

September 3, 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
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

—O—

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

September 3 Sarah McLeod

September 7 Joyce Burton

—O—

PRAISE THE NAME OF JESUS

Tune: "Like a River Glorious," (6.5.6.5. /double with Chorus)

Words by Pastor Jim Byrd

*You who trust the Savior, glory in His Name;
Jesus came to cleanse us from our guilt and shame;
He alone could save us from our lost estate,
Praise the great Redeemer, mighty Potentate.*

CHORUS: *Praise the name of Jesus, Let your voices soar,
Praise the name of Jesus, Praise Him evermore.*

*With His sacrifice the Lord was satisfied,
By His bloody death our souls were justified;
Risen from the grave He evermore shall reign;
Christ our Intercessor soon will come again.*

CHORUS:

*None can save but Jesus, look to Him we must,
O that Christ the Lord would be our only trust;
May the Holy Spirit grant that we would see,
Christ alone can save us for eternity.*

CHORUS:

—O—

*"O LORD, Thou art my God; I will exalt Thee, I will praise Thy name; for
Thou hast done wonderful things; Thy counsels of old are faithfulness and
truth" (Isaiah 25:1).*

—O—

"POUR OUT YOUR HEART"

*"Trust in Him at all time; ye people, pour out your heart before Him: God is
a refuge for us. Selah" (Psalm 62:8). Child of God, come to the throne of grace
and let your innermost thoughts and feelings be poured out like water before the
secret presence of the Lord. Hold nothing back, for nothing is hidden from His
eyes. Turn the vessel of your soul upside down and let your private thoughts,
desires, sorrows and sins gush out before Him. Never think that prayer must wait
until you are more spiritual. Feelings of spirituality are dangerous for in reality,
they are feelings of self-righteousness. In and of ourselves we are never more
than sinners needing the blood and righteousness of Christ. "In my flesh dwel-
leth no good thing" (Romans 7:18). What warrant then, and what worthiness do
we have to draw near so holy a Being? Our warrant for coming is that He bids us
come and Christ, the Lord our Righteousness, is our worthiness. "Call upon Me
and I will answer" (Psalm 91:15). Come before the Lord as the sinner that you
are, but come through the person and work of Christ. Pray as Hannah did. "I am
a woman of a sorrowful spirit...I have poured out my soul before the LORD" (1
Samuel 1:15). Come as Jeremiah counseled Zion. "Arise, cry out in the
night...pour out thine heart like water before the face of the Lord" (Lamentation
2:19). Emulate the Psalmist. "I have poured out my complaint (my fears and
anxieties) before Him; I shewed before Him my trouble" (Psalm 142:2). No mat-
ter where you are, what your circumstances or how you feel, the Lord is always
near His little ones. Remember what Moses proclaimed to Israel, a type of the
church, in Deuteronomy 4:7. "For what nation is there so great, who hath God
so nigh unto them, as the LORD our God is in all things that we call upon Him
for?" Ours is the prayer-hearing and the prayer-answering God. "The eyes of
the LORD are upon the righteous, and His ears are open unto their cry" (Psalm
34:15). You don't need to make a long pilgrimage to have an audience with the
King. His throne of grace is as close as your next breath. Wherever you are, you
always have the abiding presence of the Spirit of intercession and Christ Himself
intercedes for you at the right hand of the throne of majesty. Come with bold-
ness and liberty to the Lord and freely "pour out your heart before Him."*

—Pastor Jim Byrd

—O—

HUMBLING GRACE

[For any who are under the illusion that they are somehow growing in
perfection and holiness, consider carefully the following excerpt from a letter
written by John Newton and sent to a friend, dated Nov. 23, 1774.]

I have no idea of any permanent state in this life that shall make my ex-
perience cease to be a state of warfare and humiliation. At my first setting
out, indeed, I thought to be better, and to feel myself better from year to year.
I expected, by degrees, to attain everything that I then comprised in my idea
of a saint. I thought my grain of grace, by much diligence and careful improve-
ment, would in time amount to a pound. That pound, in a farther space of time,
to a talent, and then I hoped to increase from one talent to many, so that suppos-
ing the Lord should spare me a competent number of years, I pleased myself with
the thoughts of dying rich. But, alas! These golden expectations have been like
South Sea dreams. I have lived hitherto a poor sinner and I believe I shall die
one. Have I then gained nothing by waiting upon the Lord? Yes, I have gained
that which proofs of the deceitfulness and desperate wickedness of my heart, as I
hope, by the Lord's blessing, have in some measure taught me to know what I
mean when I say, "Behold, I am vile" (Job 40:4). In connection with this, I have
gained such experience of the wisdom, power, and compassion of my Redeemer,
the need, the worth of His blood, righteousness, ascension, and intercession, the
glory that He displays in pardoning iniquity and sin and passing by the transgres-
sion of the remnant of His heritage, that my soul cannot but cry out, "Who is a
God like unto Thee?"

—O—

JESUS ONLY

*"And when they had lifted up their eyes, they saw no man, save Jesus
only" (Matthew 17:8). Let nothing and no one take the place of the Lord Jesus
Christ. In the purpose of God pertaining to all things and especially in the salva-
tion of sinners, "Christ is all" (Col 3:11). He will be everything to you or He
will be nothing to you for He will never tolerate a rival. Consider anything that
would come between you and Christ a competitor with the Savior, even if it is as
dear to you as your right eye. You must, therefore, "pluck it out" (Matthew
5:29). Be rid of everything that contends with Him. We must look to Christ
alone for that glorious salvation of God and on this point there is no room for
compromise. "Look unto me, and be ye saved, all the ends of the earth: for I am
God, and there is none else" (Isaiah 45:22). "He that believeth on the Son hath
everlasting life" (John 3:36). There is a tendency with us to look within, even to
look upon the work of and the fruit of the Holy Spirit for some indication of our
salvation; but that is a mistake. The command of the Word of God is not look
within and it is not even look to the Holy Spirit, but it is "Looking to Jesus the
Author and Finisher of our faith" (Hebrews 12:2). "Behold the Lamb of God
that taketh away the sin of the world" (John 1:29). The Holy Spirit was not sent
that we might focus upon Him, though His ministry is vital; He was given to re-
veal Christ to us. The Savior said concerning His Spirit, "He shall not speak of
Himself...He shall glorify me" (John 16:13-14). The blessed Redeemer and His
substitutionary sacrificing upon the cross must be all of our hope and all of our
disciples. Everything else must be cast aside until we, like the three favored
disciples upon the Mount, "see no man, save Jesus only" (Matthew 17:8).*

—Pastor Jim Byrd