

JANUARY 19, 2020

TODAY: Morning Worship - 10:15 a.m.
Evening Worship - 6:30 p.m.
Messages by PASTOR JIM BYRD
INTERNET: SermonAudio.com
Visit our website at: <<http://www.13thstbaptist.org>> www.13thstbaptist.org
(Webcasting live during listed service times)
WEDNESDAY: Mid-week Service - 7:00 p.m.
Message by PASTOR JIM BYRD

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"Behold, as the eyes of servants look unto the hand of their masters,
and as the eyes of a maiden unto the hand of her mistress; so our eyes wait
upon the LORD our God, until that He have mercy upon us" (Psalm 123:2).

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CHRIST OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS

Tune: "Majestic Sweetness" CM Words by Pastor Jim Byrd

Christ left His high and lofty throne,
To die upon a tree;
And by His sacrificial death,
He set the captives free,
He set the captives free.

Our many sins on Him were laid,
And justice dealt its blow;
When Jesus shed His precious blood,
He paid the debt we owed,
He paid the debt we owed.

His blood has cleansed us from all stain,
It's power, who can tell?
It saved our souls from sin and death,
From judgment and from hell,
From judgment and from hell.

Christ is our kind and gracious Friend,
So full of tenderness;
He is our Priest and Advocate,
Our perfect Righteousness,
Our perfect Righteousness.

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A NEEDY GOD?

Most preachers proclaim a god who has many wants and needs so they say things like, "God wants to bless you; he desires for you a good and prosperous life. He has a wonderful plan of health, happiness and prosperity, but he needs you to let him have his way." Just the other day I heard a television preacher say, "The only thing God needs is your faith to believe him; faith will open the windows of heaven and marvelous blessings will be poured out upon you; believe him and watch him bring it all to pass." Let's be clear: any god who requires your cooperation, who needs your faith to unlock his powers, who requires your permission so he can do what he wants to do is not the God of the Bible. Moreover, any preacher who proclaims such a useless, pathetic and pitiful god proves, by his message, that he is a false prophet. A weak, feeble and needy god is only an idol, an image that came forth from man's vile and vain imagination. Is the God of the Bible needy? Hear Him speak! The true God describes Himself in His Word as that One Who does whatever He desires to do, Who always performs His will. Jehovah said, "My counsel shall stand, and I will do all my pleasure" (Isaiah 46:10). David declared, "But our God is in the heavens: He hath done whatsoever He hath pleased" (Psalm 115:3). Again, the Psalmist said in Psalm 135:4-5, "For I know that the LORD is great, and that our Lord is above all gods. Whatsoever the LORD pleased, that did He in heaven, and in earth, in the seas, and all deep places." Job said, "But He is of one mind, and who can turn Him? And what His soul desireth, even that He doeth" (Job 23:13). It is written that the Lord, "worketh all things after the counsel of His own will" (Ephesians 1:11). Turn a deaf ear to those who set forth a pathetically weak god, whose purpose is dependent upon the cooperation of the creature. The God of the Bible is not needy, we are. --Pastor Jim Byrd

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They that know God will be humble; they that know themselves cannot be proud. --John Flavel

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SIN: NOT REMEMBERED - REMEMBERED

"For I will be merciful to their unrighteousness, and their sins and their iniquities will I remember no more" (Hebrews 8:12). The sins of God's elect are not remembered by the Lord because they were heaped upon Christ, as an awful weight, and He bore them away. Isaiah declared, "All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the LORD hath laid (made to meet) on Him the iniquity of us all" (Isaiah 53:6). "Laid on Him," means that the sins of all the sheep were gathered together, as though one bundle, and placed on Christ. This was the heaviest of burdens, such as only God could bear. Our sins, having been made to meet upon the head of our Scape-Goat, were then borne away by Him, something the animal sacrifices could never do. "For it is not possible that the blood of bulls and of goats should take away sins" (Hebrews 10:4). The express reason for Christ's incarnation was to remove the guilt of His people by the sacrifice of Himself. "And ye know that He was manifested to take away our sins; and in Him is no sin" (1 John 3:5). It is because our sins have been washed away in the blood of the Savior that they are not remembered by the Lord. Hear these gracious words of our covenant God. "I, even I, am He that blotteth out thy transgressions for Mine own sake, and will not

remember thy sins" (Isaiah 43:25). The sins of God's children are not remembered by Jehovah; they are forgiven and forgotten. Such is the infinite power of the bloody sacrifice of the Lord Jesus that He has completely removed every stain, stench and evidence of sin; nothing of it remains.

On the other hand, the sins of all those for whom Christ did not die will forever be remembered by the Lord. "Thus saith the LORD unto this people, Thus have they loved to wander, they have not refrained their feet, therefore the LORD doth not accept them; He will now remember their iniquity, and visit their sins" (Jeremiah 14:10). The sins of all those who leave this world in unbelief and rebellion are written down in the books which shall be opened in the final day of judgment. The Lord will not and cannot accept those who are "laden with iniquity" because He is of "purer eyes than to behold evil, and canst not look on iniquity" (Habakkuk 1:13). If sin remains, God remembers it and punishes it, but when sin has been taken away, there can be no condemnation for there is no iniquity to bring about judgment. Christ removed the sins of His sheep and God remembers them no more. "In those days, and in that time, saith the LORD, the iniquity of Israel shall be sought for, and there shall be none; and the sins of Judah, and they shall not be found: for I will pardon them whom I reserve" (Jeremiah 50:20).

-Pastor Jim Byrd