

July 9, 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

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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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SING THE PRAISES OF THE LORD

Tune: "Loved with Everlasting Love," (77.77/double)

Words by Pastor Jim Byrd

*What a wondrous mystery,
Christ Himself, the Deity;
Came into this world of woe,
Paid in full the debt we owe.
Son of God, mighty to save,
His own life He freely gave;
Praise His holy, blessed Name,
Christ for guilty sinners came;
Praise His holy, blessed Name,
Christ for guilty sinners came.*

*Jesus Christ, the woman's Seed,
Who alone could meet our need;
Son of Man and Son of God,
In this wicked world He trod.
Though One of the trinity,
He endured adversity,
God of all eternity,
Perfect Son of Man was He;
God of all eternity,
Perfect Son of Man was He.*

*Jesus came, O sing this song,
Christ the Savior promised long;
And His death upon the cross,
Saved us from eternal loss.
Though He died, He ever lives,
And to us salvation gives;
Lift your voice, His praises sing,
Jesus Christ, our God and King;
Lift your voice, His praises sing,
Jesus Christ, our God and King.*

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BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

July 9 Joyce Armstrong

10 Becky Reffitt

July 11 Katie Cunningham

14 Russell May

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Next Sunday, Jean-Claude and Wendy Souillot will be our guests. Brother Souillot will bring us up-to-date on the missionary work during the morning Bible Class and preach in the morning and evening services. There will be light refreshments and an ice cream social in the fellowship hall following the evening service. Sign up sheets are on the front table.

We extend our sympathy to Pat Toler and her family. Pat's sister Barbara Nichols passed away Thursday. Her funeral will be in Chicago on Wednesday.

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SALVATION WITHOUT COMPROMISE

The salvation of sinners is so wisely designed that God can forgive His people, be at peace with them and declare them righteous without any injustice to His law which demands death as the wages of sin. *"Mercy and truth are met together; righteousness and peace have kissed each other"* (Psalm 85:10). Mercy and truth met and righteousness and peace kissed each other in the cross of Christ. Behold the substitutionary death of our Savior and see divine justice satisfied in the punishment of the Just One in the stead of the unjust ones. The perfect Sacrifice was slain and all the guilty ones for whom He died were freed. *"Then He is gracious unto him, and saith, Deliver him from going down to the pit: I have found a ransom"* (Job 33:24). The Lord did not lower His standards nor compromise His law in this salvation. He saves sinners, not at the expense of justice, but with its full consent through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus.

—Pastor Jim Byrd

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GOD ALONE EXALTED IN SALVATION

My friends, do you love to hear Christ lifted up and exalted as your all and in all? If you do you are willing to be made less than nothing and vanity in yourselves. Professors of religion, generally, do not like to be thus humbled; they love to have something to do, in whole or in part, to recommend themselves to God. But the Lord's salvation is not a mixture of grace and works. It is of free and sovereign grace, received by faith alone, which is the gift of God. The Lord alone be exalted as the Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the ending, the first and the last in the salvation of His people. —John Kershaw, 4/30/1814

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A REDEMPTION THAT ACTUALLY REDEEMED

We must not be vague about the substitutionary death of our Savior. To merely say to this religious generation, "Christ died for sinners," is to not tell the whole truth. The sacrifice of the Lord Jesus was a victorious death for a particular people; His was a redemption that actually redeemed His chosen people. *"Christ loved the church and gave Himself for it"* (Ephesians 5:25). *"I am the good Shepherd: the good Shepherd giveth His life for the sheep"* (John 10:11). Let me be clear: it is blasphemous to say that Christ died for those who will someday perish in their sins. How demeaning to the Savior to insist that He suffered the infinite wrath of God for many who will themselves also suffer divine wrath. The righteous Judge cannot punish any sinner whose sins have already been washed away by the blood of Christ. The Scriptures teach that the design of the Lord from old eternity was the salvation of His people. In covenant grace, Christ assumed full responsibility for the spiritual indebtedness of those entrusted to Him by the Father. According to the Word of God, the purpose of the Savior's death has been realized. His sheep have been redeemed. *"He obtained eternal redemption for us"* (Hebrews 9:12). Christ bought His people with His blood and it is absurd to think that He would purchase them and then not have them with Him for all eternity. Universal redemption is a lie for it says that Christ died for all men without exception, but His blood is only effectual if the sinner adds his part, which is usually said to be faith. Such teaching makes salvation conditioned upon the sinner, not the sacrifice of Christ. Some who object to the truth of particular redemption say, "According to what you are preaching, there are some people in this world for whom the Lord Jesus did not die and that really bothers me." I will tell you something infinitely worse. If what the universalists say is true (and it isn't!) there are myriads of people in hell whose sins have been made an end of, whose transgressions are finished, reconciliation has been made for their iniquity and everlasting righteousness has been brought in for them by Messiah (Daniel 9:24). What a travesty of divine justice that would be! Sinners perishing even though Christ redeemed them? There's nothing righteous about that!

What a glorious truth: Christ died in the stead of His chosen people and fully satisfied divine justice for them. All that a holy God demanded for their salvation, the Savior entirely accomplished. His was a redemption that redeemed, a reconciliation that reconciled, an atonement that atoned and a propitiation that completely satisfied divine justice. —Pastor Jim Byrd

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"Righteous art Thou, O LORD, and upright are Thy judgments. Thy testimonies that Thou hast commanded are righteous and very faithful" (Psalm 119:137-138).