

May 21, 2017

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

INTERNET: SermonAudio.com

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(webcasting live during listed service times)

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

Message by PASTOR JIM BYRD

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CONFIDENCE TO PRAY

Tune: "My Faith Has Found a Resting Place," (CM/Double)

Words by Pastor Jim Byrd

Come every soul who knows the Lord,
With boldness to His throne;
God never will refuse to hear,
The child He calls His own.
It is a throne of grace to those,
Who love the Savior's Name,
His blood has washed away our sin,
And cancelled all our blame.

Approach, dear one, the mercy seat,
That waits for you above;
Draw near with all your doubt and fear,
And find a Father's love.

The Lord preserves us by His pow'r,
And bears us up each day;
He never will forsake His own,
Nor cease to hear us pray.

He hears each cry for Jesus' sake,
Our great High Priest and King;
Come boldly to the throne of grace,
Your every need to bring.
The Father knows our weak estate,
Our souls He will sustain;
So come to Him in prayer for help,
You will not come in vain.

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BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

May 21 Sarah Brison
Isabella Burchett

24 Billie Horan

May 26 Clay Robbins
Neil Parker

Darlene Arthur

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"For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need" (Heb 4:15-16).

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THE KINGDOM OF GOD

"But if I with the finger of God cast out devils, no doubt the kingdom of God is come upon you" (Luke 11:20). Sin entered the world by Satan, and death entered by sin. Sin separated between God and our souls, but the incarnation of the Son of God brought our nature back to God which sin had separated, and the blood of Christ made us nigh, whom wicked works had made far off. Sin had its beginning by the tree of knowledge, and it had its end on the accursed tree. Adam sinned and died, and paradise was lost; Christ was made sin and died, and a better paradise was gained. The woman, being first in the transgression, was condemned to sorrow in child-bearing, and that sorrow brought forth the woman's great Deliverer. Sin is the sole cause of all our misery, and a sense of this misery renders us proper objects of God's mercy. By sin and death Satan aimed at the eternal destruction of men, and sin and death will be the eternal destruction of Satan. Nothing pleased Satan so well as bringing mankind under the sentence of death; and that sentence executed upon Christ bruised Satan's head, and he himself and his works were destroyed in the same nature that he had ruined. By the incarnation of Christ grace and mercy came to men, and by the death of Christ honour is brought to the justice and holiness of God. Satan is degraded, sin is condemned in Christ's flesh and the sinner is saved, and yet God appears just when He justifies the ungodly. Sin is freely pardoned and yet vengeance is taken on our inventions; forgiveness and cleansing are of free grace, and yet God is faithful and just in forgiving and cleansing. The sinner is bought with a price and yet saved and glorified by free grace. Sin brought us all under the wrath of God, but in pouring that wrath upon Christ, everlasting love was displayed to men. All the works of devils have been to destroy human nature, and by a Judge in human nature shall all devils be judged and destroyed. Devils are the accusers of the brethren, and the brethren shall be the judges of the devils. Men, aspiring to be like gods, fell under the dominion of fallen angels; Christ, by being made a little lower than the angels of light, raised us to an honour above them. —William Huntington, S.S. English preacher, 1745-1813

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CHRIST'S PRAYER FOR HIS OWN

"Neither pray I for these alone, but for them also that shall believe in Me through their Word" (John 17:20). The entirety of salvation is sure to all who believe the gospel, even to the weakest believer. How can this be true? Salvation is certain, not because of our faithfulness, but because of the unchangeable covenant of grace, the successful substitutionary death of Christ, the effectual life-giving power of the Holy Spirit and the unfailing promises of God. Though there is an abundance of corruption in our nature, a world of temptation surrounding us and legions of devils set in opposition against us, yet we shall be kept safe all the way to everlasting glory. Our text is part of the prayer of our great High Priest to the Father the night before His death. Though the horrors of the cross awaited Him, all of those in whose stead He would lay down His life were upon His heart and in His mind's eye. We had then, and continue to have, a place in His deep affection and we are being carried to heaven upon His almighty shoulders. Be assured, child of God, we will be brought to eternal bliss where we will ascribe salvation to our God and unto the Lamb throughout the happy ages of a never-ending eternity. Here is another excerpt from His prayer. "Father, I will that they also whom Thou hast given Me, be with Me where I am, that they may behold My glory" (John 17:24). —Pastor Jim Byrd

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THE ENCOURAGEMENT OF THE GOSPEL

The only real, lasting encouragement a sinner can have in this world is to be found in the glorious gospel of Christ our Savior. This gospel is the declaration that because of the person and finished work of Christ, God will give grace and glory to all those in whose stead the Son of God died and arose. It is not a message of conditions man must meet in order for the grace of God to flow to the undeserving; rather, it is the announcement that God, for Christ's sake, receives and saves a multitude of unworthy sinners. This is a salvation altogether of grace, solely dependent upon the blood and righteousness of the Son of God.

1. This message gives hope to sinners who merit the wrath of God. "When we were yet without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly" (Romans 5:6).

2. This message gives peace and assurance to those who believe on Him. "Fear not: for I have redeemed thee, I have called thee by thy name; thou art mine" (Isaiah 43:1).

3. This message motivates the children of God to praise, worship and faithfulness. "The love of Christ constraineth us" (2 Corinthians 5:14).

4. This message encourages every preacher of the gospel because the Lord has promised that as His Word goes forth, "it shall not return unto me void" (Isaiah 55:11).

—Pastor Jim Byrd