

June 18, 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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CHRIST RESCUED ME

Tune: Doxology

Words by Pastor Jim Byrd

Before the world was ever made,
Or earth's foundations had been laid;
Back in the vast eternity,
Christ purposed He would rescue me.

Down to this earth one day He came,
To save me from my guilt and shame;
And when He died upon the tree,
Christ paid my debt and rescued me.

Though I was lost and dead in sin,
The Spirit wrought a work within,
He gave me faith in Christ to flee,
By mighty grace He rescued me.

My Lord walks with me every day,
And guides me in the wisest way;
I need not fear life's stormy sea,
Christ ever lives to rescue me.

And when my flesh shall faint and die,
My soul will rise above the sky;
Then with the Lord eternally,
I'll sing of Him Who rescued me.

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Effectual calling is the middle link in the undividable chain of salvation. He that hath it is sure of both ends, his past predestination to life and his future glorification. Our calling is the manifestation of our election, and a sure forerunner of glory, being in effect, the voice of God telling us beforehand that He will glorify us.

—William Cowper, author of "There is a Fountain"

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BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

June 20 Karen Salyers

23 Sarah Busch

June 24 Buddy Imes

Leah Lauhon

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I will be speaking Tuesday evening at the Lawrence County Park Conference Center in Louisa. The service begins at 6:00PM.

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We express our sympathy to the family of Connie Sexton who passed away June 12th.

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I appreciate everyone who labored to make our Bible School successful. I give thanks to the Lord for your faithfulness and commitment to the gospel and to our children. We ask for the Lord's saving mercies upon young people.

What a wonderful church picnic we had Friday; great food and precious fellowship! A special "thank you" to those who cooked and for all who prepared the good food that we enjoyed.

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ONE MEDIATOR

"For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus" (1 Timothy 2:5). "A mediator is one who intervenes between two, either in order to make or restore peace and friendship, or form a compact, or for ratifying a covenant" (Strong's Concordance). Mary is not a mediator; she needed a mediator and she rejoiced in God her Savior (Luke 1:47). Dead saints are not mediators for they too were sinful and needed someone to represent them to God. According to the scriptures, there is a single Mediator and He is "the man Christ Jesus." This glorious God-Man stands between a holy God and His fallen people. "But your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid his face from you, that he will not hear" (Isaiah 59:2). From old eternity, Christ set Himself to the business of bringing the offended Father and His beloved, but erring children back together. Sinners have broken God's law and His justice is stirred to vengeance against their sins. Christ stood between us and God in His substitutionary death, making reconciliation to God for our transgressions. By His death and resurrection, He brought us nigh unto God, making peace by the blood of His cross. Upon the basis of His life laid down, He has been exalted to the right hand of the Father where He intercedes for us as Advocate. He sees to it that all the blessings of the covenant of grace are applied to us. By His Spirit, He makes us to believe Him, rejoice in Him and in His work as Redeemer and He presents us to the Father, washed in His blood and robed in the garment of His own righteousness. He is the only channel of communication and activity between the Lord and sinners. As it is only through Christ that God's mercies flow unceasingly down to us, so it is only through Christ that our prayers rise up to God. "By Him therefore let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of our lips giving thanks to His name" (Hebrews 13:15).

—Pastor Jim Byrd

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WONDERFUL GOODNESS AND INFLEXIBLE SEVERITY

"He that spared not His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things?" (Romans 8:32). We may observe, in one view, the wonderful goodness and inflexible severity of God. So great was His goodness that, when man was by sin rendered incapable of any happiness, and obnoxious to all misery; incapable of restoring himself, or of receiving the least assistance from any power in heaven or in earth; God spared not His only begotten Son, but, in His unexampled love to His own, gave Him, who alone was able to repair the breach. Every gift of God is good. The bounties of His common providence are very valuable; that He should continue life, and supply that life with food, raiment, and a variety of comforts, to those who by rebellion had forfeited all, was wonderful: but what are all inferior blessings compared to this unspeakable gift of the Son of His love? Abraham had given many proofs of his love and obedience before he was commanded to offer up Isaac upon the altar; but God seems to pass by all that went before, as of small account in comparison of this last instance of duty. "Now I know that thou fearest God, seeing thou hast not withheld thy son, thine only son, from Me" (Genesis 22:12). Surely we likewise must say, in this was manifested the love of God to us, because He gave His Son, His only Son, for sinful men. But all comparison fails. Abraham was bound in duty, bound by gratitude; neither was it a free-will offering, but by the express command of God. But to us the mercy was undesired, as well as undeserved. "Herein is love, not that we loved God" (1 John 4:10). On the contrary, we were enemies to Him and in rebellion against Him, but He loved us and "sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins," the sins we had committed against Himself. My friends, ought not this love to meet a return? Is it not most desirable to be able to say, as the Apostle in 1 John 4:19, "We love Him, because He first loved us?" Should it not also be our continual inquiry, "What shall I render to the LORD for all His benefits," especially for this, which is both the crown and the spring of all the rest? —John Newton, author of "Amazing Grace"

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"And, ye fathers, provoke not your children to wrath: but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord" (Ephesians 6:4).

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THE INFLUENCE OF THE BLOOD

Has atoning blood so influenced our eyes that we see no true beauty apart from Christ crucified? Has atoning blood influenced our ears so that we can listen to no sound so sweet as that of Jesus' precious name? Has atoning blood so influenced our hands that we are willing to labor for His sake? Has atoning blood so influenced our feet that we cannot safely take a single step without Him? If this is the case with us, then we are the servants of Jesus Christ, bought with His blood, born into His family and blessed with His bounty.

—Thomas Bradbury