

FEBRUARY 23, 2020

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

Evening Worship - 6:30 p.m.

Messages by PASTOR JIM BYRD

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

Message by PASTOR JIM BYRD

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"Praise ye the LORD. O give thanks unto the LORD; for He is good: for His mercy endureth forever. Who can utter the mighty acts of the LORD? Who can shew forth all His praise?" (Psalm 106:1-2)

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I WILL PRAISE THE NAME OF JESUS

Tune: "Come Thou Fount" 8.7.8.7. double Words by Jim Byrd

I will praise the name of Jesus,
Prophet, Priest and reigning King;
Join with me and bow before Him,
Unto Him your homage bring.

I will praise the name of Jesus,
Who descended from above;
Came to save His chosen people,
Sent by God in cov'nant love.

I will praise the name of Jesus,
Who upon Mount Calvary;
Shed His blood to seal my pardon,
Died from sin to set me free.

I will praise the name of Jesus,
Risen, conquering, gracious Friend;
Jesus is my Mediator,
All my hopes on Him depend.

I will praise the name of Jesus,
O how good He is to me;
I will gladly bow and worship,
Praise His name eternally.

I will praise the name of Jesus,
Till I see His blessed face;
Then throughout the endless ages,
Praise Him for His love and grace.

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We are commanded to praise the Lord, yet it is not possible that a redeemed sinner can give Him all the praise He so richly deserves. The adoration of the Lord will be the eternal and delightful employment of blood-bought sinners in heaven's unending bliss. --Pastor Jim Byrd

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THE REIGN OF GRACE

"That as sin hath reigned unto death, even so might grace reign through righteousness unto eternal life by Jesus Christ our Lord" (Romans 5:21). God's free love has found for itself a righteous channel along which it flows in all its fulness to the ungodly. For while all that the believing man receives, he receives from GRACE, yet it is no less true that all that he receives, he receives from RIGHTEOUSNESS, from the hand of a righteous God acting according to the claims of a righteousness which is absolutely and divinely perfect. Thus, (1) God is the Justifier, (2) Christ is the cause, and (3) righteousness is the instrument. --Horatius Bonar

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GOD'S WORD SHALL ENDURE

"All Thy commandments are faithful...help Thou me" (Psalm 119:86). God's Word is all true; the more we test it, the more we will find it to be worthy of our unwavering confidence. Those who doubt its truth have never really proven its power. Those who mistrust it, in any degree, are as yet like inexperienced mariners who are constantly doubting and fearing what is going to happen, but those who have long done business on the great waters of the ocean of divine inspiration and who have seen the wonders of the Lord there, will tell you that, though heaven and earth shall pass away, God's Word shall endure forever. We have seen a thousand things in the course of our earthly pilgrimage, but there is one thing that we have never seen, and we never shall see, namely, God proving unfaithful to His promises and deserting His people in their time of need. "If we believe not, yet he abideth faithful: he cannot deny himself" (2 Timothy 2:13). --copied

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DIVINELY RESTORED

"Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned" (Romans 5:12). The first man sinned against God in the garden and, as the federal head of mankind, plunged us into a state of separation from our Creator. Let it be known, however, that the fall of Adam, far from ruining the redemptive purpose of God, worked to its fulfillment. It is in the restoration of sinners by His marvelous free and sovereign grace that God's greatest glory is manifested and all His attributes are wonderfully displayed.

Note that Adam and Eve, when they heard the voice of God, "hid themselves from the presence of the LORD" (Genesis 3:8). Was the Creator coming to justly pronounce their doom? Would they feel the fury of His anger? Must they perish in their sins? Would the Judge come to them in the heat of His vengeance? Behold the amazing grace of God! It is not with words of judgment that He comes, but with words of mercy. He approaches them, not to announce their eternal woe, but to declare their eternal salvation through "the Seed of the woman." The Lord did not proclaim everlasting doom, but everlasting life through a Substitute. Instead of wrath, there is mercy; instead of unending misery and torment, they shall have everlasting joy and happiness.

Now let me ask you, what person with any degree of spiritual understanding at all, would attribute the salvation of those two guilty, naked, undeserving rebels to their free-will or works? Read the Scriptures honestly. Did the fallen pair initiate the reconciliation? Who is doing the seeking, the fallen sinners or God our Savior? Who desired the restoration of fellowship? Who, in His infinite wisdom, devised the way whereby the guilty could be brought back to divine favor? Only a spiritually dead rebel would ever attribute salvation to the will or works of men. The Lord was in pursuit of the fallen and proclaimed "the Seed of the woman" (verse 15) would come and crush the head of the tempter. And then, the Lord illustrated the gospel of substitution and satisfaction. "Unto Adam also and to his wife did the LORD God make coats of skins, and clothed them" (verse 21). As our fallen parents watched, no doubt in horror, the Lord killed innocent animals, shedding their blood, then skinned them in order that Adam and Eve would be clothed. The guilty would live, not at the expense of justice, but in a manner consistent with justice. God had declared death to be the penalty of sin (Genesis 2:17), and the animals died in the stead of Adam and Eve. Four thousand years later, Christ came and it is written that He suffered, bled and died for this specific purpose, "to bring us unto God" (1 Peter 3:18). The Savior died in the stead of His people that "God might be Just, and the Justifier of him which believeth in Jesus" (Romans 3:26).
--Pastor Jim Byrd