

OPENING HYMN #296

All The Way My Savior Leads Me

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Next weekend the church in Rescue is having their winter bible conference. The Lord willing Kevin will preach there Friday evening and Saturday morning. Pastor John Reeves, pastor Clay Curtis, and pastor David Eddmonson are all scheduled to preach.
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SCRIPTURE READING

1 Thessalonians 4:1-18

WORSHIP HYMN #334

Be Thou My Vision

OFFERING

“Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, *so let him give*; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver.” 2 Cor 9:7

WORSHIP HYMN #127

Hallelujah! What a Savior

MESSAGE

JUSTIFIED IN CHRIST

GALATIANS 2:16

CLOSING HYMN #36

A Mighty Fortress is Our God

THINGS TO PONDER

While speaking to His disciples about abiding in Him, as the branch abides in the vine, our Lord comes to the clearest proof and sign of this union with Him: "That you love one another as I have loved you" (John 15:12). Love for our Lord and one another is the principal commandment on which all the others rest. If we do abide in Him and His word abides in us, we will love one another.

-Henry Mahan

If God hides our sin or lessens it, He is faulty; if He leaves it still upon us, we die. He must then take our iniquity to Himself, make it His own, and so deliver us; for thus having taken the sin upon Himself, as lawfully He may and lovingly He does, it follows that we live if He lives; and who can desire more?

-John Bunyan

I Would not have You to be Ignorant

1 Thessalonians 4:13

The souls of believers, redeemed sinners, men and women who have been made righteous before God in Christ, the souls of God's saints return to God at death. Our departed brothers and sisters, as soon as they closed their eyes in death, opened them again in glory. There they shall remain until the second coming of Christ.

Then, when Christ comes again in his glory, he will bring them all with him, raise their bodies from the dust, and reunite their bodies and souls and spirits in resurrection glory. Believers yet living when Christ comes again shall then be changed, glorified, caught up into glory. Thereafter, we shall forever be with the Lord (1 Thessalonians 4:13-18).

Immediate Damnation

Though hell is as real as heaven and damnation as real as salvation, I here say little about the horrible state of the wicked and unbelieving after death. They shall immediately, as soon as they close their eyes in death, wake up in the torments of the damned in hell.

If you are yet without life, without faith, without Christ, and thus without hope, be warned. The wrath of God is upon you. If you die without Christ, you must be immediately and forever damned. To die without Christ is to die without hope.

Immediate Paradise

For the believer, things are different. The believer, as soon as he dies, is alive forever. His soul immediately goes home to God in heaven. The Word of God, when speaking of the believer's death, always represents it as an immediate entrance into heavenly blessedness and glory.

Actually, for the believer, death is not death at all, but the beginning of life. Our Lord said, "*Whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die*" (John 11:26). God's elect never die. The death of the body is the liberty of the soul. And as soon as our souls are freed from this body of sin and death, we shall enter heaven.

Walking in Uprightness

When the righteous perish from the earth, they live in uprighteness forever, "*each one walking in his uprighteness*" (Isaiah 57:1-2). When the righteous die, they are taken away from evil, enter into a world of peace, and rest in their beds. Their bodies rest in hope in the grave, in hope of the resurrection. Their souls rest in the arms of Christ, their Redeemer. Our departed friends have entered into everlasting rest (Hebrews 4:9-11).

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There they walk in their uprightness. God reckons the righteousness of Christ, imputed to us in justification and imparted to us in sanctification, to be our righteousness. And he makes it ours perfectly and experimentally in heaven. There our departed brethren walk in their uprightness, in spotless purity and holiness, in shining robes of bliss and glory. As soon as a believer dies, he is carried by God's angels into heaven, Abraham's bosom, the place of endless comfort (Luke 16:22-25).

-pastor Don Fortner

Faith and Works

The Word of God, from beginning to end, plainly, clearly, continually, and emphatically declares that sinners are justified by the sovereign, immutable purpose and free grace of God, through faith in the Lord Jesus Christ; and that even the sinner's faith is a gift of God, wrought in his soul by the Holy Spirit. No sinner has ever been justified and reconciled unto God through his own works, but through faith and confidence in Christ and His accomplished work for sinners.

However, the Word of God is equally clear in revealing that that faith which is *"without works is dead."* Such faith is a delusion, a vain dream, a lie! Those who profess and hold on to a faith which leaves them indifferent to the hearing of the Gospel, the preaching, propagation and support of the Gospel, and the fellowship of those who love the Gospel, are professing something which they do not possess and holding on to something they would be better off without. Noah **heard**, and **believed**, and **moved with fear**.

-pastor Maurice Montgomery

We are of God. He that knoweth God heareth us.

1 John 4:6

John gives us several ways by which we may prove that we are of God: matters of both faith and practice. How can we know if others are of God? The answer is simple: those that know God are willing to hear us. They hear us with understanding, acknowledgement, and faith. It is not as though we are the standard. Rather, God's truth is the standard. But, if we are of God, it is certain we will tell the truth of God. Since we tell the truth of God, all others who are of God will rejoice in the gospel we preach. We do not need to examine the lives of others, nor delve deeply into their theology. We need only plainly proclaim what God has taught us. If he has taught them also (and all God's people are taught of God) they will agree. If God has not taught them, they will not agree.

-pastor Joe Terrell

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Sunday 9:30 AM Bible Class lesson

10:30 AM Morning Worship Service

Wednesday 6:30 PM Mid-week Worship Service

Listen to the gospel at: www.freegraceradio.com

Sunday January 19, 2020

"And the Spirit and the bride say, Come. And let him that heareth say, Come. And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely."

Rev 22:17



"But to us there is but one God, the Father, of whom are all things, and we in him; and one Lord Jesus Christ, by whom are all things, and we by him." 1Cor 8:6