

July 28, 2019

TODAY: Morning Worship – 10:15 a.m.

Evening Worship – 6:30 p.m.

Messages by PASTOR JIM BYRD

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WEDNESDAY: Mid-week Service --7:00 p.m.

Message by PASTOR JIM BYRD

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HALLELUJAH, PRAISE THE SAVIOR

Tune: “Come Thou Fount” 8.7.8.7. double Words by Pastor Jim Byrd

1. Hallelujah, praise the Savior,
For in old eternity;
Christ our Surety pledged to save us,
He from sin would set us free.
Jesus left His throne in glory,
Came into this world of woe;
Satisfied His law and justice,
To pay all the debt we owe.
2. Hallelujah, praise the Savior,
By His death on Calvary;
He redeemed His chosen people,
Fully won the victory.
Jesus crushed the head of Satan,
Took away iniquity;
Reconciled us to the Father,
Brought in immortality.
3. Hallelujah, praise the Savior,
On Him all our hopes depend;
Prophet, Priest and King of glory,
Christ our everlasting Friend.
Soon life’s journey will be over,
And with Jesus we shall be;
Joining all the ransomed army,
Praising Christ eternally.

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Congratulations to Darlene Arthur (grandmother) and Cora Holbrook (great-grandmother); Willow Blair Arthur was born on July 18th.

Next Sunday evening, following our worship service, there will be a reception in the fellowship hall to celebrate the 50th wedding anniversary of our pastor and Nancy.

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“O give thanks unto the LORD; call upon His name: make known His deeds among the people. Sing unto Him, sing psalms unto Him: talk ye of all His wondrous works. Glory ye in His holy name: let the heart of them rejoice that seek the LORD” (Psalm 105:1-3).

WHAT IS THE SPIRIT OF PROPHECY?

“The testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy” (Revelation 19:10). What does that statement mean? It means that the very purpose and nature of prophecy is to testify of Jesus Christ and His work of redemption. *“The testimony of Jesus”* - the record or report of the Lord Jesus Christ: who He is, what He did, why He did it, where He is now - *“is the spirit”* - is the life, the heart, the soul, the pulse - *“of prophecy,”* of preaching, a forth telling of the Word of God. --Pastor Jim Byrd

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I enjoy reading the diary of Augustus Toplady (author of “Rock of Ages”) which was left on record for the benefit of the people of God. Here is the entry for Friday, March 25th, 1768.

This afternoon and evening, but especially at night, the Lord has been very gracious to my soul. I could see myself loved with an everlasting love, and clothed with Christ’s everlasting righteousness. My peace flowed as a river; and I found the comforts of the Holy Spirit to be neither few nor small. My sense of justification was unclouded, as when the clear shining of the sun giveth light. *“My beloved is mine, and I am His.”* Under these sweet, unutterable manifestations, I have scarce anything to pray for; supplication is swallowed up in wonder, love, and praise; Jesus smiles, and more than a ray of heaven is shed upon my soul. *“I will greatly rejoice in the Lord; my soul shall be joyful in my God; for he hath clothed me with the garments of salvation, he hath covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bride groom decketh himself with ornaments, and as a bride adorneth herself with her jewels”* (Isaiah 61:10).

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NO ACCEPTANCE WITHOUT PERFECTION

None can ever be accepted by God who are imperfect. *“It shall be perfect”* - without blemish, without spot, complete, innocent - *“to be accepted”* - delighted in, approved of - (Leviticus 22:21). In the context, that which is in view is the sacrifice offered to God; it must have no blemish or disease. The animal offerings typified Christ who was the perfect, sinless offering presented to God as the payment price for the sins of the people in whose stead He came into this world. But, this is also true of those who dwell with the Lord forever, they must be perfect to abide in the presence of the perfect Lord. Since God’s people are accepted in Christ (Ephesians 1:6), then it stands to reason that we are perfect in Him. Our sins were really and truly imputed to Him and His righteousness has really and truly been imputed to us. Through the substitutionary, justice-satisfying death of our Lord Jesus Christ, His people are *“made the righteousness of God in Him”* (2 Corinthians 5:21). That which was said of Job is true of all God’s people in Christ: *“that man was perfect and upright, and one that feared God, and eschewed evil”* (Job 1:1).

--Pastor Jim Byrd

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THE BLESSED DOCTRINE OF IMPUTATION

“Christ hath redeemed us from the curse of the law, being made a curse for us: for it is written, Cursed is every one that hangeth on a tree” (Galatians 3:13). Here Christ stands with all the curse of a broken law charged upon Him, as the sinner’s Surety; yea, as the curse itself. And consequently, as in the doing of this, He takes it from His people; they are redeemed from it. The original debtor, and the Surety who pays for that debtor, cannot both have the debt at the same time charged upon them. This, therefore, is the blessed doctrine of imputation. Our sins are imputed to Christ. His righteousness is imputed to us. And this by the authority and appointment of JEHOVAH; for without this authority and appointment of JEHOVAH, the transfer could not have taken place. For it would have been totally beyond our power to have made it. But surely not beyond the right and prerogative of God. And if God accepts such a ransom; yea, He Himself appoints it: and if the sinner by Christ’s righteousness be made holy and if the sins of the sinner be all done away by Christ’s voluntary sufferings and death; if the law of God be thus honoured, the justice of God thus satisfied, all the divine perfections glorified by an equivalent, yea, more than an equivalent, inasmuch as Christ’s obedience and death infinitely transcend in dignity and value the everlasting obedience of men and angels; surely, here is the fullest assurance of the truth of the doctrine of Christ’s imputed righteousness, and the perfect approbation of JEHOVAH to the blessed plan of redemption.

--Robert Hawker