

**DECEMBER 1, 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 BILL PARKER

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"Ho, every one that thirsteth, come ye to the waters, and he that hath no money; come ye, buy, and eat; yea, come, buy wine and milk without money and without price" (Isaiah 55:1).

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**THE WHOLE HEAD IS SICK**

Tune: "Am I A Soldier" CM Words by John Newton

Physician of my sin-sick soul,  
To Thee I bring my case;  
My raging malady control,  
And heal me by Thy grace.

Pity the anguish I endure,  
See how I mourn and pine;  
For never can I hope a cure,  
From any hand but Thine.

I would disclose my whole complaint,  
But where shall I begin?  
No words of mine can fully paint  
That worst distemper, sin.

It lies not in a single part,  
But through my frame is spread;  
A burning fever in my heart,  
A palsy in my head.

Lord, I am sick, regard my cry,  
And set my spirit free:  
Say, canst Thou let a sinner die,  
Who longs to live to Thee?

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Nancy and I will be leaving Tuesday morning for our annual trip to Hawaii. We look forward to visiting with the brethren there and I'll be preaching several times to them. We covet your prayers. The pulpit here will be well filled while I'm gone. Pastor Bill Parker will be speaking this coming Wednesday evening and next Lord's Day. On Wednesday night, the eleventh, Pastor Allan Ison will be preaching and on Sunday, the fifteenth, Ron Trabandt and Matt Kuehne will be speaking. We will be home, the Lord willing, on Wednesday morning, the eighteenth.

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### **GOD'S SOVEREIGN AUTHORITY**

Either God governs or He is governed; either God rules or He is ruled; either God has absolute control over all things, or men or Satan have control; either God has His will or men have theirs. Is this a difficult choice? The men of God in the Scriptures had no problem with this. When God took from Job not only his possessions, but his beloved children, Job did not say, "The LORD gave, and Satan hath taken away..." Though Satan was the instrument the LORD used, yet Job understood and believed what many seem to rebel against, God is the first cause of all things. Hear his words. "The LORD gave and the LORD hath taken away; blessed be the name of the LORD" (Job 1:21). Surely you have read the words of Eli, the high priest. When Samuel revealed to him that God would remove his sons from this earthly scene due to their ungodliness, Eli was submissive to the will of the Lord. "It is the LORD: let Him do what seemeth Him good" (1 Samuel 3:18). "Whatsoever the LORD pleased, that did He in heaven, and in earth, in the seas, and all deep places" (Psalm 135:6).  
-Pastor Jim Byrd

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## **BLESSED INDEED!**

The blessedness of a child of God is unaffected by the cares and troubles of the world. Believers have a spiritual health that cannot be changed by sickness, a life that will never die, a Savior who is ever faithful, justice that is fully satisfied, and eternal riches which will never be lost. Children of God have a treasure laid up where moth and rust cannot corrupt, a Foundation that can never be shaken and an inheritance reserved in the heavens. We have an irrevocable pardon, a righteousness approved by God Himself, a Friend who sticks closer than a brother and a salvation that is as secure as the throne of God. We have the almighty God as our Father, the reigning Son as our Advocate and the eternal Spirit as our Comforter. Yes, we are blessed indeed! --Pastor Jim Byrd

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## **TRUE SALVATION**

Five things must be true if we are to have a right understanding of the doctrine of salvation.

- 1- Whatever we believe about salvation, it must be according to the Word of God. "If they speak not according to this Word, it is because there is no light in them" (Isaiah 8:20).
- 2- The salvation we proclaim and by which we profess to be saved must be by the grace of God alone without the works of the sinner. "By grace ye are saved" (Ephesians 2:5; Romans 11:6).
- 3- This salvation has to magnify God in the trinity of His persons. The Father must be exalted as its Author and Origin, for He chose a people unto salvation (2 Thessalonians 2:13-14). The Son of God must be exalted as that One who redeemed, reconciled and justified by His blood all of those the Father gave Him (Romans 5:9-10). The Holy Spirit must be exalted as being that One who regenerates spiritually dead sinners and grants faith in the Lord Jesus Christ (Titus 3:5-7).
- 4- This salvation must be soothing, comforting and encouraging to the hearts of sinners, giving them hope and confidence in Christ alone (Isaiah 40:1-2; 2 Thessalonians 2:16).
- 5- This salvation must lead us to honor the Lord and endeavor to live in this world as those who follow the example of our blessed Savior, Christ Jesus (1 Peter 2:21).

-Pastor Jim Byrd



## THE GIFT OF FAITH

"For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: not of works, lest any man should boast" (Ephesians 2:8-9). Faith is God's gift, and "all men have not faith" (2 Thessalonians 3:2), therefore, we see that God does not bestow this gift upon all. Upon whom then does He bestow this saving favour? And we answer, upon His own elect- "As many as were ordained to eternal life believed" (Acts 13:48), hence it is that we read of "the faith of God's elect" (Titus 1:1). But is God partial in the distribution of His favours? Has He not the right to be? Are there still some who "murmur against the good man of the house?" Then his own words are sufficient reply- "Is it not lawful for me to do what I will with mine own?" (Matthew 20:11, 15). God is sovereign in the bestowment of His gifts, both in the natural and in the spiritual realms.

--A. W. Pink