

January 8, 2017

TODAY: Bible Classes: 9:30 a.m.
Morning Worship - 10:15 a.m.
Evening Worship - 6:30 p.m.
Messages by PASTOR JIM BYRD
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 JIM BYRD

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TRUST THE GOD WHO REIGNS

Tune: "Majestic Sweetness," (CM)
Words by Pastor Jim Byrd

*With grateful praise we view the year
That now has passed away;
And thank the Lord for providence,
Which led us day by day,
Which led us day by day.*

*Our times of joy and sorrow too,
Were by our God ordained;
And through our happiness or pain,
Our faith He has sustained,
Our faith He has sustained.*

*He kept us trusting Jesus and
His blood and righteousness;
We thank Him for preserving grace,
And for His faithfulness,
And for His faithfulness.*

*So now we start another year,
To us it is unknown;
O may we trust the Lord our God,
Who reigns upon His throne,
Who reigns upon His throne.*

*What God has purposed for this year,
Will work out for our best;
This knowing, let us trusting be,
And in the Lord find rest,
And in the Lord find rest.*

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BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

Jan. 9 Matthew Kuehne
11 Barbara Marsh
Jim Byrd

Jan. 12 Caleb Malone
13 Nina Smith

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I want to extend my appreciation to all of you who made last Sunday's lunch such an enjoyable time together. The food was delicious and the fellowship was a great blessing.

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If a sinner is to be saved forever, several things had to happen. Justice must be satisfied, divine law must be honored, sin must be destroyed, Satan must be defeated, the world must be overcome, death must be triumphed over and God must be glorified. There is but One who can do these things - the Lord Jesus Christ!

—Pastor Jim Byrd

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FORGIVENESS

"If thou, LORD, shouldest mark iniquities, O Lord, who shall stand? But there is forgiveness with Thee, that Thou mayest be feared" (Psalm 130:3-4). This forgiveness that is with God, is such as becomes Him; such as is suitable to His greatness, goodness and all other excellences of His nature; such as that therein He will be known to be God. What He says concerning some of His works of providence, *"Be still, and know that I am God,"* may be much more said concerning this great effect of His grace; *"still your souls and know that He is God."* It is not like that narrow, difficult and limited forgiveness that is found amongst men - but it is full, free, bottomless, boundless, absolute; such as becomes His nature and excellences. It is, in a word, forgiveness that is with God, and by the exercise whereof He will be known so to be - God Himself doth really separate and distinguish His forgiveness from anything that our thoughts and imaginations can reach unto; and that because it is His, and it is like Himself. Forgiveness is an object for faith alone which can rest in that which it cannot comprehend. Faith is never safer than when it is, as it were, overwhelmed with infiniteness.

—John Owen, Puritan preacher

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"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to His abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead" (1 Peter 1:3).

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Thorns will not prick of themselves; but when held tightly in a person's hand, they prick deeply. So this world and the things thereof are all good and were made of God for the benefit of His creatures. It is our immoderate affection that makes them hurtful.

—Richard Sibbs, Puritan preacher

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SALVATION - ALL OF GRACE

If you could have been a witness when God chose a multitude of sinners unto salvation before the foundation of the world, you would have found that it was an *"election of grace"* (Romans 11:5). If you had seen the Son of God accomplishing His great work of reconciliation, rendering to the Father the full payment price for the redemption of His people, you would have discovered that it was a gracious purchase. If you could be an observer of the inner man when the Spirit of power effectually calls and regenerates rebels who are dead in sin and brings them to believe on the Lord Jesus Christ for the salvation of their souls, you would find that it was a work of pure grace. If you could view a justified sinner every day, beholding his faults and failures, his sins of thought, motive, word and deed, yet see his uninterrupted favor with a holy God, you would find that his perpetual acceptance is altogether of grace. If you could see into the future, into that eternal day when time shall be no more, when all the redeemed saints stand faultless before the throne of God in the righteousness of the Lord Jesus Christ, you would see that their glorification was all of grace. From the beginning to the very end, everything about the salvation of sinners is altogether by grace. *"For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: not of works, lest any man should boast"* (Ephesians 2:8-9). When it comes to the raising of sinners from the dunghill of iniquity and making them to be princes before God, there is no room for the flesh to receive any credit. *"He that glorieth, let him glory in the Lord"* (1 Cor. 1:31).

—Pastor Jim Byrd

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THE ROBE OF RIGHTEOUSNESS

"He hath covered me with the robe of righteousness" (Isaiah 61:10). We do not think it strange, or preposterous, to wear clothes, the materials of which we borrow from other creatures. And why should it be deemed absurd, that we should hide our spiritual shame, by appearing before God in the garment of another, even the righteousness of Christ.

—Augustus Toplady

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HOW TO READ THE BIBLE

In the introduction to his Bible translation which was first published in 1535, Myles Coverdale issued these words of wisdom. "It will greatly help you to understand scripture if you note, not only what is spoken and written, but of whom and to whom, with what words, at what time, where, to what intent, with what circumstances, considering what goes before and what follows."