

December 17, 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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BLESS THE LORD OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS

Tune: "Joy to the World"

Words by Pastor Jim Byrd

*Christ the Good Shepherd came to earth,
To save a chosen race;
He joined Himself to human clay,
For sheep who went astray, for sheep who went astray;
For sheep, for sheep who went astray.*

*The Son of God from heav'n above,
Came to this world of woe;
True flesh and blood the Lord was made,
And in a manger laid, and in a manger laid,
And in, and in a manger laid.*

*To save His people from their sins,
And justice satisfy;
The Son of God, from heaven came;
Exalt His worthy Name, exalt His worthy Name,
Exalt, exalt His worthy Name.*

*Born to redeem and reconcile,
The people of His choice;
'Twas for our sins the Savior died,
And we are justified, and we are justified,
And we, and we are justified.*

*Glory to God for matchless grace;
His Son has saved our souls;
So let us join our hearts to bless,
The Lord our Righteousness, the Lord our Righteousness,
The Lord, the Lord our Righteousness.*

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BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

Dec. 20 Andy Thomas

Dec. 22 Lisa Kuehne

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Next Lord's Day is Christmas Eve. We will have our regular Bible classes and morning worship service, but there will be no evening service. The following Sunday, New Year's Eve, we will follow our normal schedule and after the evening service observe the Lord's Supper and then have appetizers/light refreshments and fellowship together in the back.

IMPORTANT REMINDER: all exit doors will be locked once our services begin except the doors in the vestibule. You will still be able to exit any door, but reentrance will have to be through the vestibule doors.

The numbered 2018 offering envelopes are available on the table in the vestibule or the church office.

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"Blessed be the Lord God of Israel; for He hath visited and redeemed His people, and hath raised up an horn of salvation for us in the house of His servant David" (Luke 1:68-69).

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THE WORD MADE FLESH

Turn aside, my soul, this day, from every vain and worldly thought, as Moses did at the bush, and behold by faith the accomplishment of what he then saw in type and figure, of this great sight which the Lord hath made known unto thee. The Word, the uncreated Word, even the eternal Son of God, taking upon Him the nature of man, and uniting both in one Person, that by the union He might be a suitable Saviour for His people. As God, He was mighty to save, and fully competent to the wonderful act. As man, He was a suitable Mediator, to reconcile and bring together God and man, which by sin were at variance. This was the glorious news angels posted down from heaven to proclaim. This was the song of heaven, for which they sung *"glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will to men."* My soul, canst thou join in the song? Yes, if so be thou hast received Christ in those glorious characters; if, as for this divine purpose He was born in our streets, He is born in Thy hearts also, and formed there the hope of glory. Oh it is a blessed thing to have true scriptural views of the Lord Jesus, and so to receive Him, as Jehovah hath sent Him forth, the Christ of God. Amen.

—Robert Hawker

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NO CONTROVERSY

A visiting minister was requested by the host pastor, "Please do not preach anything of a controversial nature this morning." The guest preacher promised he would not. When he took his place behind the pulpit, here were his first remarks. "I have no intention of preaching anything that is controversial today. I choose for my text the words of the Apostle Paul who stated in 1 Timothy 3:16, *'And without controversy, great is the mystery of godliness: God was manifest in the flesh, justified in the Spirit, seen of angels, preached unto the Gentiles, believed on in the world, received up into glory.'*"

There is, among the people of God, no controversy when it comes to the mystery of the incarnation of the Son of God. There is much wonder, amazement, astonishment, thanksgiving and worship, but there is no controversy. All agree on the truthfulness and the absolute necessity of this mystery. Other mysteries are of an eternal nature, but this one, while purposed in the dateless council chambers of God, took place about two thousand years ago. The eternal Son left the bosom of His eternal Father. He did not cease to be all that He had forever been, for He remained the second Person of the glorious trinity, yet He became that *"holy thing"* (Luke 1:35) that He had never been before, a true and perfect man. God joined Himself to humanity and that union is an everlasting, indivisible union. The God-Man was the only perfect and righteous man who ever lived and having given undeniable evidence by His spotless life of His worthiness to be the sacrifice that would take away the guilt of His people, He took upon Himself our sins in His own body on the tree. The Son of God - Son of Man, bore them away in order to save, justify and sanctify us and bring us all safely home to heaven someday. What a glorious mystery, one which is *"without controversy,"* among the redeemed of the Lord. *"And the Word was made flesh and dwelt among us"* (John 1:14).

—Pastor Jim Byrd

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THE GOOD LIFE

"For this is the love of God, that we keep His commandments: and His commandments are not grievous [burdensome or heavy]" (1 John 5:3). It is more profitable and enjoyable to love than to hate, to forgive than to bear a grudge, to smile than to quarrel, to behave kindly than to act ugly. The way of the transgressor is hard, not the way of the believer. The life of faith and love is the good life.

—Henry Mahan