

Week 32 – August 8-14

There Was Jesus



In the middle of March 2020 something called the corona virus impacted our world in a way unlike few things ever have. As world leaders sought to stop the spread of this virus, everyone's life was shaken. It seemed that everything we thought we knew and could count on was tossed in the air and came back down in strange, confusing patterns. Many restaurants, schools, and businesses closed, along with churches. Masks were required in public places, as was social distancing. Some stores placed arrows on the aisles to keep traffic moving in one direction. Many people had to work from home, including my daughter. Meetings could be held remotely on Zoom; we could see each other this way, but we weren't really together. The isolation and the limitations placed on our lives caused anxiety. What to do? Lean on Jesus! Through prayer, His sacred word, and other devotional readings, He has poured strength and peace and hope into our lives. Thanks be to God that when all is in disarray, He is there, on His throne and in control! Amen.

During the time of the pandemic, I have found great comfort and solace in a song performed by Zach Williams and Dolly Parton. The title of the song is "There Was Jesus". It proclaims that when everything falls apart, Jesus is with us to sustain us and carry us through. Though others may disappoint us, He never will. It may take some time for us to realize His presence and His actions on our behalf, but we can be assured that He is always with us, closer than hands and feet, closer even than breathing. What an astounding promise for this pandemic and always! In one of his sermons, Rev. Larry Lenow said that if everything else is stripped from our lives, there is Jesus. That is so true! At moments when I have very much needed to hear it, God has had my Christian radio station play this affirming song.

Carol Kutty

Scripture:

Isaiah 6:1-8

1 Peter 5:7

Hebrews 13:5b

2 Corinthians 12:9

2 Corinthians 12:10b

John 14:1-3

John 15:1-8