

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

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“It is better to hear the rebuke of the wise, than for a man to hear the song of fools” (Ecclesiastes 7:5).

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THE WAYS OF GOD

Tune: “O FOR A THOUSAND TONGUES” CM
Words by Pastor Jim Byrd

The ways of God seem strange to us,
And filled with mystery;
But yet we know that everything,
Fulfills His wise decree.

Who can begin to understand,
The Lord’s eternal plan?
He purposed all that comes to pass,
Before the world began.

Directed by His wondrous might,
All things achieve His will;
He rules in heaven and on earth,
His purpose to fulfill.

Though wind and storms assail your way,
And tempt you to despair;
Believe He works things for your good,
Doubt not His tender care.

O child of God, here find sweet rest,
And ever thankful be;
Your Savior governs everything,
And shall eternally.

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BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

April 15 Gail Ison

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GOD KEEPS HIS PEOPLE IN PEACE

“Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on Thee: because he trusteth in Thee” (Isaiah 26:3).
By the blood of the Lord Jesus Christ, everlasting peace between a holy God and offending sinners has been established. *“Having made peace through the blood of His cross, by Him to reconcile all things unto Himself; by Him, I say, whether they be things in earth, or things in heaven” (Colossians 1:20).* This peace is the fruit of righteousness and as we are brought by the Holy Spirit to believe Christ and submit to God’s way of salvation

through the substitutionary death of our Savior, we enter into the wonders and joys of this glorious peace. This sweet repose is known and felt to the degree that we believe the record God has given of His Son. The peace that God gives is rare and the world knows nothing of it, for it is *“perfect peace.”* It is a truthful, honest, enduring and real peace. As the people of God, we enjoy the continuation of peace through life, but when we arrive safely in heaven, we will realize this peace in a way we have not known here. The basis for this peace, however, will always remain the same. Christ has been wounded, bruised, crucified and raised again. This will eternally be the foundation of peace with God.

–Pastor Jim Byrd

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MADE RICH THROUGH HIS POVERTY

The Lord Jesus Christ was eternally rich, glorious, and exalted; but *“He became poor, that ye through His poverty might be rich”* (2 Corinthians 8:9). Just as the rich saint cannot be true in his communion with his poor brethren unless from his substance he ministers to their needs, so (the same rule applies to the Head as well as to the members) it is impossible that our divine Lord could have had fellowship with us unless He had shared with us from His own abounding wealth and had become poor to make us rich. Had He remained on His throne of glory and had we continued in the ruins of the fall without receiving His salvation, communion would have been impossible on both sides. Our position by the fall, apart from the covenant of grace, made it as impossible for fallen man to communicate with God as it is for the devil to be in concord with Christ. In order, therefore, that communion might be accomplished, it was necessary that the rich Kinsman should bestow His estate on His poor relatives, that the righteous Saviour would give to His sinning brethren His own perfection, and that we, the poor and guilty, would receive of His fullness grace for grace; so that in giving and receiving, the One might descend from the heights and the other ascend from the depths and so be able to embrace each other in true and hearty fellowship. Jesus must clothe His people in His own garments or He cannot admit them into His palace of glory. He must wash them in His own blood or else they will be too defiled for the embrace of His fellowship. O believer, herein is love! *“For your sake”* the Lord Jesus *“became poor”* that He might lift you up into fellowship with Himself.

--C. H. Spurgeon (edited)

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THE GOD OF MY RIGHTEOUSNESS

“Hear me when I call, O God of my righteousness: Thou hast enlarged me when I was in distress; have mercy upon me, and hear my prayer” (Psalm 4:1). Reader, let you and I never lose sight of the LORD JESUS while reading this Psalm. He is the LORD our righteousness. And, therefore, in all our approaches to the mercy-seat, let us go there in a language corresponding to this, which calls JESUS *“the God of our righteousness.”* And while men of the world are seeking their chief good from the world, let us desire His favor which infinitely transcends all the things which perish in using. Yes! LORD, Thy favor is better than life itself. Thou causeth them that love Thee to inherit substance, and fittest all their treasure, yea Thou Thyself art their Treasure. And oh! Thou gracious GOD and FATHER, hast Thou in such a wonderful manner set apart one in our nature for Thyself? Hast Thou indeed chosen one out of Thy people? Hast thou beheld Him in the purity of His nature, as one in every point godly? Hast thou given Him as the covenant of the people? And hast Thou declared Thyself well pleased in Him? Oh! then, well may my soul be well pleased in Him also. Now do I know that my GOD and FATHER will hear me when I call upon Him in JESUS name and when I look up to Him for acceptance for JESUS sake. Yes! my heart is fixed, O LORD, my heart is fixed. JESUS is my hope and righteousness: the LORD will hear me when I call. And henceforth will I both lay me down in peace and sleep securely in JESUS, accepted in the Beloved for this is the rest wherewith the LORD causeth the weary to rest, and this is their refreshment.

–Robert Hawker

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“For the righteous LORD loveth righteousness; his countenance doth behold the upright.” (Psalm 11:7)