

September 23, 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: [www.13thstbaptist.org](http://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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**RENDER PRAISE AND THANKSGIVING**

*Tune: "Love Divine," (8.7.8.7. double)*

*Words by Pastor Jim Byrd*

*God of grace and matchless glory,  
Grant that we would worship Thee;  
Thou hast gathered us together,  
Come reveal Thy majesty.  
Send dear Lord Thy sovereign Spirit,  
Speaking through Thy Word in might;  
Showing us the precious Savior,  
Making Him our souls' delight.*

*Prophet, Priest and reigning Monarch,  
Friend of sinners, what a name;  
Word of God made flesh for sinners,  
Jesus came to bear our shame.  
See the perfect, blameless Savior,  
Bearing sin, but not His own;  
Sacrifice of God most holy,  
Died our sin-debt to atone.*

*By the blood of the Redeemer,  
All our sins were washed away;  
He arose and death was conquered,  
For His sheep that went astray.  
Saints of God bow down and worship,  
Render praise and thankfulness;  
Joyfully adore the Savior,  
Praise the Lord our Righteousness.*

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**BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK**

*Sept. 23 CeCe Christian  
24 James Thompson  
Wyatt Turner  
Clay West*

*Sept. 24 Lauren Moman  
25 Luke Pennington  
28 Clyde Burchett*

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Next Sunday we will partake of the Lord's Supper at the close of the morning worship service and then have lunch together. Plan to stay for the food and fellowship; there will be no evening service next Lord's Day. Sign-up sheets for food are on the front table.

*"Turn us again, O God, and cause Thy face to shine; and we shall be saved" (Psalm 80:3).*

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**A COMFORTING THOUGHT**

*"Lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the world. Amen." (Matthew 28:20).* Jesus is with His saints at all times, in all places and in all circumstances. He is *"God with us"* (Matthew 1:23). He is with them to comfort them in the hour of sorrow, to enlighten them in the hour of darkness, to guide them in the hour of doubt and perplexity, to deliver them in the time of conflict and to support them in the hour of death. Oh for faith to realize this! He was with His three faithful servants in the fiery furnace; He was with Daniel in the lions' den; He was with Jacob in his wrestlings at Bethel; He was with John in his exile at Patmos. Jesus is, at all times, in all places and under all circumstances, with His people.

Are you a child of sorrow? Perhaps you are a son or daughter of affliction. You may now be passing through the furnace of affliction; you may now be draining the cup of adversity; the rod of the hardship may be heavy upon you, or friends unkind, the world empty, everything earthly changing, faith weak, corruptions strong. Is it so? Still, your omnipresent Jesus is with you. Be not cast down; these painful dispensations by which you are learning the changeableness of everything earthly are sent to wean you from a poor, unsatisfying world and to draw you near and yet nearer to Jesus. Then be of good cheer; He has promised never to leave or forsake you that you may boldly say, *"The Lord is my Helper"* (Hebrews 13:6). —Copied

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In the light you receive from the Word of Jesus and the Spirit of Truth you will see your own sinful nature and abhor yourself. How long will you see your own depravity? Even until you receive the end of your faith, the salvation of your soul. Then will you glory only and eternally in the infinite perfections of the salvation of Jesus. —William Mason

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**THE ROD OF AARON BLOSSOMED**

*"For sin shall not have dominion over you; for ye are not under law, but under grace"* (Romans 6:14-15). When we are regenerated by the Spirit of the Lord and brought into a living union with the dear Redeemer, we will despise sin and love grace. In the presence of the Lord of glory we will bear fruit for His glory. The power that grace has upon us is like the power of the Holy of Holies upon the rod of Aaron. While the rod of Aaron remained at a distance from the tabernacle, it was just a dried up, barren, fruitless stick. However, when it was placed in the Holy of Holies, when it came into the presence of the Shekinah glory of God, it came to life and became fruitful. *"Behold the rod of Aaron budded and brought forth buds, and bloomed blossoms, and yielded almonds"* (Numbers 17:8). When we are brought to believe Christ, His life-giving power has an irresistible effect upon us. Sin is no longer loved, it is hated; grace is no more despised, it is adored; barrenness is replaced by fruitfulness. Whereas we were the willing servants of sin, by grace we become the willing servants of righteousness. It is the presence, grace and power of that One who is *"the brightness of the Father's glory"* that makes the difference. Hear the words of the Savior: *"Without Me ye can do nothing"* (John 15:5). —Pastor Jim Byrd

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If you could hear the voice of the Lord Jesus Christ beside you, praying to the Father for you, wouldn't your fears be relieved, your anxieties quietened and your heart filled with confidence and joy? Remember my dear brother or sister, He IS PRAYING FOR YOU in the sanctuary above. *"Who is he that condemneth? It is Christ that died, yea rather, that is risen again, who is even at the right hand of God, who also maketh intercession for us"* (Romans 8:34). —Pastor Jim Byrd

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*"John answered and said, A man can receive nothing, except it be given him from heaven"* (John 3:27). The labor of ministers is all lost unless the grace of God makes it effectual. Men do not understand that which is made most plain, nor believe that which is made most evident unless it be given them from heaven to understand and believe it. —Matthew Henry