

MARCH 15, 2020

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

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“I will say of the LORD, He is my refuge and my fortress: my God; in Him will I trust. Surely He shall deliver thee from the snare of the fowler, and from the noisome pestilence” (Psalm 91:2-3).

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FREE AND SOVEREIGN GRACE

Tune: “How Sweet the Name” CM Words by Pastor Jim Byrd

‘Twas sovereign grace that fixed on us,
To save a chosen race;
The blessings that abound to us,
To grace alone we trace.

‘Twas grace that brought the Savior forth
To be the Sacrifice;
He satisfied the law of God,
And paid our ransom price.

‘Twas grace that nailed Him to the cross,
To suffer in our stead;
To bear the burden of our guilt,
The dear Redeemer bled.

‘Twas grace that sent the Holy Ghost,
To quicken us when dead;
And by almighty, drawing grace,
To Jesus we were led.

‘Tis grace that brought us to the Lord,
When we were gone astray;
That grace still watches over us,
And guides us day by day.

‘Twill not be long and we shall see
Our Savior face to face;
And then forever we will praise
His free and sovereign grace.

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Nancy and I will be leaving this afternoon for a few days of rest. Next Lord’s Day, I’ll be preaching for the Sovereign Grace Baptist Church in Jacksonville, NC. Tonight and Wednesday night, brothers Ron Trabant and Allan Ison will be bringing the messages.

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We have no plans to cancel any of our services at this time due to the threat of the Coronavirus. However, out of concern for everyone’s health, I recommend we refrain from shaking hands or hugging each other until this crisis is past. If you want to wear a face mask, that is fine. Every precaution will be taken as far as disinfecting the building is concerned. If you are sick please stay home and if you feel you should remain at home during this crisis, I understand. You can always watch the service on the internet. As with all things, be mindful that sickness is in the hands of our Lord. Certainly you should make reasonable and common sense decisions, but there is no need to panic, our God governs all things. *“Be careful (anxious) for nothing; but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God”* (Philippians 4:6).

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THE IMPORTANCE OF THE BIBLE

Christianity is the religion of a Book. Christianity is based upon the impregnable rock of Holy Scripture. The starting point of all doctrinal discussion must be the Bible. Upon the foundation of the Divine inspiration of the Bible stands or falls the entire edifice of Christian truth. *“If the foundations be destroyed, what can the righteous do?”* (Psalm 11:3). Surrender the dogma of verbal inspiration and you are left like a rudderless ship on a stormy sea, at the mercy of every wind that blows. Deny that the Bible is, without any qualification, the very Word of God, and you are left without any ultimate standard of measurement and without any supreme authority. It is useless to discuss any doctrine taught by the Bible until you are prepared to acknowledge, unreservedly, that the Bible is the final court of appeal. Grant that the Bible is a Divine revelation and communication of God’s own mind and will to men, and you have a fixed starting point from which advance can be made into the domain of truth. Grant that the Bible is (in its original manuscripts) inerrant and infallible, and you reach the place where study of its contents is both practicable and profitable.

--A. W.

Pink

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There is nothing I feel more than the criminality of not trusting Christ without doubt! Oh, to think what Christ is, what He did, and whom He did it for, and then not to believe Him, not to trust Him! There is no wickedness like the wickedness of unbelief.

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LOVE FOR CHRIST

“If any man love not the Lord Jesus Christ, let him be Anathema Maranatha” (1 Corinthians 16:22). I say it with sorrow in my voice, but there are multitudes that have religious feelings and yet they do not love Christ. Salvation is in a Person, who He is, and what He did and why He did what He did. When will you know you are saved? When you love Christ. Who cares about the past or future? It is the present that is crucial - my position in Christ.

Why do we boast of our persons, our positions, our possessions, our gifts, our talents and call attention to these things, when we could be talking about the Christ of God? Paul said, *“I am determined to know nothing among you but a hated, despised Redeemer who died on a cross.”* Christ is my message. If He ever ceases to be my message, I’ve quit preaching. He said that he determined. Why was he so determined? Because he loved the Lord Jesus Christ.

I’ve never found anything to talk about that would even approach HIM. I can’t find anything more delightful than the love of Christ, and I can’t find any place where that love is expressed more fully than at Calvary. His suffering, dying sacrifice is the utmost in thought. Preaching

Christ is not our duty but our JOY. Natural men and women get excited and zealous about the doctrines of sovereign grace. But after a while the luster and beauty of grace grows dim in their eyes, and the glory of substitution is lost. They must seek something new and more profound, something mysterious. Love to Christ never needs more.

What shall be our theme? The doctrine of election? NO, the Christ of election! Whose banner shall we march under? Christ is my Banner. Christ is my Righteousness. Christ is my Shepherd. Christ is my Peace. Christ is my Provider. Christ is my Shield and Buckler. I have found Him whom my soul LOVETH. If I could finish my ministry and depart this world and leave something on record it would be CHRIST, CHRIST, CHRIST. Do you love the Lord Jesus Christ?

--Jack Shanks

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All the compassions of all the tender fathers in the world compared with the tender mercies of our God would be but as a candle to the sun or a drop to the ocean.

--Matthew

Henry