



## A Publication of the Winnetka Ave. Church of Christ

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### “ONE WHO BRINGS GOOD NEWS”

It was said that Walter Cronkite was “the most trusted man in America.” Nightly from his desk on the CBS Evening News, he would ply his trade as a trusted source for the news. He held the nation together when President Kennedy was shot and killed that fateful day in Dallas, Texas. During the years of the Viet Nam war and the unrest on college campuses, he set imparted the news. One wonders how he would look on the bombardment of news that assaults us twenty-four hours a day from television, mobile devices and the Internet. Then there is the task of trying to wade through the morass of personal bias in the delivery of said information. One of the sources I use for news is an electronic “newspaper” called 1440. One of the reasons that I read it is that there is a segment called “human kindness” that appears from time to time. A beacon of hope and good news.



good news. *“How delightful on the mountains are the feet of one who brings good news, who announces peace and brings good news of happiness, who announces salvation, and says to Zion, ‘Your God reigns!’”* (Isaiah 52:7)

The ultimate fulfillment of the glad tidings spoken of by Nahum and Isaiah is found with the arrival of Jesus, who is The Christ. The Messiah, the promised One (see Acts 2:22-36) Note the words of Paul as seen in Ephesians 1:7-10. *“In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of His grace which He lavished on us. In all wisdom and insight He made known to us the mystery of His will, according to His kind intention which He purposed in Him with a view to an administration suitable to the fullness of the times, that is, the summing up of all things in Christ, things in the heavens and things on the earth. In Him”* The summation of all things, in Christ. Thinking back on the newscaster Walter Cronkite, he was noted as concluding his broadcast with, “and that’s the way it is...”

Look at the opening of the book of Hebrews, where the author pens, *“God, after He spoke long ago to the fathers in the prophets in many portions and in many ways, in these last days had spoken to us in His Son, whom He appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the world.”* (1:1-2) A statement of power and in Christ we find the singular message of hope, found in the gospel of Jesus Christ. The definition of the word gospel is “good news”, and Jesus made it abundantly clear that His disciples are to be about the process of sharing the good news to a world in dire need of such (see Matthew 28:18-20)

As one reads through the Scriptures it is evident that the people had grown weary and were longing for good news. A message of hope as it were. In the book of Nahum there is such a time and message. Nahum describes in some detail the forth coming judgment against Ninevah that will be issued by God. Yet amid the description of destruction as seen expressed in chapter one, there is a message of hope. *“Behold, on the mountains the feet of him who brings good tidings, who proclaims peace! O Judah, keep your appointed feasts, perform your vows. For the wicked one shall no more pass through you; he is utterly cut off.”* (v.15) That message provided a ray of hope to the people who at the time were suffering through extreme inhumanity.

Isaiah as well echoed the message of hope. Once again the people were in dire need of

“and that’s the way it is...” (wbe)