

September 2, 2018

TODAY: Bible Classes - 9:30 a.m.
Morning Worship - 10:15 a.m.
Evening Worship - 6:30 p.m.
Messages by PASTOR BILL PARKER
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 BILL PARKER

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A SONG OF PRAISE TO CHRIST
Tune: "Sweet Hour of Prayer," (SM/Double)
Words by Pastor Jim Byrd

Awake my soul, exalt the King,
And praises to the Savior sing;
The Lord Who down from heaven came,
Sing hallelujahs to His Name.
Our God maintained His deity,
Yet joined it with humanity;
Though equal with the Lord above,
Christ Jesus came in wondrous love.

According to divine decree,
Christ came to set His people free;
The Lord appeared to live and die,
God's holy law to satisfy.
The blood He shed upon the cross,
Has saved us from eternal loss;
It was the price required to save
Our souls from law, sin, and the grave.

The Christ Who died now lives on high,
Ascended far above the sky;
He lives salvation to bestow,
To sinful wretches here below.
Let children of the Lord now sing,
All praise to Jesus Christ our King;
His Name above all names shall be,
Now and for all eternity.

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BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

Sept. 2 Pam Cox Smith
3 Sarah McLeod

Sept. 7 Bill Parker
Joyce Burton

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Our pastor and Nancy are on vacation and will return Friday. We are grateful to have our former pastor, Bill Parker preach for us today and Wednesday night as well. Bill faithfully pastored the Eager Avenue Grace Church in Albany, Georgia.

Congratulations to Patrick and Jessica Trent (Allan and Gail Ison grandparents) on the birth of their son Elliott Tilden Trent, born on August 22nd.

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CHRIST IS OUR PEACE

The life of sin and love of sin is in our nature; the law of sin is in our members and we are daily exposed to sin in our practice. Moreover, Satan attacks the peace of our souls. What can we do? If we deny his charge, and "we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us" (1 John 1:8). Acknowledge his accusations we must. All in nature, reason and conscience unite to witness against us.

But shall this destroy the comfort of our minds, the hope of our souls and the peace of our hearts? If so, how small our knowledge! How feeble our faith! How weak our hearts in the grace which is in Christ Jesus! All the powers of darkness, all the curses of the law, all the accusations of sin, -- blessed forever, blessed be the grace of our God, -- cannot, shall not overthrow this soul-comforting, Christ-exalting, love exciting truth; this Man, even Jesus, who was born in Bethlehem and died at Calvary, He is our peace!

He hath made peace by the blood of His cross (Colossians 1:20). The everlasting gospel proclaims it; the eternal law of love confirms it; by faith we receive the joyful news of it; by the Spirit our souls are made to enjoy it; by the word, the blessed Spirit stirs up our pure minds, by exhortations and examples, to look unto Jesus. Look away from every other hope. Turn from every other object. His name, His nature, His offices, His work, all speak peace to poor, guilty, self-condemned souls, whose only hope is Jesus. "The work of (Jesus') righteousness shall be peace; and the effect of (His) righteousness quietness and assurance forever" (Isaiah 32:17). —William Mason

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"Comfort ye, comfort ye my people, saith your God. Speak ye comfortably to Jerusalem, and cry unto her, that her warfare is accomplished, that her iniquity is pardoned: for she hath received of the LORD'S hand double for all her sins" (Isaiah 40:1-2).

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WHAT KIND OF AN EXAMPLE?

"Ye were ensamples to all that believe in Macedonia and Achaia" (1 Thessalonians 1:7). We are all examples to those around us. We may be good or bad examples, but rest assured, we are examples to our family, friends, acquaintances, co-workers, other saints and even to some people we do not even know. The old adage is still true, "no man is an island." I doubt any of us realize how closely we are observed by some with whom we come into contact. May the Lord enable us to conduct ourselves in such a way as to "adorn the doctrine of God our Savior is all things" (Titus 2:10). May we manifest to others how vital the gospel of grace and the things of Christ are to us. Let us demonstrate patience in suffering, contentment when tried, meekness when successful, forgiveness when wronged, boldness when the gospel is opposed, kindness when mistreated and faithfulness to the cause of God continually.

Let's be honest, however, none of us can be the kind of pattern to others that we ought to be and want to be. There is only one whose actions, attitude and example it is always safe to follow. I set before you the only truly faithful Man, our dear Savior, the perfect Example: follow Him. "Christ also hath suffered for us, leaving us an example, that ye should follow His steps: Who did no sin, neither was guile found in His mouth: Who, when He was reviled, reviled not again; when He suffered, He threatened not; but committed Himself to Him that judgeth righteously" (1 Peter 2:21-23).

—Pastor Jim Byrd

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ACCESS TO GOD

The only way of access to God is through the risen Christ and based on the merits of His obedience unto death as Substitute and Surety of His people. The only way of access to Christ is by the Gospel in the power of the Holy Spirit to reveal Him in His glorious Person and finished work of redemption to make reconciliation for the sins of His people and to establish a righteousness that enables God to be just and Justifier of the ungodly. It is required of men to believe the Gospel, not as a condition they must meet to attain or maintain salvation, but as the God-ordained means to lay hold of Christ who by Himself has met all conditions for salvation by His substitutionary obedience unto death. God the Holy Spirit is the sovereign Agent in the new birth; the Gospel is the God-ordained instrument and faith is the God-appointed and God-given means. Faith is the link to connect the soul to Christ in order that believing sinners might come to Him Who justifies the ungodly based on the blood and imputed righteousness of Jesus Christ. The Gospel reveals a complete satisfaction to both God's law and justice by Christ, the only Substitute, Representative, and Surety. It is upon this ground that God justifies, receives, and accepts sinners. It is through the blood of Jesus Christ that we have free and unhindered access to God (Hebrews 10:19-22). —Pastor Bill Parker