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## **In Jesus, All Are Accepted**

During the 1800's there was a young boy who lived on the streets of London, England. One day he heard that the great American evangelist Dwight L. Moody was coming to preach in a church in London. The young boy wanted to go and hear Mr. Moody preach. On the day Mr. Moody was to preach, the young boy walked across town to the church where the American evangelist would preach. It took several hours for the boy to arrive at the church. As he looked up at the church it must have been a heavenly sight to him. He enthusiastically made his way up the steps.

Just before he was about to enter the front door, a man stopped him and asked him just where he thought he was going. The young boy told the man that he had come to hear Dwight Moody preach. The man informed the boy that he was not about to let him in that church because he was filthy. Since the poor boy lived on the streets he probably had not had a bath in quite a long time and possessed a bad odor. At any rate, the boy was turned away.

The boy believed that he could find a way into that church, so he proceeded to walk around the church looking for an open door or an open window. There was just no way in. The young boy finally gave up. He sat down on the front steps of the church and began to weep.

Then suddenly a carriage pulled up just in front of the church. A man stepped out of the carriage and noticed the young boy weeping on the church steps. This man asked the boy what was wrong. The boy replied that he had come to see the American evangelist Dwight Moody preach but no one would let him inside the church because he was too dirty.

The man took the young boy by the hand and told him to come with him. The man took the young boy up the steps right through the front doorway and down to the front of the church where the boy was seated on the front row. During the service, this man got up and preached—he was none other than the famous American evangelist Dwight L. Moody. No one questioned Mr. Moody's authority to bring that boy into the church.

The Holy Trinity dwells in a heavenly perfection. The Father, Son and Holy Spirit live in perfect harmony. Among the Trinity there is absolute purity, holiness, love, and goodness. We have quite a lot in common with that young boy in the story. If we listen to false teachers we might be led to believe that we are not fit for fellowship with God.

But listen to the words of Paul: "When Christ, who is our life, is revealed, then you also will be revealed with Him in glory" (Colossians 3:4, NASB). Mr. Moody made a dramatic appearance in that church with the "filthy" young boy. One day Jesus will make a dramatic appearance in glory as He presents you and me to the Father. Strangely, in a way this happened some 2000 years ago. As Jesus was raised from death, we were raised with Him. As Jesus was seated at the right hand of the Father, our human family was seated right there with Him.

It is fascinating that 2000 years ago the perfection of heaven was born as a child in Bethlehem and His name is Jesus. Something wonderful happened when Jesus came into our world. God became flesh. Jesus is fully God and fully man. Jesus remains fully God and fully man even until this

very day.

The second person of the Trinity wrapped Himself with the dirt of the earth. Jesus came walking down the dusty trails of our world. He came with a mission. He came to take you and me by the hand and lead us into eternal fellowship with the Triune God. It can be said that the Father reached through the Son in order to reconcile sinful dirty mankind.

Today Jesus is seated at the right hand of the Father in Heaven. You and I also are seated right there with the Son. Today we enjoy fellowship with God the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, who love us with unconditional love. In Jesus we are all forever accepted as adopted children of the Father.

*~ Mark Nelson*