

March 17, 2019

TODAY: 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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WE SING OF SOVEREIGN LOVE

Tune: "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross" (LM)
Words by Pastor Jim Byrd

*Ye saints now sing of sovereign love,
Unto our God who reigns above;
All glory to the Trinity,
Who loved us from eternity.*

*Sing of the Father's choosing grace,
Sing of the Son who took our place;
Sing of the Spirit's quick'ning might,
Sing praise to God with pure delight.*

*O may the Lord be magnified,
By all His chosen, ransomed bride;
His loving kindness let us tell,
God saved our souls from death and hell.*

*While on this earth exalt His name,
His gospel word with joy proclaim;
And when we rise to heights above,
Still let us sing of sovereign love.*

—O—
"Blessed is every one that feareth the LORD; that walketh in His ways. For thou shalt eat the labour of thine hands: happy shalt thou be, and it shall be well with thee" (Psalm 128:1-2).

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BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

March 18 Mikey Horan
20 Linda Atkinson

March 21 Nancy Gullett
22 Judy Profitt

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The last Sunday of this month, March 31st, we will follow our regular morning schedule, but at the close of the service we will partake of the Lord's Supper. Plan to stay for lunch afterwards. There will be no evening service that night.

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MY TIMES

"My times are in Thy hand: deliver me from the hand of mine enemies, and from them that persecute me" (Psalm 31:15). The sovereign God of the universe holds in His own power all the issues of the lives of His children. Divine providence is a delightfully soft pillow for our weary heads. Think of it: *"my times are in Thy hands,"* that is, in the hands of the One who is all-wise to dispose and order as He sees fit. Where else would you want your times except in the omnipotent hands of our magnificent Savior?
—Pastor Jim Byrd

In 1825, William Freeman Lloyd wrote the following excellent words.

*My times are in Thy hands; my God, I wish them there;
My life, my friends, my soul I leave entirely to Thy care.*

*My times are in Thy hands, whatever they may be;
Pleasing or painful, dark or bright, as best may seem to Thee.*

*My times are in Thy hands; why should I doubt or fear?
A Father's hand will never cause His child a needless tear.*

*My times are in Thy hands, Jesus the crucified;
Those hands my sins had pierced are now my guide and guard.*

*My times are in Thy hands; I'll always trust in Thee;
And after death at Thy right hand, I shall forever be!*

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THIS IS TRULY COMFORTING!

A child of God is like a person in a beautiful palace. If there is light in it, he sees the splendid objects around him, and enjoys them. But, if the light is removed, he is nevertheless in the palace still, and surrounded with the same splendid objects as before, though he cannot see them. So, though the believer's frames and sensible comforts may have their ebbs and flows, his state, Godward, is invariably the same.
—Augustus Toplady

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A SLAVE TO OUR WILLS

Our Lord said to the Jewish leaders of His day, *"Search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of me. And ye will not come to me that ye might have life" (John 5:39-40).* *"No man can come to me, except the Father which hath sent me draw him: and I will raise him up at the last day" (John 6:44).* It is a well-known fact that many are quick to defend the freedom of man's will, but our Lord, in these few words, forevermore dashed that heresy to pieces. The Word of God is clear that no man has the natural willingness or ability to come to God and be content to be saved by grace alone through the bloody sacrifice of the Lord Jesus Christ alone. Rather than man's will being free, it is enslaved. The will is in bondage to our sinful nature. Instead of speaking of the freedom of the will, it would be more accurate to say that man's will is imprisoned to sin and Satan (2 Timothy 2:24). The sinner, therefore, if uninfluenced by effectual grace, will never have the desire nor the ability to draw near to Christ for everlasting salvation. I suppose there is a sense in which you may say that man is free, if by that you mean he is free in the same way a prisoner in a jail cell is free. He has the liberty to do within that cubicle whatever he may desire, but he has no ability to release himself. The dilemma of the spiritually dead sinner, however, is even worse than a person in prison; not only does he lack the will and the power to liberate himself, he does not want to be free for he does not even realize he is in bondage. He has no awareness of captivity and no knowledge of the damnation that awaits him if he continues on his current path. The will of man is controlled by sinful and wicked self, that is, a depraved heart which is said to be stony (Ezekiel 11:19), foolish (Ephesians 4:18) and desperately wicked (Jeremiah 17:9). The only way any sinner will want salvation and come to Christ to be washed in His sin-atonement blood is because of the gift of a new heart of faith and being made *"willing in the day of Thy power" (Psalm 110:3).*
—Pastor Jim Byrd

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The preacher of the gospel has nothing in common with the politicians or the entertainers of this world. We are not merely presenting our views and we are not religious clowns. We come before you having been commissioned by the King, with the message of the King, that originated with the King and is all about the King. Bow down proud sinner and worship Christ the crucified, buried, risen and ascended Lord. I am not here to amuse you, but to magnify Christ, to warn you of judgment to come and tell you that the only hope you have of a blissful eternity is in the person of the Lord Jesus Christ. *"Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and thou shalt be saved."*

—Pastor Jim Byrd