

# The Lakeview Lamp

*"Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path." - Psalm 119:105*

**February 3, 2007**

## *Jesus, the Redeemer*

Bob Craig

JESUS had a mission -- "to seek and save that which was lost." The redemption of mankind. The Father sent him to fulfill that mission and sent him as His Son, The Son of Deity. That Sonship would have to be proven. *"But I have greater witness than that of John: for the works which the Father hath given me to finish, the same works that I do, bear witness of me, that the Father hath sent me"* (**John 5:36**).

In **John 20:30-31** Jesus laid down a guideline that must be observed: *"And many other signs truly did Jesus in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book: But these are written, that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye might have life through his name."* He must, and did, present some proof that he was the divine Son of God. The only way this could be established would be by a demonstration that divine power was dwelling in Him. There were other occasions when he demonstrated that the Holy Spirit was working with him, such as in the casting out of demons. He acknowledged the same at that time, but these must be signs purely of his own doing; deity working in Him. We have at least three, perhaps more inasmuch as he tells of many which are not written in this book. He must do something to distinguish Himself from the signs that his apostles could work.

Notice the record of his walking on the water and stilling the tempest in **Matthew 14:27-32**. Here was a demonstration of his power over that which He, Himself, had brought into existence – the elements. Here he did something that no other man had ever done and never would do as is stated in **John 15:24**: *"If I had not done among them the works which none other man did, they had not had sin: but now have they both seen and hated both me and my Father."* Some of the miracles other men (the Apostles) worked, but here were some that cannot be attributed to other men. The men who looked on this scene would be His witnesses. What did they see? They saw this man, Jesus, use one of the attributes of divinity – control of the elements – so the record states in **Matthew 14:33**: *"Then they that were in the ship came and worshipped him, saying, Of a truth thou art the Son of God."* They didn't question him about the power by which he did this. They had seen the attributes of deity working in this man, and that's what they would tell others.

Then the multiplication of the loaves and fishes. Read the account in **John 6:9-13**. Here was another demonstration of power over the material things of life. He made them – he had power over them – and he demonstrated it. What had they seen? They saw a man use one of the attributes of deity – control of material things – and it is written that we might believe. They saw something that man had never done before and would never do again. The conclusion drawn by the incident is found in **John 6:14**: *"Then those men, when they had seen the miracle that Jesus did, said, 'This is of a truth that prophet that should come into the world.'" That prophet was the Messiah, the Son of God.*

Then, there was the power of forgiveness of sins. Read the story from **Mark 2:5-11**. Here was another thing that no man before or after could do. Here was a man who had, and demonstrated, the attributes of deity. Their conclusion: *"And immediately he arose, took up the bed, and went forth before them all; insomuch that they were all amazed, and glorified God, saying, 'We never saw it on this fashion'"* (**Mark 2:12**). What had they seen? The Son of Man using the attributes of deity – forgiveness of sins. Surely he was more than just the Son of Man, he was the Son of God.

So John is saying in **John 20:30-31** that Jesus would show some signs, many signs, that he was the Son of God. They would have to be his signs, not the signs of someone else. The signs of someone else would not prove his identity. What did the people see? They saw, they witnessed, the attributes of deity. No need for us to argue about by what power he gave the sign. These are the signs that caused people of the first century to believe that he was deity. All people today will believe that Jesus was and is truly the divine Son of God, the Redeemer of mankind by believing and accepting the same signs.

Jesus claimed that he was the Son of God, deity. The people that heard him might have said, "Prove it." And he did.

## *Reason to Rejoice in Puerto Rico!*

Edward Rangel (whom we support)

I reported to most of you that two Sunday's ago we were blessed with the presence of 32 first time visitors. That was great reason to rejoice in Puerto Rico. I also requested that you all include this work in your prayers especially in the following up with these visitors. I would have been pleased if 1 of those 32 visitors had returned this past Sunday. But wouldn't you know it, not only did one of them return but we had 33 this time around. Please continue to pray for this work.

*“May the glory of the Lord endure forever; may the Lord rejoice in His works.” – Psalm 104:31*

# ***News and Notes***

**David Bansemer** had successful surgery last week and is now back home. He will be home for at least another week.

**Mary Burnett** had two more spells this past week but is doing better now.

**Connie Cobern** had an asthma/bronchitis attack last week but is doing better.

**Quinton Coppage** remains at Imperial Manor on Due West, room 420.

**Melissa Moore** has moved back home. Please add her to your directory. Her birthday is 12-17.

**Cotton Read** is still having breathing trouble.

**Nancy Read** had eye surgery last week to remove a cataract. She still has a piece of it in her eye and is going back Monday to have it removed.

**Bob Richard's** (Pat's husband) brother-in-law died last week in Indiana. His funeral was yesterday.

Thanks to **Jim Wooton** for cleaning up around the outside of the building.

**Out of town, traveling, or visiting:** Pat Richards (IN).

**New Reports from men we support:** Gary Hunt (NY), Chad Lynn (WV), Edward Rangel (Puerto Rico - see other page).

**Note** – If you have any news for the bulletin (out of town, sick, etc.), then please let me know by Saturday night. Thanks!

– Troy

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*"Rejoice always; pray without ceasing; in everything give thanks" (1 Thes 5:16-18).*