

December 10, 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.13thsbaptist.org
(webcasting live during listed service times)
WEDNESDAY: Mid-week Service - 7:00 p.m.
Message by PASTOR JIM BYRD

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JESUS, NAME ABOVE ALL NAMES

*Tune: "I Heard the Bells," (LM)
Words by Pastor Jim Byrd*

*How sweet and precious is the Name
Of Him Who down from heaven came;
His Name above all names shall be,
Now and through all eternity.*

*Christ Jesus - what a precious Name,
Sing out His praises, spread His fame;
The Son of God came down to earth,
There never was a nobler birth.*

*Down from His high and holy place
Christ came to save His chosen race;
He left His lofty throne on high,
To live on earth and then to die.*

*Sing of the glories of that Name
Of Him who bore our sin and shame;
On Him our load of guilt was laid,
And by His blood our debt was paid.*

*Jesus, Redeemer, Lord and King,
Accept the tribute which we bring;
Thy Name above all names shall be,
Now and through all eternity.*

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BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

Dec. 11 Connie Pemberton
12 Larry Holbrook

Dec. 13 Ann Thompson
14 Chuck Stapleton

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IMPORTANT NOTICE: In an effort to make our building more secure while we are having services, all exit doors will be locked once our services begin with the exception of the doors into the vestibule. You will still be able to exit any door, but reentrance will have to be through the vestibule.

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WONDERFUL

"For unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given: and the government shall be upon His shoulder: and His name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace" (Isaiah 9:6). Consider, again, the incarnation of Christ, and you will rightly say, that His name deserveth to be called "Wonderful." Oh! what is that I see? Oh! world of wonders, what is that I see? The Eternal of ages, whose hair is white like wool, as white as snow, becomes an infant. Can it be? Ye angels, are ye not astonished? He becomes an infant, hangs at a virgin's breast, draws His nourishment from the breast of woman. Oh wonder of wonders! Manger of Bethlehem, thou hast miracles poured into thee. This is a sight that surpasses all others. Talk ye of the sun, moon, and stars; consider ye the heavens, the work of God's fingers, the moon and the stars that He hath ordained; but all the wonders of the universe shrink into nothing, when we come to the mystery of the incarnation of the Lord Jesus Christ. It was a marvellous thing when Joshua bade the sun to stand still, but more marvellous when God seemed to stand still, and no longer to move forward, but rather, like the sun upon the dial of Ahaz, did go back ten degrees, and veil His splendor in a cloud. There have been sights matchless and wonderful, at which we might look for years, and yet turn away and say, "I cannot understand this; here is a deep into which I dare not dive; my thoughts are drowned; this is a steep without a summit; I cannot climb it; it is high, I cannot attain it!" But all these things are as nothing, compared with the incarnation of the Son of God. I do believe that the very angels have never wondered but once and that has been incessantly ever since they first beheld it. They never cease to tell the astonishing story, and to tell it with increasing astonishment too, that Jesus Christ, the Son of God, was born of the Virgin Mary, and became a man. Is He not rightly called "Wonderful"? Infinite, and an infant — eternal, and yet born of a woman — Almighty, and yet hanging on a woman's breast; supporting the universe, and yet needing to be carried in a mother's arms — King of angels, and yet the reputed son of Joseph — Heir of all things and yet the carpenter's despised son. Wonderful art thou O Jesus, and that shall be Thy name for ever.

—C. H. Spurgeon, 1858

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THE TAKING AWAY OF SIN

Almighty God, in everlasting covenant grace, chose a multitude of the human race unto salvation. These were loved with an eternal love and grace was given them in Christ before the world was made. These people, however, became sinners as a result of Adam's transgression imputed to them. God could only accept them upon the basis of perfect righteousness. How could the sins of a chosen people ever be removed and they be made righteous?

Consider these things.

1. All of the sacrifices offered to God in the Old Testament could not put away sin, otherwise, those offerings would have ceased. *"The blood of bulls and of goats could never take away sins"* (Hebrews 10:4).
2. Prayer cannot take away sin.
3. Confession and repentance cannot take away sin.
4. Faith cannot take away sin.
5. Good works cannot take away sin.
6. Even an eternity spent in hell cannot take away sin.

The only way for sin to be taken away was for it to be dealt with in the person of Christ, which is why He came into this world and laid down His life. His death appeased divine justice, put away the sins of His people and enabled God to be *"a just God and a Savior"* (Isaiah 45:21). *"And ye know that He was manifested to take away our sins; and in Him is no sin"* (1 John 3:5). *"He appeared to put away sin by the sacrifice of Himself"* (Hebrews 9:26). I speak to you who are content to be saved by free grace through the person and work of Christ, who believe on Him: think of what the putting away of sin means for you. All of your iniquities, past, present and future, were removed by His sacrifice. Christ suffered the law's just penalty for your sinfulness, God therefore declares, *"I, even I am He that blotteth out thy transgressions for Mine own sake, and will not remember thy sins"* (Isaiah 43:25). *"As far as the east is from the west, so far hath He removed our transgressions from us"* (Psalm 103:12). No wonder David wrote, *"Blessed is he whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered. Blessed is the man unto whom the LORD imputeth not iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no guile"* (Psalm 32:1-2).

—Pastor Jim Byrd

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"THE LORD reigneth; let the earth rejoice; let the multitude of isles be glad thereof. Clouds and darkness are round about Him: righteousness and judgment are the habitation and His throne" (Psalm 97:1-2).