

**September 17, 2017**

TODAY: Bible Classes: - 9:30 a.m.  
Morning Worship - 10:15 a.m.  
Evening Worship - 6:30 p.m.  
Messages by PASTOR BILL PARKER  
INTERNET: SermonAudio.com  
Visit our website at: [www.13thstbaptist.org](http://www.13thstbaptist.org)  
(webcasting live during listed service times)  
WEDNESDAY: Mid - week Service - 7:00 p.m.  
Message by PASTOR BILL PARKER

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**MY ONLY HOPE AND PLEA**

*Tune: "Sweet Hour of Prayer," (LM/double)*

*Words by Pastor Jim Byrd*

*No work of mine could save my soul,  
Or make my sinful spirit whole;  
To Thee O Christ I lift my cry,  
Lord save this sinner or I die.*

*None but the Lord can meet my need,  
And for the guilty intercede;  
This is my only hope and plea,  
Christ took my place on Calvary.*

*O Spirit quicken now my heart,  
And life divine to me impart;  
'Tis by Thy call to Christ I look,  
Who all my sins and sorrows took.*

*'Twas sovereign grace that has made known,  
That none can save but Christ alone;  
His blood must make the foulest clean,  
Upon Christ Jesus I will lean.*

*Unto the Savior I will flee,  
To save me for eternity;  
Now with my soul I know 'tis well,  
And soon I shall with Jesus dwell.  
The glory Lord belongs to Thee,  
For Thou hast died on Calvary,  
So I am saved and justified,  
And soon I shall be glorified.*

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**BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK**

September 18 Leslee McLeod  
19 Jill Whitt  
Angelina Patel  
20 Connor Kuehne

September 21 Carl Griffith  
Clifford Caudill  
23 CeCe Christian

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*"Who shall lay any thing to the charge of God's elect? It is God that justifieth. Who is he that condemneth? It is Christ that died, yea rather, that is risen again, who is even at the right hand of God, who also maketh intercession for us"* (Romans 8:33-34).

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Our pastor and Nancy are on vacation in northwest Michigan and will return Thursday afternoon, the Lord willing. We welcome again our former pastor, brother Bill Parker. He will speak in all our services today as well as in our Wednesday night service.

The dates for our fall Bible Conference are October 13<sup>th</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup> and our speakers will be pastors Tim James and Gary Shepard.

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It takes a miraculous, powerful, and even invincible work of the Holy Spirit to convince self-righteous sinners such as we are that our works and efforts to obey God, even our efforts to follow Christ, do not make us holy or righteous before God. Good works are the fruit of the life, power, and grace of God given us in and by the Lord Jesus Christ, but good works do not make us good. Tears of repentance and sorrow are the workings of Christ in the hearts of His people, but these tears do not and cannot wash away or cleanse us from our sins. It is the blood of Jesus Christ alone that cleanses us from ALL sin and makes us righteous in God's sight. As we endeavor to worship the Lord with our songs, our prayers, our messages, let us remember that the only way God can and will accept us or our efforts is through the blood of the Lord Jesus Christ alone. —Pastor Bill Parker

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True faith is a total confidence in Christ alone as the Sole Accomplisher of salvation. For this reason, it is obvious that many professors of religion and even of grace, are not true believers. They cannot be because they do not know from the holy scriptures WHO the Lord Jesus Christ really is and, most of all, WHAT He actually accomplished in His suffering and death on the cross. As Paul said, how can you believe on Him of whom you have not heard. The masses of deceived souls rally around their favorite preachers rather than the One who by Himself saved His people from their sins. Their faith is a believing of what their favorite preacher says rather than a believing of what God has actually said in His Word. —Pastor Gary Shepard

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**CHRIST REDEEMED HIS PEOPLE**

We do not read in the Scriptures that Christ died to purchase eternal happiness for sinners. Rather, we find that He died to redeem His people. *"Blessed be the Lord God of Israel, for He hath visited and redeemed His people"* (Luke 1:68). The church is said to be His *"purchased possession"* (Ephesians 1:14). *"Christ hath redeemed us from the curse of the law"* (Galatians 3:13). In due time He came into this world *"to redeem them that were under the law"* (Galatians 4:5). *"Who gave Himself for us, that He might redeem us from all iniquity"* (Titus 2:14). *"And they sung a new song, saying, Thou art worthy to take the book, and to open the seals thereof: for Thou wast slain, and hast redeemed us to God by Thy blood out of every kindred, and tongue, and people, and nation"* (Revelation 5:9). Peter said *"ye were redeemed...with the precious blood of Christ"* (1 Peter 1:18-19). Paul instructed the elders in the church at Ephesus to *"feed the church of God which He hath purchased with His own blood"* (Acts 20:28). *"Neither by the blood of goats and calves, but by His own blood He entered in once into the holy place, having obtained eternal redemption for us"* (Hebrews 9:12). The gracious Benefactor redeemed spiritually bankrupt beggars by His blood. We were in debt to His justice, an indebtedness which we had no ability to pay and about which, by nature, we had no knowledge or concern. The Lord Jesus Christ, by His sacrifice unto death, rendered to His own law the required payment of the ransom. His people were freed from the claims of the law by rightful, legal, justice-satisfying purchase. *"Then He is gracious unto him and saith, Deliver him from going down to the pit: I have found a ransom"* (Job 33:24). There is not a single sin laid to the charge of those people whose ransom price Jesus Christ has paid. In the Old Testament, the high priest offered to God the appointed sacrifice for the cleansing of the children of Israel. *"For on that day shall the priest make an atonement for you, to cleanse you, that ye may be clean from all your sins before the LORD"* (Leviticus 16:30). If the typical blood cleansed the people ceremonially, how much more must the blood of Christ, offered unto God, perfectly, thoroughly and eternally deliver His people from all sin and make them righteous before the Lord! The result of the ransom price paid by Christ was the real and actual redemption of His people. —Pastor Jim Byrd

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*Great Father of mercies, Thy goodness I own,  
And the Covenant-Love of Thy crucified Son;  
All praise to the Spirit whose whisper divine,  
Seal mercy and pardon and righteousness mine!*

—Augustus Toplady