 17-18; Mark 9:31
 - i. Today, each day, God is revealing all God is.
 - ii. This is the greatest ... at the center of believing, following, trusting; the wisdom to live in God's blessing and claim on us, gracing us!
 - B. Jesus reminds us again today, He is Who He is, giving us the greatest call of all, to be the greatest servant of all, a call that changes lives, our lives!
James 3:13, 17-18; Mark 9:34-35
 - i. God calls us, transforms us, changes us, to serve, to find a balance between self and others, as we make God and our neighbors first.
 - ii. He is ... The Greatest transformation, the greatest change in us. God's love and servanthood in Jesus are The Greatest!

- C. The great gift of faith, graces us to follow, to trust, to serve, to surrender, to be transformed, changed. Whenever we proclaim, confess, and celebrate what we believe; we tell others - 'God in Jesus Christ is the absolute greatest Gift!' Mark 9:31-32,36-37
- i. He is The Greatest Gift, helping us see we are all God's children! Trust you are a child of God, too!
 - ii. Faith is trusting, announcing, surrendering, holding fast. He is ... The Greatest Gift, moving us to move in faith.
 - iii. When no one else sees us as a child of God, when no one else stands by us and believes in us; He is The Greatest Gift, lifting us up, seeing us, believing in us!
2. By the Holy Spirit, thanks to faith, in grace, as children of God, we have found what we have been searching for, so we celebrate, hold fast, live with great confidence, trusting God is Who God is, The Greatest:
- The Greatest Wisdom of all; (James 3:13,17-18; Mark 9:31)
 - The Greatest Servant of all; (James 3:13, 17-18, Mark 9:34-35)
 - The Greatest Change of all; (James 3:17-18, Mark 9:31, 35)
 - The Greatest Gift of all! (Mark 9:36-37)