

July 21, 2019

TODAY: Morning Worship – 10:15 a.m.
Evening Worship – 6:30 p.m.

Messages by MISSIONARY JEAN-CLAUDE SOUILLOT

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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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CHRIST DIED ON CALVARY

Tune: “My Faith Looks Up to Thee” 664.6664 Words by Jim Byrd

Behold the Father’s Son,
Jesus the Holy One,
Hung on the cross.
Servant of God was He,
Dying on Calvary;
To set His people free,
From endless loss.

Our sins on Him were laid,
By Him our debt was paid,
What wondrous grace!
Infinite wrath He bore,
Who can such love explore?
God can demand no more,
Christ took our place.

Justice was satisfied,
When Christ our Savior died,
In agony.
Risen, He reigns on high,
To God He brings us nigh;
All needs He’ll satisfy,
Eternally!

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Salvation in Christ for a poor guilty race,
Contrived by wisdom, accomplished by grace;
The gift of my Father, the purchase of blood,
Imparts all my comfort and honors my God.

--Joseph Irons

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

July 23 Sara Trimble

26 Michael Sturm

July 27 Ella Pennington

29 Amanda Conley

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We welcome Jean-Claude and Wendy Souillot to our church again; they come to us from Chalon, France. He will be speaking in all of our services today. After this evening's message, there will be time of food and fellowship so you can visit with our guests.

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“Thou art the God that doest wonders: Thou hast declared Thy strength among the people. Thou hast with Thine arm redeemed Thy people, the sons of Jacob and Joseph. Selah” (Psalm 77:14-15).

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NECESSITY OF THE NEW BIRTH

“But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned” (1 Corinthians 2:14). Though the gospel answers the questions, *“how can God be just and justify the ungodly”* and *“how can he be clean who is born of a woman,”* yet the verbal declaration of the gospel (though necessary) to an unregenerated sinner will not produce a saving effect. The message must be accompanied by the Holy Spirit in life-giving power. No wonder the Savior declared, *“Except a man be born again (from above) he cannot (has no power or ability) see (perceive, understand or discern) the kingdom of God”* (John 3:3).

–Pastor Jim Byrd

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A BELIEVER'S PEACE

Where does a believer find real and genuine peace? On what foundation can we rest and say in truth, “It is well with my soul”? I'll tell you; it lies in this – that we are justified by faith and not by works. Christ Jesus stood in my stead before God. I was guilty with nothing to pay, doomed to hell; and Christ took my place! He died for me! How can I perish? How can I be punished for sins which have already been laid on Christ and for which He has suffered? God demands of me that I keep His holy law perfectly. I cannot do it. But Christ has kept it for me. He kept it, magnified it, made it honorable in my flesh. What more can God demand of me? I am washed in the blood of Christ Jesus; I am risen and seated at His right hand in Christ Jesus. You may ask, “How is all this yours?” I reply, “By the grace of God, through the merits of Christ, revealed by the Spirit of God through faith!” God said, *“He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life.”* I do believe, I sincerely believe in Christ; therefore, I have eternal life.

–Henry Mahan

As a firm foundation for the soul to rest upon, nothing else will speak peace to the heart and endure forever except Christ and His bloody work of redemption. We look to nothing and no one else except the blessed Savior. While we do experience salvation, yet we do not (and must not!) look to our conversion as a basis for peace with God or assurance of salvation. Faith, though there is no pleasing God apart from it, still, it is not the Rock upon which we build for salvation. Hope, though we have it through grace, yet it provides no justifying righteousness with God. Love, though we must be brought to love the Lord Jesus Christ, yet it cannot remove the mountain of our sin and guilt. Here alone is where needy sinners find peace, joy and rest for their souls - in the glorious person, life, death, resurrection and exaltation of the Lord Jesus Christ. We discover in Him and His justice-satisfying sacrifice that which pleases God and calms the conscience disturbed over sin. *“Therefore thus saith the Lord GOD, Behold, I lay in Zion for a foundation a stone, a tried stone, a precious corner stone, a sure foundation: he that believeth shall not make haste”* (Isaiah 28:16). *“On Christ the solid Rock I stand, all other ground is sinking sand!”* *“The church's one foundation, is Jesus Christ her Lord!”*

--Pastor Jim Byrd

The trials and difficulties which the Lord brings to His dear people are designed to keep us ever looking to Him for all things. Like Israel in *“the wilderness of sin”* (thorns) into which the Lord led them, the thorny troubles of life are designed to drive us to the Lord. Nothing ever happens to a child of God apart from the sovereign will and purpose of our Father. *“The LORD’S voice crieth unto the city, and the man of wisdom shall see Thy name: hear ye the rod, and who hath appointed it”* (Micah 6:9). This is not the rod of judgment, for our dear Savior bore the strokes of divine wrath and exhausted the vengeance of God against our sins. This rod is that of loving discipline and chastisement. Since we have been made wise unto salvation, that divinely given wisdom will enable us to see the hand of God always at work and recognize the name of the Lord is stamped upon everything that happens. Furthermore, the man of faith will take heed to the voice of the rod, remembering who appointed and assigned it. Let us hear His voice in every circumstance of life as He says, *“In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world”* (John 16:33).

--Pastor Jim Byrd