



December 2018

GOD MADE A WAY...IN A MANGER

*"In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins."
1 John 4:10*

In December our thoughts turn to the birth of Jesus Messiah, and how full of joy we are as we enter into the season. We sing Christmas songs that help us worship Jesus in a most vulnerable state...as newborn baby, and we are constantly reminded by nativity scenes, both large and small, that He did in fact come into the world defenseless, exposed, and truly human. However, what we might miss during Advent is what He came to accomplish in His humanity.

GUARDING OUR SPIRIT

The Apostle John writes his first epistle to help Christians in that day guard against one particular heresy (here in its early stages) founded on a belief that a higher level of mind and matter existed. That is what Gnosticism was, the belief that all matter was evil and only that of a spiritual nature was good. One could easily survey this type of thinking and conclude that if it's true, a man could act as immoral as he pleased because there was no effect of sin on his spirit. However, we know that both body and spirit are intrinsically linked, and the one does affect the other. Apart from God, our spirit has no power to quell the flesh, nor can our flesh offer comfort to our spirit.

GOD'S PROVISION

Whether an attack on Jesus's humanity by those in John's audience, or modern-day well-wishers leaving Him in a perpetual state of infancy, the two are not very different from each other. The fact remains that God has supplied that which was required to appease His own wrath, and *this* is the ultimate definition of agape love. In spite of our not loving God, He sent His Son to earth to love us. Yes, He was born in Bethlehem of a virgin, in a stable, while shepherds watched their flocks by night. All this is certainly reason to kneel in awe-struck wonder and joyful praise of God. But perhaps the word *sent* needs our attention. Is it possible the whole of Christ's earthly

ministry is in view here? If so, it adds on an even more glorious thought!

The word *propitiation* means "to satisfy", or "to appease", and this is exactly what Jesus came to accomplish on earth. From His conception by the Holy Spirit, through His perfection as a sinless man, to the giving up of His spirit on the cross, to the ascension back to Heaven, the mission was to be the One who would conciliate the wrath of God meant to destroy sinners. Instead it was Jesus who would be the sacrifice as Isaiah prophesied, "*But the Lord was pleased to crush Him, putting Him to grief; if He would render Himself as a guilt offering, He will prolong His days, and the good pleasure of the Lord will prosper in His hand.*" (Isaiah 53:10) Oh the joy that rings with this great truth...that God saves us from Himself because of His never-failing love for us.

REFLECTING ON GOD'S LOVE

This season, when you reflect on the birth of Jesus, remember also to contemplate on the great love of God, who sent Him to become the appeasement and to accept the full wrath meant for us.

This article was written by Tim Files, an Aircraft Systems Analyst with Delta Air Lines. Tim also serves on our FCAP Board of Directors, assists in facilitating FCAP trainings, and represents FCAP at functions throughout the world. His wife, Carol, faithfully joins him in ministry both near and far.

From the FCAP Board of Directors and Staff ...



Romans 15:13

Our FCAP PHONE PRAYER CONFERENCE is held on the second Tuesday of each month at 10 a.m. EST. Contact office@fcap.org or call 770.461.9320 for details.



Fellowship of Christian Airline Personnel
www.fcap.org

THE FELLOWSHIP OF CHRISTIAN AIRLINE PERSONNEL

History:

The ministry of FCAP began in 1971 and was incorporated in 1973 when 50 people from eight different airlines in the United States and Canada met to consider how God wanted them to serve Christ in and through the airline industry. Since that time, the ministry of FCAP has spread in over 90 areas of the world. We are a fellowship among Christians in the airline industry worldwide that share a common commitment and focus.



Perspective & Focus:

Most people look at work primarily as a source of income. Some even view it as a curse imposed on them as punishment from God. **The Fellowship of Christian Airline Personnel** believes that God places a high value on work and is deeply interested in our work, our performance on the job and our relationships with our co-workers. We recognize that both our work and the way we relate to people in the workplace are of great importance to God. So it is our mission: *“To represent Christ in the airlines through meaningful relationships and quality work.”*

FCAP’s two-fold purpose encourages people to *know and experience God’s presence with them at work* and to *trust Him for the enabling strength in the responsibilities and challenges of work*. We see authentic ministry in the workplace as a result of our displaying this relationship to our Lord within the sphere of our influence at work, without being coercive or self-serving.

Values:

- We value doing our work wholeheartedly as unto the Lord, knowing we represent Christ by the quality of our performance while on the job (Ephesians 6:6).
- We value intentionally engaging our faith in the workplace by expressing it in both deeds and words (1 Timothy 6:17-19).
- We value influencing the people around us by creatively building relationships with them and looking out for their interest just as we do our own.
- We value connecting the church in the workplace by seeking out other Christians, to mutually show our love for one another and our care for the people God has placed around us (John 13:35).

Making Your Connection:

Like the airline industry is all about making connections, so FCAP is all about Christians making their connection in the workplace in three basic ways:

- Connecting God’s purposes in the details of your work.
- Connecting ministry to God working through you to influence the people and circumstances of work.
- Connecting the church in the workplace in unique and creative ways, in order to extend and strengthen its influence.

WE OFFER:

- Training that helps Christians integrate the Christian faith into the everyday details of our work and its challenges.
- Free publications and weekly thoughts that offer encouragement, gives focus, and provides information.
- Support and fellowship through local groups, prayer network, training sessions, special events and conferences.



The Fellowship of Christian Airline Personnel

The ministry of FCAP is carried on by everyday ordinary people throughout the airline workplaces of the world who go to work with an extraordinary calling. The FCAP ministry does not focus on specialized people, nor are we a special interest group focusing on certain issues. FCAP is a fellowship of Christians who identify with one another through a common focus and purpose. And we desire to demonstrate how our faith in Jesus Christ can influence the people and circumstances of our workplace. We are blessed to have both airline and non-airline people who encourage and support this ministry.

Your Next Step:

Check on the FCAP website to see if there is a group in your area, or seek out and connect with other Christians at your workplace. Contact us at the international office for further assistance or click on [“Connect With Us”](#) on the website.

**FELLOWSHIP OF
CHRISTIAN AIRLINE PERSONNEL**
136 Providence Road
Fayetteville, GA 30215
(770) 461-9320
office@fcap.org
www.FCAP.org

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