

JANUARY 5, 2020

TODAY: Morning Worship - 10:15 a.m.

Evening Worship - 6:30 p.m.

Messages by PASTOR JIM BYRD

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(webcasting live during listed service times)

WEDNESDAY:

Mid-week Service - 7:00 p.m.

Message by PASTOR JIM BYRD

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"Exalt ye the LORD our God,
and worship at His footstool; for He is holy" (Psalm 99:5).

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THIS PASSING YEAR

Tune: "DOXOLOGY" LM Words by Pastor Jim Byrd

We gather Lord Thy name to bless,
Thy saving mercies to confess;
We thank Thee for Thy blessings vast,
They filled the year which now is past.

Another year of life is gone,
What lovingkindness Thou hast shown!
Each day was filled with mercies new,
Refreshing as the morning dew.

With wisdom all our steps below,
Were ordered by the Lord we know;
And every trial we have faced,
Unto our God they all are traced.

Lord, now we face another year,
Yet trusting Thee we will not fear;
We look to Thee to guide our way,
And lead us through each passing day.

Lord if this should our last year be,
Then we from sin will be set free;
How wonderful to see our Friend,
And dwell where joys shall never end.

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Please remember to fill out the yellow information sheet and turn it into the church office. Even if nothing has changed, it will make it easier to compile all information if you complete a form. Thanks for your cooperation.

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IN SEARCH OF INWARD PEACE

It is good when someone desires inward peace concerning their relationship with God. To yearn for a blessed assurance that all is well with the thrice-holy God is certainly wise. When a person looks within, however, hoping to find that peace, that is, some validation of salvation, spirituality or holiness in their works, such a search for inward calm regarding a right standing with God will prove to be vain and useless. Here is the reason: all men, even the children of God, are infested with sin. "There is not a just (righteous, justified) man, upon the earth, that doeth good and sinneth not" (Ecclesiastes 7:20). "All have sinned and come short of the glory of God" (Romans 3:23). Everything we do has the slime and stench of corruption upon it, even the worship and service that we render to the Lord. Both the person and the works that are done, therefore, require the blood and righteousness of Christ to make them acceptable to God. The apostle realized this in Romans 7:24 and exclaimed, "O wretched man that I am! Who shall deliver me from the body of this death?" No sinner has ever found any God-given joy or assurance of salvation by examining their heart for some good deeds that they have done in order to give them peace with the all-glorious God. It is only as we look to Christ and His righteousness that our guilty consciences are quieted and peace within our hearts is experienced because we are saved because of the Redeemer and His accomplished work on our behalf. Nothing truly speaks peace to the soul except the Savior and His atoning death! When He died for our sins, we died to our sins! When He arose without them, we arose without them in Him! No judgment can ever come to those in whose place He laid down His life (Romans 8:1). It is in seeing that we are forever united to Him that our acceptance is assured. How astounding it is to know that the Lord views His people in His Son and in Christ we have no sin. Let us pour out thanksgiving to the God of all grace for the salvation that is ours in Christ. Paul realized that only in the Lord Jesus are sinners justified before God so he answered his own question by saying, "I thank God through Jesus Christ our Lord" (Romans 7:25).
--Pastor Jim Byrd

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"THE HEIRS OF PROMISE" (Hebrews 6:17).

Consider, (1st), An heir of promise is one who has no just right, or legal title, to an inheritance; but as it is ensured to him by the promise of the owner. Just so the Lord makes sinners, who have no right or title to this heavenly inheritance, a free promise that they shall be heirs to it. (2nd), When was this promise made? "Before the world began, God who cannot lie, promised eternal life" (Titus 1:2). (3rd), To whom could the promise be made seeing man was not then created? It was not made to man, but for man: not for anything in man, nor does the promise receive any stability by anything done by men. It was made in the eternal council and covenant by God the Father to His co-equal Son for and in behalf of all the heirs of God. (4th), Who are the heirs of promise? God knows every one of them. We know their name: it is sinner. In the fulness of time, He makes them manifest and they have blessed evidence and assurance of their being heirs. For, as the Father gave them to Christ, the Spirit draws them, and they come unto Christ. This is the blessed evidence of heirship. They are refugees. They flee for refuge from the curse of the law, the wages of sin, every hope and all help in themselves, to lay hold of Jesus their Trustee to whom the promise was made, in whom it centers and through whom it shall certainly be fulfilled. But neither their fleeing nor their faith makes them heirs, but being heirs in Christ, they are enabled to flee to Him, believe in Him and enjoy the comfort of it. (5th), See then, ye believing heirs, how safe your state, how secure your inheritance, "It is reserved for you" (1 Peter 1:4). "God, willing more abundantly to shew unto the heirs of promise, the immutability of His counsel, confirmed it by an oath" (Hebrews 6:17). O the love of God! O the horrid blasphemy of men! They who say an heir of promise may be damned, charge the great God with perjury! For, (5th), The inheritance is not by works. Not for anything we have done or can do: not for any grace given us. But being heirs by promise, grace is given us, that we should live and walk, like sons of God and joint heirs with Christ. As you did nothing to make yourself an heir of promise and to get a title to eternal life, so you can do nothing to forfeit it. It is "impossible for God to lie." He cannot be forsworn. His promise cannot fail. Yet, if you do not live like an heir of God, your faith will grow weak, your comfort low; you will lose sight of your title, and your Father will visit your offence with a rod (Psalm 89:32). -William Mason

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"I have no right to be an heir of God's most rich inheritance,
His promise gives to all a share who place in Christ their confidence.
Then Lord I humbly come to thee a sinner vile, wretched and poor;
O grant me clearly now to see, I've entered in by Christ the door."