

February 12, 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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ALLELUIA! PRAISE THE SAVIOR!

Tune: "Jesus, What a Friend for Sinners," (8.7.8.7.double)
Words by Pastor Jim Byrd

Alleluia! Praise the Savior,
He Who bore our sin and shame;
Alleluia! He has triumphed,
Sing His glories, spread His fame.

CHORUS: Let us love and praise the Savior,
Love and praise Him evermore;
Jesus is our great salvation,
Love and praise Him forevermore.

Alleluia! Praise the Savior,
Who for sinners once was slain;
Alleluia! Jesus saved us,
Washed away our guilt and stain. CHORUS:

Alleluia! For the Savior
Came to save His chosen bride;
Alleluia! He redeemed us
When for us He bled and died. CHORUS:

Alleluia! Jesus suffered,
Shed His blood sin to atone;
Alleluia! His the vict'ry,
His the scepter and the throne! CHORUS:

Alleluia! Intercessor,
Prophet, Priest and sovereign King;
Alleluia! He is coming,
All His ransomed home to bring. CHORUS:

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BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

February 12	Becky Golden	February 16	Rob Golden
13	Jennifer Maynard		Pat Toler
	Lindsey McSweeney	18	Roberta Dean
	Joe Ronk		

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"Return, we beseech thee, O God of hosts: look down from heaven, and behold, and visit this vine; And the vineyard which Thy right hand hath planted, and the branch that Thou madest strong for Thyself" (Psalm 80:14-15).

We extend our sympathy to the family and friends of Pauline Wright who departed from her earthly tabernacle last Sunday and entered into the presence of Christ. Her funeral was Tuesday.

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SUFFICIENT GRACE

Paul sought the Lord that his thorn in the flesh be removed. We have no knowledge of what that thorn was, but such was the painfulness and seriousness of it that the Apostle requested three times to be freed from it. The Lord's answer was, "My grace is sufficient for thee: for My strength is made perfect in weakness" (2 Corinthians 12:9). When the Lord's children are afflicted with disease and sickness, we ask the Lord to remove the thorn, if it be His will; after all, is He not the Great Physician? "Is anything too hard for the Lord" (Genesis 18:14)? Often, however, it is not His will to heal. The word given to Paul, however, remains valid to all who are loved by Christ; "My grace is sufficient for thee." We have our Redeemer's promise, He will give sufficient grace (saving and supporting grace) to endure whatever trial He, in His infinite wisdom, sends our way. May this promise be a soft pillow for all His suffering children. The Sender of the trial will give grace and uphold us by His strength in times of weakness. May our response be the same as Paul's. "Most gladly, therefore, will I rather glory in mine infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me." —Pastor Jim Byrd

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INEXHAUSTIBLE SUPPLIES

For these six thousand years God has been multiplying pardons, and yet free grace is not tired – Christ undertook to satisfy, and He hath money enough to pay. It would be folly to think that an emperor's revenue will not pay a beggar's debt. Even so, mercy is an ocean, ever flowing yet ever full. The saints carry loads of experiences with them to heaven. Free grace can show you large accounts and a long bill cancelled by the blood of Christ. —Thomas Manton

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ALL SPIRITUAL BLESSINGS

"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ" (Ephesians 1:3). Many think that spiritual blessings are held in reserve for those who plead with God to give them. It is generally acknowledged that the Lord has a plentiful storehouse of gifts, but the distribution of those blessings some believe to be conditioned upon the willingness of sinners to request and accept them. It is clear from this text, however, that God already blessed a chosen people with all benefits in Christ. These gifts are not withheld from men because of non-request; they already belong to the children of God. Nothing pertaining to eternal salvation is given because sinners beg God. His greatest gift was His only begotten Son and God did not send Him in response to men pleading for a Savior. The "unspeakable Gift" was unasked for and when He did come, He was unwanted (John 1:11). He was sent according to the eternal purpose of God to save a people by His sacrifice on the cross. God provides abundantly and freely, making those to whom He gives thankful to be the recipients, and His gifts never go unclaimed. Rather than the Lord giving because we ask, He gives in spite of not being asked and in spite of our rebellion, enmity and unbelief. In giving us Christ, "He hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness" (2 Peter 1:3); all of God's blessings are wrapped up in Christ. Furthermore, not only does God give unnumbered blessings in Christ according to His own initiative, He gives with no condition to be met on our part. There are no laws to be kept, no rules to be followed, nothing to be given Him in exchange. All spiritual blessings are given to us by grace alone in and through Christ alone. —Pastor Jim Byrd

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RESTORATION OF THE LOST SHEEP

"My people hath been lost sheep: their shepherds have caused them to go astray, they have turned them away on the mountains: they have gone from mountain to hill, they have forgotten their restingplace" (Jeremiah 50:6). Our first view of this peculiar people shall be in the place where God finds them. "My people," He says, "hath been lost sheep." They do not become sheep by being found, nor do they cease to be sheep by being lost. They were sheep eternally in the mind of God; and their becoming lost did not alter nor destroy their character of being sheep any more than the wandering of a sheep literally and naturally from the fold turns it into a goat. It may be lame, sick, or diseased; it may stray away miles from the fold; its fleece may be torn with briars or soiled with mud, and its whole appearance so altered that the shepherd can scarcely recognize it; but it is a sheep still, and ever will be a sheep while it continues to exist. And thus the elect being sheep eternally in the mind of God, and as such possessing an eternal union with the Son of God, could not cease to be sheep by falling in Adam, nor do their personal, individual falls, slips, and transgressions destroy their original, unalterable character. —J. C. Philpot