



CHRISTMAS DEVOTIONAL
WEEK ONE: PROBLEM

Heaven, We Have A Problem

"He who knew no sin became sin on our behalf, so we might become the righteousness of God." ~ 2 Corinthians 5:21

In April of 1970, Apollo 13 launched their mission with the intent of landing on the moon. Of course, if you know your history, or if you saw the Tom Hanks movie, you know there was an accident, followed by the now famous words, "Houston, we have a problem." It was quickly determined that there was now a new mission: the safe return of three astronauts back home.

We see a similar story in Genesis. God created a beautiful world for his people to live in and placed Adam and Eve in the utopic Garden of Eden. They were literally living in perfection. Of course, if you know your history, you know that in Genesis 3 Adam and Eve followed some bad advice, and in a moment, I can imagine the angels calling out, "Heaven, we have a problem." Sin had entered the world, and there was now a new mission: the safe return of God's creation back home.

This is why the Christmas story is so important. From the moment sin entered the world, God's plan was to make things right and provide a way back into perfection. Jesus entered the world on a mission to reconcile us back to God. He left heaven to create a way back home for each of us. Heaven is in our DNA. It is the place we really long for. And even in our wandering, our selfish ambition, our willful disobedience, we are longing for heaven, our real home. Jesus, fully God and fully man, chose to enter a dark, broken world to live, and ultimately die, to restore what was lost in the garden. What great news!!! This should remind us all to "...declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness and into his wonderful light." (1 Peter 2:10)

Today, thank Jesus that he was willing to leave his home in order to make a way back to the Father. Thank him for his sacrifice, and ask him who you need to tell about this great mission.

Prayer

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