

January 13, 2019

TODAY: Morning Worship - 10:15 a.m.
Evening Worship - 6:30 p.m.
Messages by PASTOR JIM BYRD
INTERNET: SermonAudio.com
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(webcasting live during listed service times)

WEDNESDAY: Mid-week Service—7:00 p.m.
Message by PASTOR JIM BYRD

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PRAISE THE LAMB FOR SINNERS SLAIN

Tune: "Sweet Hour of Prayer," (LM/double)

Words by Pastor Jim Byrd

O praise the Son whom angels fear,
Who came to bring salvation near;
The Son in whom all glory shone,
Descended from His heav'nly throne.
Christ knew no sin and did no wrong,
He came to save a chosen throng;
The Lord our righteousness is He,
The God of old eternity.

Christ came to suffer, bleed and die,
And when His time of death drew nigh;
He bore our sorrow, sin and shame,
The "Friend of sinners" was His name.
Behold the Lamb for sinners slain,
Yes, Jesus died, but not in vain;
He took His chosen people's place,
Praise God for His redeeming grace.

The law of God was satisfied,
When Jesus bowed His head and died;
And now He reigns upon His throne,
Soon to return for all His own.
Redeemed by blood and saved by grace,
Someday we shall behold His face;
Our song forever shall remain,
O praise the Lamb for sinners slain.

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BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

January 13 Nina Smith
16 Mitchell McSweeney
17 Donald Kemper

January 19 Carolee Busch
Bob Atkinson

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"Whatsoever the LORD pleased, that did He in heaven, and in earth, in the seas, and all deep places" (Psalm 135:6).

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Our sincere sympathy is extended to Donna Williams and family upon the recent death of her brother, Ron Roberson.

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THE HOPE OF RIGHTEOUSNESS

"We through the Spirit wait for the hope of righteousness by faith" (Galatians 5:5). We are in the habit of saying, "There are only two classes of people in the world; those who are saved and those who are lost: those who have accepted Jesus Christ and those who haven't." I suppose that this is actually true, but oversimplifying the great work of justification and regeneration has led to some great errors.

1. The error of easy believism and decisionism. Men walk the aisle, make a decision and rest in this refuge.

2. The error of the carnal Christian theory. One accepts Jesus as Saviour and later on, if convenient, makes Him Lord of his life.

3. The error of carnal security. If one has made a decision for Christ at some time in his life, he is eternally secure and can never be lost.

4. The error of religious exhibitionism. "I've found it" is shouted from the bumper of his car. "It's fun being saved" is pinned to his lapel. Tomorrow he may get mad and quit, but today he is "gung ho" for Jesus! The Lord has hedged us about on the one side with precious promises lest we despair and the other with strong warnings lest we presume! Oh for the marks of a real work of grace, the evidences of real revival, when men and women who are being saved walk before God in humility, in faith, in meaningful confession of sin and with a broken heart and contrite spirit. "We through the Spirit wait for the hope of righteousness by faith" (Gal. 5:5). "Here I raise mine Ebenezer—Hither by Thy help I'm come; and I hope by Thy good pleasure safely to arrive at home." Better to press with strong desire into the kingdom than to sleep with the foolish virgins in the lap of presumption and to hear the door shut while we hunt oil!
—Henry Mahan

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THE PURCHASED POSSESSION

"In whom ye also trusted, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom also after that ye believed, ye were sealed with that Holy Spirit of promise, which is the earnest of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, unto the praise of His glory" (Ephesians 1:13-14). It is true that a glorious inheritance awaits the children of God, but even heaven with all of its beauties is not "the purchased possession." "The purchased possession" is a people; "the purchased possession" is us! Who are the us? All of those who were chosen to be "holy and without blame" in Christ (v. 4), accepted in Him (v. 6), redeemed by Him (v. 7) and to whom He has given the Holy Spirit (vv. 13-14) who reveals Christ; these are His "purchased possession." Peter declared in 1 Peter 1:18-19 that "Ye were redeemed...with the precious blood of Christ." The blessings which we enjoy were not purchased for us for they were given to us in Christ before the world was made (v. 3). "The purchased possession" is His people, spoken of by Peter as being "a peculiar people," that is, a purchased or redeemed people. "For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's" (1 Corinthians 6:20). The everlasting song of the saints in glory will be, "Thou art worthy to take the book, and to open the seals thereof: for Thou wast slain, and hast redeemed us to God by Thy blood out of every kindred, and tongue, and people, and nation" (Revelation 5:9).
—Pastor Jim Byrd

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"The dead are raised up" (Matthew 11:5). The "dead" are those who by nature are dead in sin. These dead are raised up when life from God visits their souls. They are raised up to faith in Jesus, raised up to hope in His name, raised up to a sense of His dying love to their souls, raised up from doubt and fear, raised up from the depths of despondency to look unto Him and be saved. What a mercy it is that the Lord of life and glory still puts forth the same power in the hearts of His people that He once put forth in their bodies and that He raises them up from their state of death and deadness! Do we not often feel so dead as though we had not a particle of the grace of God? So dead, that it seems scarcely possible to have a sensation of spiritual life again? So dead, that we almost fear whether the power of God was ever felt in our hearts? Now, the Lord raises up life and feeling in our souls by putting forth the same power that called Lazarus out of the tomb. And every lifting up of the heart towards Him, every desire to know Him and the power of His resurrection, every breathing of tender affection, every sigh, cry, and groan, yea, every feeling, however brief, Godward, is a proof that the Lord of life and glory is still putting forth His power in the hearts of His people.

—J. C. Philpot