

July 7, 2019

TODAY: Morning Worship – 10:15 a.m.

Evening Worship – 6:30 p.m.

Messages by PASTOR JIM BYRD

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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 TO SEAL OUR PARDON

Tune: The Church's One Foundation 76.76. double

Words by Pastor Jim Byrd

When Jesus died on Calv'ry, salvation's work was done,  
Redemption was accomplished by God's eternal Son;  
Christ bore our sins and sorrows, He made them all His own,  
And died to honor justice, our sin-debt to atone.

O what a wondrous Savior, O what a matchless Friend,  
What love and great compassion which none can comprehend;  
The Lord came down from glory, His very life He gave,  
He died by God's appointment our guilty souls to save.

With deepest gratitude Lord, we praise Thy gracious Name,  
And thank Thee for Christ Jesus who took our sin and blame;  
O may we fully trust Him, may He within us dwell,  
Who died to seal our pardon and save our souls from hell.

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*"I will be glad and rejoice in Thee: I will sing praise to Thy name, O Thou Most High" (Psalm 9:2).*

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Content with beholding His face,  
My all to His pleasure resigned;  
No changes of season or place,  
Would make any change in my mind.  
While blessed with a sense of His love,  
A palace a toy would appear;  
And prisons would palaces prove,  
If Jesus would dwell with me there.

--John Newton

## BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

July 8 Rob Elliott  
10 Becky Reffitt

July 11 Katie Cunningham  
14 Russell May

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DATES FOR OUR BIBLE CONFERENCE: NOVEMBER 8-10

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It is not enough to submit to the will of God in all things. We must delight in His will and believe that our gracious God always does what is best for His children.

--Pastor Jim Byrd

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## GOD ALONE EXALTED IN SALVATION

My friends, do you love to hear Christ lifted up and exalted as your all and in all? If you do, you are willing to be made less than nothing and vanity in yourselves. Professors of religion, generally, do not like to be thus humbled; they love to have something to do, in whole or in part, to recommend themselves to God. But the Lord's salvation is not a mixture of grace and works. It is of free and sovereign grace, and received by faith alone, which is the gift of God. It is *"not of works, lest any man should boast"* (Ephesians 2:9). The Lord alone be exalted as the Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the ending, the first and the last in the salvation of His people.

--John Kershaw, April 30, 1848

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*"Adorn the doctrine of God our Savior in all things"* (Titus 2:10). We can adorn the doctrine of God our Saviour with genuine love, both for Christ and all men. There is no greater proof of discipleship than love. *"By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye love one another"* (John 13:35). There is no greater proof of an unregenerate heart than hate. *"He that loveth not knoweth not God; for God is love"* (1 John 4:8). We can adorn the doctrine with kindness. *"Be ye kind one to another"* (Ephesians 4:32). *"If ye forgive not men their sins, neither will your Father in Heaven forgive your sins"* (Matthew 6:15). We can adorn the doctrine with patience under trial. What better way can I preach my belief and confidence in God's sovereignty than by joyfully submitting to His hand whether it be in blessing or chastening? We can adorn the doctrine with happiness. When did piety become synonymous with a sour expression and a grouchy disposition? Paul tells us to *"rejoice in the Lord always"* (Philippians 4:4). We can adorn the doctrine with a generous spirit. *"It is more blessed to give than to receive"* (Acts 20:35). Greed, selfishness and self-interest do not reveal grace!

--Henry Mahan

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## UNCHANGING LOVE

It is written of our Savior, *"Having loved His own which were in the world, He loved them unto the end"* (John 13:1). The Lord's love for His people is like Himself, incapable of change. *"Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and to day, and forever"* (Hebrews 13:8). What a delightful subject to dwell upon! We are the beloved of His heart, the eternal objects of His electing grace. The affection He has for us will never cease nor change. As the Lord said to Jeremiah, so He says to all of His people, *"Yea, I have loved thee with an everlasting love: therefore with lovingkindness have I drawn thee"* (Jeremiah 31:3). As a result of that love, Christ became our Surety in the covenant of grace. It was for the objects of His love that the everlasting Son of the Father veiled His Godhead in a clay tabernacle, and *"made Himself of no reputation, and took upon Him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men"* (Philippians 2:7). It was love which led Christ to give Himself a ransom to the law of God for our sins. *"Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends"* (John 15:13). *"Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave Himself for it; that He might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word"* (Ephesians 5:25-26). We magnify and praise the glorious Redeemer for His great

love to us. *“Unto Him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in His own blood, and hath made us kings and priests unto God and His Father; to Him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen”* (Revelation 1:5-6). Since He finished the work of redemption which the Father gave Him to do, the Lord Jesus has now ascended back to His throne of absolute sovereignty from which He rules all things for His glory and the welfare of His beloved brethren. His heart is firmly fixed upon the objects of His love. It is certainly true that many of His redeemed ones have already entered into His immediate presence and they see Him face to face, but He does not love them any more than He loves us who still remain in this vale of iniquity. Though we are corrupt inwardly and we have spiritual enemies which still assault us, nothing can separate us from the love of our ever-faithful Lord. His love is fixed upon us and shall never change. Paul issued this challenge in Romans 8:35, *“Who shall separate us from the love of Christ?”* It is *“the love of Christ”* which constrains us to serve our Lord and it is through His never-failing love and preservation that we will persevere to the end. *“We are more than conquerors through Him that loved us”* (Romans 8:37).

–Pastor Jim Byrd