

October 1, 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

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COME UNTO JESUS

Tune: "Amazing Grace," (CM)

Words by Pastor Jim Byrd

O hear the Savior's gracious call,
For those by sin oppressed;
Come unto Me, O weary one,
And in your soul find rest.

It was for sinners that He died,
Who have the law transgressed;
So come to Jesus needy one,
Come unto Him and rest.

Christ died upon the rugged tree,
To save the sinfulest;
His bloody death atoned for sin,
Come unto Him and rest.

Trust not in works which you have done,
Your righteousness detest;
Come to the Savior as you are,
Come unto Him and rest.

O Spirit speak in quick'ning pow'r,
May each of us be blessed;
Then unto Jesus we will come,
And find in Him sweet rest.

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"I am the LORD: that is My name: and My glory will I not give to another, neither My praise to graven images. Behold, the former things are come to pass, and new things do I declare: before they spring forth I tell you of them" (Isaiah 42:8-9).

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BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

Oct. 2 Lisa Busch

Joe Horan

Joyce Salyer

Brady Osburn

4 Cynthia McClean

Oct. 5 Alissa Parker

Sheila Terry

Cora Winters

6 Faye Ronk

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Our annual Bible conference with pastors Tim James and Gary Shepard begins in less than two weeks. Ladies, please sign the food sheets on the communion table for our Friday evening fellowship and Sunday lunch.

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PRAYER AND TROUBLES

I heard a television preacher have his congregation repeat this cute little motto: "A prayer a day keeps the troubles away." With that on my mind, I thought about our dear Savior. If "never man spake like this Man," then surely never man prayed like this Man. He prayed in Gethsemane's garden and yet that season of prayer was followed by a time of severe trial culminating with the greatest trouble He was called upon to endure: bear the sins of His people and endure the wrath of God appointed for our sins by suffering, bleeding and dying in our stead. Certainly I would never discourage any child of God from praying, but do remember that "in this world ye shall have tribulation" (John 16:33). Do not request exemption from troubles. They test the reality of faith (1 Peter 1:7); they are ordained by God for the good of His people. Rather, pray for the Lord's will to be done through every adversity and pray for wisdom to learn from them. Ask God for strength to bear whatever affliction He sends and that He would enable you to magnify His grace and glorify His Name by patiently enduring each fiery trial.

—Pastor Jim Byrd

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David writes of the certainty of the salvation of God's elect in 2 Samuel 23:5 declaring the "everlasting covenant, ordered in all things, and sure." Of course it must be "sure" if it is ordained of God. Rulers and monarchs may ordain certain things and never have power to carry them out - be frustrated in their designs - but God never can be. He is omnipotent as well as in possession of all other perfections and consequently, what the eternal mind has ordered, settled, determined and fixed by decree, can never be revoked, but must be carried out and accomplished by His own almighty arm. If God had ordained salvation with some ifs, buts and peradventures and left them for you and me to get rid of, they would have stood against us till we were banished to hell. There never would have been a sinner on earth saved if Jehovah had left conditions for man to fulfill. We must have been eternally lost; and therefore I do charge it upon those who advocate the free-will system and the accursed doctrine of universal redemption, that they are doing all they can to drive men to despair. It is the most wicked system upon earth.

—Joseph Irons

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SUBSTITUTION

Here is the kernel, the life, the marrow and the very essence of the gospel. "Christ died for the ungodly" (Romans 5:6). "For" means in the stead of, in the place of, on the behalf of. It is the same word Paul used when he stated, "Christ hath redeemed us from the curse of the law, being made a curse for us: for it is written, Cursed is every one that hangeth on a tree" (Galatians 3:13). If Christ died in the place of and was cursed on the behalf of those given to Him by the Father in covenant love, then there is no possibility that any of those could ever die in their sins or be cursed by the law. This was the doctrine Caiaphas unknowingly taught when he addressed the Sanhedrin. "And one of them, named Caiaphas, being the high priest that same year, said unto them, Ye know nothing at all, nor consider that it is expedient for us, that one man should die for the people, and that the whole nation perish not" (John 11:49-50). Of course Caiaphas intended his words to be taken in a purely political sense. He believed most of Israel was ready to crown Jesus of Nazareth as king which would provoke the wrath of Caesar and bring upon Israel the destructive powers of Rome. He reasoned that it would be better if one man die rather than the Romans destroy all the Jews. The death of one man would mean the preservation of an entire nation. While Caiaphas only meant his words in a secular way, the inspired writer tells us they were divinely prompted. "And this spake he not of himself: but being high priest that year, he prophesied that Jesus should die for that nation; and not for that nation only, but that also He should gather together in one the children of God that were scattered abroad" (John 11:51-52). The spiritual meaning was that Christ would die a substitutionary death for His church, a people called out of every nation, kindred, tribe and tongue. Our Lord stated this truth clearly. "I am the good shepherd: the good shepherd giveth His life for the sheep" (John 10:11). "As the Father knoweth me, even so know I the Father and I lay down my life for the sheep" (John 10:15). By His death, Christ redeemed from the hands of divine justice all those in whose place He stood. "But God commendeth His love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us" (Romans 5:8). Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave Himself for it" (Ephesians 5:25). "Christ also hath once suffered for sins, the Just for the unjust, that He might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh, but quickened by the Spirit" (1 Peter 3:18). "Who gave Himself for us, that He might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto Himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works" (Titus 2:14). O glorious truth of substitution; O magnificent Substitution!

—Pastor Jim Byrd