

April 23, 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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THE SALVATION OF GOD'S PEOPLE

Tune: "Amazing Grace," (CM)
Words by Pastor Jim Byrd

'Twas in the purpose of our Lord
Salvation was begun;
God chose a people for Himself
And gave us to His Son.

'Twas sovereign mercy that ordained
To save this fallen race;
All praise unto our wondrous God,
Who chose us by His grace.

'Twas Christ our Savior died for us,
The perfect Sacrifice;
Redemption's work our Lord has done,
He paid our ransom price.

'Twas by the Spirit of the Lord
That we were born anew;
To us He sent the gospel word,
Life-giving as the dew.

'Tis Christ Himself who undertook
To save His wayward sheep;
And to the Father He will bring,
All those He vowed to keep.

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What is a preacher? A preacher is a nobody who tells everybody about
Somebody who can save anybody. —Scott Richardson

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BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

April 22 Carlee Smith	April 26 Jeremiah Burchett
23 Jeannie Farris	27 Anna Kuehne
24 Ron Trabant	28 Peggy Kemper

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Richard Williams will confess his faith in the Lord Jesus Christ in believer's baptism. I will baptize him this evening at the beginning of our worship service.

Next Sunday we will partake of the Lord's Supper at the close of the morning service and then enjoy food and fellowship together. Food sign-up lists are on the front table: no service next Sunday night. To prepare the fellowship room for our meal, next Sunday, the adults will meet in the auditorium, the primary class in the church office and the teens in the pastor's office.

Some money has been given and designated for a new church sign. We have obtained bids for a new LED sign with electronic messaging, costing between \$12,000.00 and \$13,000.00; we have \$8,000.00 already. If you would like to contribute toward this project, put your gift in an envelope and mark it "SIGN." Thank you!

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CHRIST'S LOVE FOR HIS CHURCH

No matter how believers feel or what we do, the love of Christ toward us is just like the Savior, "the same yesterday, and to day, and for ever" (Heb. 13:8). His love was not caused by our goodness, we had none; it will not be diminished by our sins, we have many. His love existed before time began and when time shall be no more that love will still endure. Christ's love for His church is more certain than the light of the sun, more lasting than the mountains, and more to be prized than all the wealth of this world. Think of this, "Christ loved the church, and gave Himself for it" (Eph. 5:25). Such was His love that He laid down His life to satisfy divine justice, to put away our sins and to reconcile us to God. No wonder the Spirit inspired Paul to write, "And to know the love of Christ which passeth knowledge" (Eph. 3:19). Bless the name of Christ for His everlasting love for His covenant people. "Who shall separate us from the love of Christ?" It is this love which constrains us to do His will and to seek His glory in all things (2 Co. 5:14). May we, therefore, "Walk in love, as Christ also hath loved us, and hath given Himself for us an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweetsmelling savour" (Eph. 5:2). Let the praise of the saints arise to our Savior who, "having loved His own...loved them unto the end" (John 13:1). —Pastor Jim Byrd

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JOHN NEWTON'S WORDS TO AN AFFLICTED FRIEND

I pray that you may be enabled more and more to honor the Lord by believing His promise: for He is not a man, that should fail or change, or be prevented by anything unforeseen from doing what He has said. And yet we find it easier to trust worms (our fellow men) than to trust the God of truth. Is it not so with you? I can assure you it is often so with me. But here is the mercy, that His ways are above ours as the heavens are higher than the earth. Though we are foolish and unbelieving, He remains faithful: He will not deny Himself. I recommend to you especially that promise of God which is so comprehensive that it takes in all our concerns — I mean, that "all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to His purpose" (Romans 8:28). How hard it is to believe, that not only those things which are grievous to the flesh, but even those things which draw forth our corruptions and discover to us what is in our hearts and fill us with guilt and shame, should in the issue work for our good! Yet the Lord has said it. All your pains and trials, all that befalls you in your own person or that affects you upon the account of others, shall in the end prove to your advantage. And your peace does not depend upon any change of circumstances which may appear desirable, but in having your will bowed to the Lord's will, and made willing to submit all to His disposal and management. Pray for this, and wait patiently for Him, and He will do it. Be not surprised to find yourself poor, helpless, and vile; all whom He favors and teaches will find themselves so. The more grace increases, the more we shall be abased in our own eyes and this will make the Saviour and His salvation more precious to us. He takes His own wise methods to humble you and to prove you; and I am sure He will do you good in the end.

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The ordinance of baptism has been abused, misused and misunderstood. Some say it is of no value, others say that without it there is no salvation. The Word tells us salvation is by grace alone, but we must not say baptism is needless when the Savior gave instructions for believers concerning this ordinance. "He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; he that believeth not shall be damned" (Mark 16:16). The proper way to confess Christ before others is believer's baptism. —Pastor Jim Byrd

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Blessed Jesus, Lord of Zion, Thou alone our Guide shall be;
We rely on none beside Thee, and we follow none but Thee.
As a picture of the gospel, of Thy victory o'er the grave;
We who trust thee, precious Savior, are baptized beneath the wave.
Resting only in Thy merits, wanting to Thy will pursue;
Now we go beneath the water and begin a life that's new.

—Pastor Jim Byrd