

Pastor's Post #6

Dear Friends in Christ and Fellow Believers,

We live in a day in which there is much confusion in terms of, "What Is Christianity?" You might react in this manner: "Pastor, people know what Christianity is and what Christianity is not today!" No, that's not true. Many people are perplexed in our world today concerning what Christianity is and what it is not. Allow me to explain.

What did we learn in catechism instruction? "The Christian faith is the confession that Jesus Christ is the world's only Savior and Redeemer." Acts 4:12 declares: "There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved." Christianity and the Christian faith are centered in Jesus Christ. In fact, the root of the word "Christianity" is "Christ" and the root of the word "Christian" is "Christ." A Christianity without Christ is no Christian faith at all.

The glory preachers and glory churches of our day may tell us exactly what our sinful flesh wants to hear. They may tell us what makes us feel good. They may satisfy our thirst to build us up in our own self-trust and selfishness. But, if they are not proclaiming Christ and not proclaiming what He has done as our Savior, then they are not professing Christianity and the Christian faith.

For, you see, our salvation does not come from what our sinful flesh wants to hear. Our salvation and wholeness and rescue, as in rescue from our sin and from the devil and from death, comes only in Jesus Christ and what He has done for us as our Savior. Your salvation and my salvation is in no one else but Jesus Christ. His is the only name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved. 1 John 5:11-12 asserts: "This is the testimony, that God gave us eternal life, and this life is in His Son. Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life."

By the power of the Holy Spirit working through God's Word, believe in the Lord Jesus Christ as your Savior. Rejoice in Christ in your life. Teach your children and grandchildren these things. And share them with your neighbor.

The Lord Jesus Christ bless you and your family.

Pastor Lindsay Watkins

(The quote from our catechetical instruction is taken from Luther's Small Catechism with Explanation. Concordia Publishing House. St. Louis. 2017. Page 43)
(The Scripture passages are from The Holy Bible, English Standard Version.)