

**DECEMBER 8, 2019**

TODAY: Morning Worship - 10:15 a.m.

Evening Worship - 6:30 p.m.

Messages by PASTOR BILL PARKER

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(webcasting live during listed service times)

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

Message by PASTOR ALLAN ISON

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"Seek ye the LORD while he may be found, call ye upon him while he is near: Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the LORD, and He will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for He will abundantly pardon" (Isaiah 55:6-7).

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Our pastor and Nancy are visiting with a group of believers in Honolulu. He will be preaching to them again today; be prayerful for the services there. In his absence, we welcome Pastor Bill Parker of the Eager Avenue Grace Church of Albany, Georgia. He will be speaking in all of our services today.

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### **OUR PRAYER**

Tune: "JESUS THY BLOOD" LM Words by Pastor Jim Byrd

O God of everlasting days,  
Receive our worship, thanks and praise;  
May all who gather in this place,  
Exalt Thy Name and seek Thy face.

We ask for faith Thy Word to hear,  
O make us wise, Thy Name to fear;  
Speak Lord to ev'ry mind and heart,  
Thy saving grace to us impart.

O may Thy Son, our precious Lord,  
Be praised, exalted and adored;  
Come Spirit, give us eyes to see  
Christ Jesus saves eternally.

And for Thy loved, but erring sheep,  
Out on the rugged mountain steep;  
O Shepherd find the lambs which roam,  
And bring the wand'ring, lost ones home.

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May I tell you why this world continues to stand even though its systems and governments are anti-God and anti-Bible? It is because the Lord's people are still in this world. How long did Sodom stand? That vile city stood only as long as Lot was there; when he was safely out of the city, the judgment of God fell. We may conclude, therefore, that it is the very presence of the children of God that preserves this world.  
--Pastor Jim Byrd

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### **HIS NAME IS JESUS**

"And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call His name JESUS: for He shall save His people from their sins" (Matthew 1:21). Why was Joseph instructed to call the firstborn son of Mary "Jesus"? There is a blessed and powerful reason why this Name should be given to Him, and that is because His mission in being sent by the Father was to "seek and to save that which was lost" (Luke 19:10)." As Joseph was told in a dream, "He shall save His people from their sins." He would not make them an offer of salvation if they will accept His mercy and His grace. O no, the Lord Jesus Christ was the end of the law for righteousness for every one of His people. The Lord's testimony was that this child Mary would give birth to would in fact, "save His people from their sins." The Father gave Him a people in old eternity to be saved by His sacrifice and made righteous in that righteousness that He would establish for them by His obedience unto death. Christ therefore said, "All Mine are Thine, and Thine are Mine, and I am glorified in them" (John 17:10).

We see Jesus our Redeemer, then, as Savior from sin; and a blessed sight it is to the household of faith to see Him in this glorious character. He is the Savior of poor, lost, ruined and undone sinners. There is nowhere else the sinner can look for rest, peace, joy or comfort to his soul, but to the Lamb of God which taketh away the sin of an elect world. The Holy Ghost leads every one of the chosen vessels of mercy to know something of what I am talking about.  
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The inspired prophet wrote, "unto us a Son is given." The Son of God, the only begotten Son, God's beloved Son, was given to be our Savior. It was for us that the Father delivered Him up into the hands of death and justice in order to save us from our sins. Jesus Christ is God's free, unspeakable and unparalleled Gift.  
-John Gill

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Every departure from the doctrine of election in any degree has been a departure from the gospel, for such departure always involves the introduction of some obligation on man's part to make a contribution towards his own salvation, a contribution he simply cannot make.

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Those whom God chose before the foundation of the world in Christ and whom He justified in and by Christ, those whom Christ redeemed on the cross with His precious blood, and those whom the Holy Spirit gives life and calls into the kingdom of God are known by their God-given faith in Christ, repentance of dead works and idolatry, and their perseverance in the faith in continuing to look to, rest in, and follow Christ Who has secured for them all salvation, righteousness, sanctification, eternal life, and final glory. All of this blessedness, nothing excepted, is by God's free sovereign power and grace based on the merits of Christ's blood - His righteousness imputed (Ephesians 1:3). None of these blessings, not one exception, is by any supposed power or pretended goodness within the sinner saved by grace. The objectors argue, "But we must cooperate else God cannot accomplish this." Not so! By His sovereign power and grace in Christ and by the power of the Holy Spirit, God makes certain that we WILL cooperate in faith, repentance, and perseverance. The objectors argue, "But this makes us no more than robots, puppets on God's string." Not so! It makes us new creatures in Christ because God has freely given us new hearts, new spirits, and the gifts of faith and repentance. The Bible is clear that our salvation is conditioned solely upon the power and merits of Christ's obedience unto death as the believer's Surety, Substitute, Redeemer, and Intercessor. The Bible is clear that, as a result of Christ fulfilling all these conditions for us as God's people that we are not self-made people. We who believe proclaim, "For we are HIS workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them" (Ephesians 2:10).

--Pastor Bill Parker

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As a skillful physician, from a variety of herbs and plants, some of which are in their own nature poisonous, by a judicious mixture of them together, compounded medicines for the use of man; so God causes all things, even those which are seemingly hurtful, to work for the good of His elect people.

-Augustus Toplady