

August 4, 2019

TODAY: Morning Worship – 10:15 a.m.
Evening Worship – 6:30 p.m.
Messages by PASTOR JIM BYRD
INTERNET: SermonAudio.com
Visit our website at: www.13thstbaptist.org
(webcasting live during listed service times)
WEDNESDAY: Mid-week Service --7:00 p.m.
Message by PASTOR JIM BYRD

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THANKSGIVING FOR ELECTING GRACE
Tune: “DOXOLOGY” LM Words by Pastor Jim Byrd

Now let us praise the God of grace,
Who chose a remnant from our race;
Elect from ev’ry tribe and tongue,
Let praises unto God be sung.

Chosen in Christ our living Head,
Who came and suffered in our stead;
He died for all His chosen seed,
And lives for us to intercede.

In time the mighty Spirit came,
Brought us to trust the Savior’s Name;
‘Twas by His death on Calvary,
From guilt and sin He set us free.

Lord now Thy people come to bring,
All praise to Thee, our God and King;
We join our voices to proclaim,
The worthy honors of Thy Name.

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The natural religion of mankind can be summed up in one word, “Do.” The religion of God and, consequently, the religion of all those taught of God is also summed up in one word, “Done.” Christ accomplished the work of redemption, reconciliation and righteousness. Our salvation was and always has been dependent upon our Substitute successfully finishing the work of saving the people of God from their sins. Hear His victorious declaration, “*It is finished.*”

--Pastor Jim Byrd

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After our worship service this evening, there will be a reception in the fellowship hall to celebrate our Pastor’s and Nancy’s 50th wedding anniversary (August 2, 1969).

Next Lord’s Day we will be privileged to have with us Lance and Robin Hellar, missionaries to Papua, New Guinea. Their home church is Lincolnwood Baptist Church of Houston, Texas; brother David Pledger is the pastor. Brother Lance will be speaking in all our services next Lord’s Day; the adult Bible classes will meet in the auditorium.

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“The LORD reigneth; let the earth rejoice; let the multitude of isles be glad thereof. Clouds and darkness are round about Him: righteousness and judgment are the habitation of His throne”(Psalm 97:1-2).

“WHEN I SEE THE BLOOD”

Exodus 12:13.

The apostle Paul, writing to the Corinthians said, *“Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us”* (1 Corinthians 5:7). He is speaking of that type of Christ which God established in Egypt in Exodus 12 where a lamb was commanded to be slain and the blood applied to the doorposts of the Hebrews’ homes. That Passover lamb was a picture of the Lamb of God, the Lord Jesus Christ and His sacrificial, substitutionary death for God’s elect. Thus God says, *“And the blood shall be to you for a token upon the houses where ye are: and when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and the plague shall not be upon you to destroy you, when I smite the land of Egypt”* (Exodus 12:13). When did God see the blood of Christ His Lamb in relation to His people? He saw Him in eternity past as *“the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world”* (Revelation 13:8). He saw Him on the cross in human flesh as His sinless blood poured out from His wounds. He sees Him now as John did in the Revelation as the Lamb that stands and looks as newly slain, His work finished, but fresh (Revelation 5:6). When Christ died, men saw the literal blood of Jesus Christ. When God reveals Christ to and in a sinner by His Spirit through the gospel, that sinner sees the blood of Christ as that which has cleansed them from all sin. God however, has seen it long before we see it. He saw it in that everlasting covenant and had He not seen it then, He could never have seen me in grace! Nor could He have seen Noah as He did before Christ came. *“And the LORD said unto Noah, Come thou and all thy house into the ark; for thee have I seen righteous before me in this generation”* (Genesis 7:1).

--Pastor Gary Shepard

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OUR CREED

Our church has been entrusted with the delightful duty to proclaim, promote and preserve the truth of God. What is our creed; what, in short, are our beliefs?

1. Scripture alone. We do not bow to the writings of men to guide us in doctrine and practice. We cannot wholeheartedly support the old confessions of faith written by well-meaning, but sinful men. There are no Baptist denominational rules that govern this church. We look to *“the Word of Truth,”* the inspired Scriptures as the sole foundation and guide for all that we believe and do. *“Thus saith the Lord,”* taken in its context, governs our beliefs, values, convictions and practices.

2. Christ alone. There is but one Savior, one Sacrifice for sins, one Substitute for sinners, one Mediator, one God-Man, one Law-Keeper, one Door, one Way to God, one Truth, one Life, one Righteousness, one blood that pardoned sin and one Name under heaven given among men whereby we must be saved. The Name of the One who saved His people by the sacrifice of Himself is Jesus Christ the Lord. We declare His person, the Son of God and the Son of Man. We proclaim His successful redemption of all those given to Him by the Father in the everlasting council of peace. And we declare His exaltation, He is the resurrected, sovereign Lord Who does His will throughout His vast creation and who will come again someday to gather His people unto Himself and judge the wicked by the standard of His own righteousness.

3. Grace alone. The sovereign grace of God, not the works or will of the sinner, is the cause of salvation. All who are saved were chosen unto salvation in grace, justified by grace, sanctified by grace, redeemed in grace, called in grace, preserved by grace and shall be glorified by grace. *“For by grace ye are saved”* (Ephesians 2:5). Our testimony is the same as that of the apostle Paul. *“By the grace of God I am what I am: and His grace which was bestowed upon me was not in vain; but I laboured more abundantly than they all: yet not I, but the grace of God which was with me”* (1 Co 15:10). It was grace that wrote our names in the Lamb’s Book of Life, grace that sent the Savior to save us from our sins, grace that commissioned the Holy Spirit to send us the message of the gospel and grace that enabled us to receive Him of whom we heard. It is grace that keeps us *“looking unto Jesus the Author and Finisher of our faith”* (Hebrews 12:2).

4. Faith alone. There is one outstanding mark of having been regenerated by the Spirit of God - faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. He is our hope, confidence, life, joy and our all. His gospel is our message, His glory is our goal, His blood is our atonement, His righteousness is our comeliness, love for Him is our motivation for service and His people constitute our family.

--Pastor Jim Byrd