

April 28, 2019

TODAY: Morning Worship - 10:15 a.m.

Message by PASTOR JIM BYRD

Evening Worship - 6:30 p.m.

Message by ELDER RON TRABANDT

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(webcasting live during listed service times)

WEDNESDAY: Mid-week Service—7:00 p.m.

Message by PASTOR BILL PARKER

—O—

DECLARE THE GLORIES OF GOD

Tune: "Amaazing Grace" (CM)

Words by Pastor Jim Byrd

O may the praises of the Lord,

From every heart arise;

Declare the glories of our God,

Who dwells above the skies.

Sing of His great creative work,

By Him the heav'ns were made;

Proclaim the wonders of His might,

Who earth's foundation laid.

Adore mysterious providence,

By Him all things consist;

Extol His purpose, wise and good,

Who can His will resist?

Behold Jehovah's greatest work,

Salvation by His grace;

He gave His Son, the ransom Price,

To save a chosen race.

Declare the praises of our God,

Let none refuse to sing;

*Affirm the greatness of the Lord,
Give glory to the King!*

—O—

Every believer is under the guardianship of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit; consequently, they are held by a three-fold cord which can never be broken. —Augustus Toplady

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

April 28 Peggy Kemper

30 Ron Gregg

Hank Pennington

May 1 Mica Stettner

May 2 Roy Dean

3 Annie Smallwood

4 Rhonda West

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“What shall I render unto the LORD for all His benefits toward me? I will take the cup of salvation and call upon the name of the LORD” (Psalm 116:12-13).

—O—

Nancy and I are leaving after the morning service and will be gone for a few days. Ron Trabant will speak this evening. Pastor Bill Parker will speak Wednesday night and in all the services next Lord’s Day. We will be home, the Lord willing, Tuesday, May 6th.

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TODAY’S PREACHERS

Preachers today are licensed and ordained by the church; men of old were ordained and sent by God. Preachers today go forth armed with degrees and credentials; men of old went forth anointed by the Holy Spirit. Preachers are questioned by committees and hired to preach what the church believes; men of old came preaching, *“Thus saith the LORD.”* Preachers today give themselves to programs, visitation, church business; men of old *“gave themselves to prayer and the ministry of the Word.”* Preachers today preach and men are persuaded to move their membership; men of old preached and *“they were pricked in their hearts and cried, Men and brethren, what shall we do?”* Preachers today pray and the organ plays softly; Elijah prayed and the fire of God fell. Preachers today are afraid that they will offend someone; Paul was afraid that he would not offend. If there is no offence, the cross has not been preached. —copied

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THE EVIDENCE OF SPIRITUAL DEATH

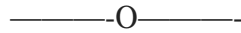
There is no greater evidence of spiritual death than that which is revealed when men and women sit under the message of the gospel on Sunday morning and then go into the day totally unmoved in heart by the wonders of Christ and Him crucified. I do not look for a man to be a murderer, a thief, a liar or an adulterer to believe he is spiritually dead. The greatest indicator of the true state of man before the living God is his response to the wondrous gospel of God’s grace in Christ. —Pastor Gary Shepard

THE POWER OF THE CROSS

The death of the Lord Jesus Christ upon the cross was not an effort to save all men without exception, but the accomplishment of the redemption of those given to Him by the Father, in covenant grace, before the world began. *“Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ loved the church, and gave Himself for it”* (Ephesians 5:25). The substitutionary sacrifice of the Savior did not merely render salvation possible; His death was an offering to God that *“saved His people from their sins”* (Matthew 1:21). His work of redemption really redeemed: *“having obtained eternal redemption for us”* (Hebrews 9:12). His death was a reconciliation that actually reconciled. *“We were reconciled to God by the death of His Son”* (Romans 5:10). His sacrifice was an offering which *“perfected forever them that are sanctified”* (Hebrews 10:14).

It is a commonly held belief that the everlasting salvation of sinners hinges upon their willingness to accept what Jesus Christ did for them upon the cross. My friend, the cross-death of the Son of God is not up for the acceptance or rejection of men. His blood was offered to the Lord as the full payment price required for the liberation of His people from the claims of divine justice due to their sinfulness. The resurrection of Christ is testimony that God accepted our Savior and His sacrifice for sin. Yes, His people will be brought to true repentance and compelled by mighty grace to believe Christ, but neither repentance nor faith makes the death of the Savior effectual; they do not put away sin, make sinners acceptable to God nor bring in everlasting righteousness. Actually, it is the exact opposite. Repentance toward God and faith in the blessed Savior are the results of His redemptive work, the effects of His removal of sin; they are the consequence of Christ bringing in everlasting righteousness. Repentance and faith flow out of the power of the cross.

—Pastor Jim Byrd



A PICTURE OF GRACE

When a person works an eight-hour day and receives a fair day's pay for his time, that is a wage. When a person competes with an opponent and receives a trophy for his performance, that is a prize. When a person receives appropriate recognition for his long service or high achievements, that is an award. But when a person is not capable of earning a wage, can win no prize and deserves no award - yet receives such a gift anyway - that is a good picture of God's unmerited favor. This is what we mean when we talk about the grace of God.

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