May 13, 2018

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: <u>www.13thstbaptist.org</u> (webcasting live during listed service times) WEDNESDAY: Mid-week Service - 7:00 p.m. Message by PASTOR JIM BYRD \_\_\_\_\_O\_\_\_\_\_

#### IN JESUS FIND SWEET REST

Tune: "Amazing Grace," (CM) Words by Pastor Jim Byrd

Come unto Jesus, weary one, Your wretchedness confess; He sits upon His throne of grace, And gives to sinners rest.

'Tis not by works of righteousness, That guilty souls are blessed; Those filthy rags you must detest, In Jesus find your rest.

He was the perfect Sacrifice, For those by sin oppressed; He fully paid our ransom price, In Jesus find your rest.

Ye weary saints, severely tried, Come lean upon His breast; He is our Prophet, Priest and King, In Jesus find sweet rest.

"The LORD is good, a strong hold in the day of trouble; and He knoweth them that trust in Him" (Nahum 1:7).

# BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

May 15 Brent Busch 16 Joseph Burchett May 17 Isaac Meek 18 Teresa Kuehne

## A WORD TO MOTHERS (AND GRANDMOTHERS)

You love your children, teach them right from wrong and provide for the needs of their bodies. You nurture them when they are sick, correct them when they are wrong, discipline them when they misbehave and embrace them when they hurt. You make certain they go to school and are taught in matters that pertain to the education of their minds. You hug them when they cry and encourage them when they are cast down. You are attempting to prepare them for that day when they will venture out into the world on their own. While doing all of these needful things, do not forget their greatest needs which are of a spiritual nature. Teach them the scriptures; talk to them about the gospel of Jesus Christ and Him crucified. Set before them an example of one who is patient, loving and one who loves the things of the Lord. Teach them to be thankful to the Lord for all daily mercies and pray with them concerning their soul's salvation. Admonish them as sinners to look to Christ and bring them to sit under the sound of the gospel. I am thankful for my dear mother who sought to bring her three children up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord. Happy Mother's Day!

-Pastor Jim Byrd

### THE ROAD TO CHRIST

The best sermon is that which is most full of Christ. A Welsh minister, when preaching at the chapel of my dear brother Jonathan George, was saying that Christ was the sum and substance of the gospel, and he broke out into the following story.

A young man had been preaching in the presence of a venerable preacher, and after he had finished, he foolishly went to the old minister and inquired, "What did you think of my sermon, sir?" "A very poor sermon indeed," said the older man, "because there was no Christ in it. Don't you know, young man, that from every town, and every village, and every little hamlet in England, wherever it may be, there is a road to London?"

"Yes," said the young man.

"Ah," said the old minister. "And so from every text in Scripture there is a road to the metropolis of the Scriptures, that is Christ. And, my dear brother, your business is, when you get to a text, to say, 'Now, what is the road to Christ?' and then preach a sermon, running along the road toward the great metropolis – Christ. I have never yet found a text that had not a plain and direct road to Christ in it. And if ever I should find one that has no such road, I will make a road; I would go over hedge and ditch, but I would get at my Master. For a sermon is neither fit for the land nor yet for the garbage heap unless there is a savor of Christ in it."

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"Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends" (John 15:13). The love of Christ for His people is a sweet and glorious truth to dwell upon. Here is a soothing balm for the souls of sinners who have been brought to believe on His name. His love for His bride is as eternal as He is. Behold our Savior as the Surety of His elect even before the world was made (Hebrews 7:22; 8:6). See Him accepting full responsibility to deliver His people from every effect of sin. In love He joined Himself to our nature and, in the fulness of time, redeemed us from the curse of the law being made a curse for us (Galatians 3:13); He reconciled the world of His elect by His substitutionary death (2 Cor 5:18-19). "Christ loved the church and gave Himself for it" (Ephesians 5:25). By the sacrifice of Himself the Redeemer appeased divine justice which demanded death for sin. "Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures" (1 Cor 15:3-4). By His death, His people were made "the righteousness of God in Him" (2 Co 5:21). It was because of His everlasting love that He gave His life for His sheep (John 10:11) and now our Advocate ever lives to make intercession for us (1 John 2:1; Romans 8:34). At the appointed hour, we are born again by the power of His Spirit Who reveals the gospel of free grace to our hearts. In love, the Lord continually watches over His flock; He governs all the events that happen in this world, including those which concern His little ones. He works everything together for our good (Romans 8:28). Soon He will bring all of His children unto Himself and "so shall we ever be with the Lord" (1 Thessalonians 4:17). John Flavel, reflecting upon the love of Christ for His people, wrote these words many years ago. "Put the beauty of ten thousand paradises like Eden into one. Put all trees, all flowers, all fragrances, all colors, all tastes, all joys, all sweetness, all loveliness into one and it would be less than the love of Christ as one drop of rain is less than all the lakes, rivers, streams, seas and fountains of all the earth." Christ's love for His church is unchangeable, immeasurable and everlasting. "... Having loved His own which were in the world, He loved them unto the end" (John 13:1).

-Pastor Jim Byrd

The only ground of God's love is His love. The ground of God's love is only and wholly in Himself. There is neither portion nor proportion in us to draw His love. There is no love nor loveliness in us that should cause a beam of His love to shine upon us. —Thomas Brooks

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