

June 25, 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 ELDER RON TRABANDT
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 ELDER RON TRABANDT

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CHRIST ALONE IS ALL WE NEED

Tune: "Jesus, Lover of My Soul," (7.7.7.7 double)

Words by Pastor Jim Byrd

Saving grace how sweet the sound,
Where shall praise enough be found;
Praise to tell what God has done,
Praise to honor Christ the Son?
Chosen by God's sovereign grace,
Members of a ransomed race;
What a wondrous, gracious plan,
God would raise up fallen man.

Lo! In time the Savior came,
Friend of sinners - what a Name;
He the woman's promised Seed,
Jesus meets our ev'ry need.
He who knew no sinfulness,
Charged with our own wretchedness;
Died upon the cruel cross,
Saving us from endless loss.

By His blood we are forgiv'n,
Jesus makes us fit for heav'n;
His the righteousness we plead,
Christ alone is all we need.
Praise the Lamb who reigns on high,
All our hopes on Him rely;
By Him we are justified,
His great Name be magnified.

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BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

June 27 Terri Thomas
28 Nancy Byrd

June 30 Wendy Kuehne
Glenda Fliehman

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Nancy and I are leaving after the morning service for a few days. Brother Trabandt will speak this evening and Wednesday night. We will be back Thursday or Friday, the Lord willing.

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"But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship Him. God is a Spirit: and they that worship Him must worship Him in spirit and in truth" (John 4:23-24)

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CHRIST SETS THE CAPTIVES FREE

A wealthy and philanthropic individual visits a prison and approaches the dungeon in which a wretched captive lies bound with chains and fetters, and strongly secured within walls, and doors, and bars. He proclaims loudly to the captive that he has brought gold sufficient for a ransom on condition that the captive will liberate himself from his chains, burst open his prison doors and come forth. "Alas," exclaims the wretched man, "your kindness does not reach my case. Unless your gold can effect my deliverance, it can be of no service to me. The offer of it on such terms can do me no good."

Now, although there is a great difference between physical and spiritual inability, yet one serves to illustrate the other. Man by nature is as spiritually unable to believe in Christ as the prisoner is physically unable to break his chains and open the prison doors; so that all this boasted sufficiency of the atonement is only an empty offer of salvation on certain terms and conditions; and such an atonement is much too weak to meet the desperate case of a lost sinner.

But, how different is the salvation of God! "By the blood of Thy covenant, I have sent forth Thy prisoners out of the pit wherein is no water" (Zechariah 9:11). Jesus, by His death, hath paid the ransom and made the captives His own. Therefore, He has a legal right to their persons and with His own power He brings them forth. It is glorifying to His grace to bring out the prisoners from the prison and them that sit in darkness out of the prison house. "I the LORD have called thee in righteousness, and will hold thine hand, and will keep thee, and give thee for a covenant of the people, for a light of the Gentiles; to open the blind eyes, to bring out the prisoners from the prison, and them that sit in darkness out of the prison house" (Isaiah 42:6-7). —William Rushton

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MERCY AND TRUTH

"For Thou, Lord, art good, and ready to forgive; and plenteous in mercy unto all them that call upon Thee" (Psalm 86:5). It is delightful to speak about the mercy of God, but always be mindful that forgiveness and salvation for the sinful cannot come to sinners apart from consideration of the legal requirements of God. "The soul that sinneth shall die." The righteous Judge cannot clear the guilty without satisfaction for sin. The sweet mercy of the Lord will never be exercised at the expense of His justice. His violated law demands death for all transgressions. God cannot be at peace with sinful men in a way that is dishonoring to His truth and righteousness. His only begotten Son has rendered to Him the required price for the redemption for His chosen people. His precious blood has been shed so that God can be a just God and a Savior. The sacrifice of the good Shepherd to divine justice on the behalf of His sheep was the price that forevermore silenced divine vengeance, exhausted the wrath of God and, when revealed and applied to them by the Holy Spirit to a sinner's heart, speaks peace to the troubled conscience telling them all is well with a holy God. "Mercy and truth are met together; righteousness and peace have kissed each other" (Psalm 85:10). —Pastor Jim Byrd

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But God forbid that I should glory, save in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom the world is crucified unto me, and I unto the world" (Galatians 6:14). For his own part, the Apostle was determined to glory in nothing save the cross of Christ. He had gone out to Him without the camp, bearing His reproach, and like Moses, he counted the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures of Egypt. The cross is here put for the atoning sacrifice of the Son of God upon the cross. This is the foundation which God hath laid in Sion for the hope of the guilty. His own self bare the sins of His people in His own body on the tree; they are justified by His blood, redeemed from the curse; and upon this, and this alone, believers rest their hope. They do not glory in any real or fancied superiority over others. They behold the glory of the Lord shining in the face of Jesus Christ. Through the rent veil of the Redeemer's flesh, they draw near to their covenant God, seated on a throne of grace; and, beholding the perfection of the sacrifice offered on Calvary, and arrayed in their Redeemer's everlasting righteousness, they challenge the universe to lay anything to their charge.

—James Haldane