

May 28, 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

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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SING OF SOVEREIGN GRACE

Tune: "This Is My Father's World," (SM/Double)

Words by Pastor Jim Byrd

*Come sing of sovereign grace,
Ye people of the Lord;
Proclaim Jehovah's matchless grace,
Join in with one accord.
Christ gave Himself to die,
Behold redeeming grace!
The Substitute laid down His life,
To save His chosen race.*

*The Spirit to us came,
When we in sin were dead;
Poured quick'ning grace into the souls,
Of those for whom Christ bled.
That grace which saves from sin,
Instructs us on our way;
And grace will keep us ever safe,
Nor let us go astray.*

*A vessel of His grace,
By covenant design;
By grace the Savior calls me His,
By grace I call Him mine.
The good news of His grace,
Should calm each doubt and fear;
God saves us by His grace alone,
Sweet message to the ear.*

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BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

May 28 Larry Smith

29 Jim Smallwood

30 Dorothy Terry

Taylor Robinette

May 31 Ron Kuehne

June 1 Connie McSweeney

June 3 Cora Holbrook

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"The curse of the LORD is in the house of the wicked: but He blesseth the habitation of the just. Surely He scorneth the scorners: but He giveth grace unto the lowly" (Proverbs 3:33-34).

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Our church sign is quite old and in need of replacement. Gifts totaling \$8,700 have been contributed toward a new LED sign. The total cost of a new one will be somewhere between \$12,000 and \$13,000. If you want to give toward this project, put your gift in an envelope and mark it "SIGN."

Vacation Bible School dates: June 12-15. Our annual church picnic at Armco Park will be on Friday, the 16th.

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A FULL-TIME ADVOCATE

"My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the Righteous" (1 John 2:1). This Scripture encourages the believer to trust and hope in the mercy of God AT ALL TIMES! It does not say, "If any man is holy, prayerful, and always faithful, he has an Advocate;" but it says, *"If any man SIN, he has an Advocate with the Father."* It does not say, "If any man sins he forfeits his right to Christ's advocacy." Grace that can be forfeited because of human failure is not grace at all. Mercy that is conditioned upon the merit of the creature is not mercy at all. If my title to glory rests upon my works, either BEFORE OR AFTER conversion, it is a total failure. This scripture declares that at all times, under all circumstances, Jesus Christ is our Righteousness, our Sanctification, our Advocate, and our Redemption. So when I sin, when I consider my past or present and come creeping to my closet with a guilty conscience and an aching heart, I can rejoice in the mercy of my Father, for I have an advocate – *"Jesus Christ the Righteous!"*

—Henry Mahan

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MAY WE NEVER DENY OUR MASTER

John Bunyan refused to turn his back on the gospel of God's free grace in Christ, even though the authorities put him in prison for continuing to preach that glorious message. They told him, "Mr. Bunyan, you can come out of prison whenever you promise to cease preaching the gospel." He replied, "If you let me out of prison today, I will preach again tomorrow, by the grace of God." "Well," said they, "Then you must go back to prison," and this was his answer. "I will go back and stay there if need be till the moss grows on my eyelids, but I will never deny my Master."

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GIVE GOD THE GLORY

The Lord is Trinity - Father, Son and Holy Spirit. He is eternal, without beginning or ending. *"From everlasting to everlasting, Thou art God"* (Psalm 90:2). His Name is *"Holy and Reverend"* (Psalm 111:9) and He dwells *"in the light which no man can approach unto"* (1 Tim. 6:16). None can comprehend or describe His immaculate, incomprehensible glory. The Lord is completely removed from all defect and fault. His strength knows no weakness and His power has no boundary. He is the infinite God, full of knowledge, wisdom, goodness and mercy. He is distinguished by His unchangeable perfections and attributes. His Being is underived; His decrees are eternal; His will is sovereign; His freedom is absolute; His control is limitless; His throne is secure; His government is universal; His knowledge extends to all things and His ways are past finding out. His purity cannot be tarnished; His will cannot be resisted; His serenity cannot be disturbed; His kingdom cannot be overcome; His purpose cannot be defeated. He rules the world for the glory of His name and the welfare of His people. He created and maintains all things for His own pleasure.

In old eternity, for His glory and in covenant love, God chose a multitude which no man can number to be the recipients of His saving grace and committed them to the care of Christ their Surety, in whom they were chosen. Along with the rest of Adam's race, His elect became depraved through Adam's transgression. About two thousand years ago, the only begotten of the Father joined Himself to humanity. Jesus came *"to save His people from their sins"* (Matthew 1:21). *"It pleased the LORD to bruise Him"* (Isaiah 53:10). By sacrificing His Son for our sins, God satisfied the demands of His inflexible justice which required death for sin. *"Grace reigns through righteousness unto eternal life by Jesus Christ our Lord"* (Romans 5:21). Christ was raised from the dead because He had obtained eternal redemption for His people. Now ascended to His throne, He reigns over all and gives *"eternal life to as many as the Father has given Him"* (John 17:2). At the appointed time, He sends His Spirit Who uses the gospel to regenerate His spiritually dead people, and grants them repentance toward God and faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. By the power of effectual grace, these sinners are brought to believe on the Son and rejoice that they are made the righteousness of God in Him. They are preserved in Christ until taken to heaven where they will enjoy and worship the Lamb of God forever.

This is the God of the Bible, the God I worship and the God I proclaim. *"Give unto the LORD the glory due unto His name; worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness"* (Psalm 29:2).

—Pastor Jim Byrd