

From the PASTOR'S DESK

Living in the Truth

In today's Gospel, two certain truths about the person of Christ are revealed to Peter. First, Jesus is the Christ, and second, He is the Son of the Living God. Jesus is the Christ, the long-expected one foretold by prophets. No one else in history has been pre-announced or predicted to come as He was. Both Jews and Gentiles longed for a deliverer, a redeemer. Peter acclaims that this is the One.

Because Truth is universal, Christ is not just deliverer of a particular people, nor the redeemer restricted to a limited time. He is the universal Savior, the Answer to the deepest questions and longings of the human heart. To you and to me, wherever we may be, He asks the same question, Who do you say that I am?

From what does Jesus deliver humanity? The answer is in the second part of Peter's revelation. Jesus is the Son of the living God, that is, the God of the Resurrection. He delivers us from mortality and decay. He delivers us from eternal death. Peter learns that Jesus, who shares in the nature of the living God, has the power to raise us from the dead.

This revelation leads to Christ's declaration that the gates of the underworld would not prevail against the Church. All who are baptized into Christ would not fall under the assaults of death. The final Word belongs to Christ.

We stand on the bedrock of what is revealed to Peter.

Fr. Hernan Cely

Pastor

