

Mercy for Ignorance Comm Comm

As we gather here this morning, it is difficult not to think of the recent loss of one of our number. I can't begin to explain events such as this, and it reminds me of a scripture that I find more and more useful as time goes on. That is 1 Timothy 1:13-14, where Paul talks about his past and realizes:

Even though I was once a blasphemer and a persecutor and a violent man, **I was shown mercy because I acted in ignorance and unbelief.** The grace of our Lord was poured out on me abundantly, along with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus.

We can't possibly comprehend the full plan and providence of God; or the level of power that God expressed through Christ in His Love for us. We will have a fuller understanding of this power one day, but in the meantime may God have mercy on us in our ignorance.

For now, another verse from Paul is good to know; in 1 Corinthians 2:2 he says, "For I resolved to know nothing while I was with you except Jesus Christ and him crucified." [and I'll add: and then to know that He was resurrected] And so we respond to this with our own love and worship in Spirit and in Truth.

We look forward to a time when we will all feast at the table together (Matthew 26:29, Luke 22:18), reuniting with those we have temporarily lost. Think about how great that will be – all of us eating with and enjoying each other in fellowship! Because we are finally there with Christ the Bridegroom (Luke 5:34-35)!

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