CALL TO WORSHIP

Open My Eyes, That I May See #163

SCRIPTURE READING

Sun AM- Cass H.

Sun PM- Mike S.

Wed-Brian S.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

• We plan to observe our Lord's table next Sunday, December 6th. We will not be having a meal after service.

WORSHIP HYMN

Praise Him, Praise Him #442

CLOSING HYMN

God Be With You #82

HOW IS A SINNER SAVED?

How is a sinner saved? The apostle Paul very plainly tells us how! In Ephesians 2:8 he said, "For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God:" Salvation is a work of God's grace. It was God's grace that chose the sinner before the foundation of the world. It was God's grace that sent Christ in due time to die on the cross as a substitute for all of His chosen people. And it is God's grace that sends His Holy Spirit to each one of those particular people with the gift of faith. Faith believes totally on Christ. Faith believes His Word. Faith causes sinners to believe that The Father did all of the choosing in salvation, and The Son did all of the redeeming work in salvation. Faith causes sinners to cry: "It is not of ourselves... it is of Christ alone!" A truly saved sinner will know that he cannot take any credit for any part of his salvation, not even for the faith that believes. Even that is "the gift of God".

"Nevertheless the men rowed hard to bring it to the land; but they could not: for the sea wrought, and was tempestuous against them." - Jonah 1v13

We are told the mariners with Jonah rowed hard to bring their ship to land rather than believe the only remedy given to them under heaven by which they could be saved. Jonah had said: "Take me up, and cast me forth into the sea; so shall the sea be calm unto you: for I know that for my sake this great tempest is upon you" (Jonah 1:12). But the Mariners did not believe. Jonah pictures Christ's salvation for his people. Christ is the believer's only hope of salvation (Acts 4:12). Man thinks he is doing a righteous thing by trying to spare Christ the burden of his sins. So he tries to work off his debt through hard work, like these mariners rowing hard to spare Jonah. But the sinner who adds their good works will only find a raging, tempestuous sea of God's wrath against them (Isaiah 64:6). There is only one means of forgiveness God has provided for his people. That is through the death and blood of Jesus Christ. Quit rowing and rest in the faith of Jesus Christ.

- Pastor Eric Lutter (Battlefield, MO)

BY GRACE ALONE

"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 2v8-9

"By grace are ye saved." There is no present salvation except that which begins and ends with grace! No man can preach or possess a present salvation except those who preach and believe that we are saved by grace alone! The work is finished! Any other way of salvation is dependent on the sinner and it will fail.

LIGHT AFFLICTIONS

"For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, worketh for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory" 2 Cor. 4v17

How can the believer when under heavy burdens and afflictions consider our trials and burdens to be light? They can only be light for the believer resting in the Lord's good and sovereign providence; knowing they work for us not against us (Rom. 8:28). Burdens and heartaches for the unbeliever outside of Christ are unbearable and devastating. Paul describes our present state of heartache, trouble and sorrow as light when compared to our future state of exceeding and eternal glory (John 16:33).

Now how can we say that our afflictions are light?

They are light compared to what we deserve. We deserve nothing but judgment and the wrath of God for our sins against Him. But the Lord delights to show mercy to sinners (Rom. 6:23; Psalm 103:10).

They are light compared to what many other believers have suffered for the gospel. Many have been severely tortured and gave their lives for the gospel sake (Heb. 11:35; Heb. 12:4).

They are light compared to what the Lord Jesus Christ suffered for our sins. No man suffered like He did (Isa. 53:4-6; Lam. 1:12). No man endured the wrath of God without any mixture of mercy and died for the sins of others like our blessed Lord did to bring in everlasting salvation (1 Peter 2:24; 1 Peter 3:18).

They are light when compared with the blessing we enjoy in Christ right now by His sovereign grace (Rom. 8:32-35; Eph. 1:3). We enjoy the fullness, blessedness and completeness of salvation in Christ right now (1 Cor. 1:30; Eph. 1:7; Col. 2:91-10).

They are light afflictions compared to our future and eternal glory. "For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us. (Rom. 8:17; Rev. 21:1-5).

- Pastor Tom Harding (Pikeville, KY)

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Sunday 9:30 AM Bible Class
10:30 AM Morning Worship Service
6:30 PM Evening Service
Wednesday 6:30 PM Mid-week Worship Service
Listen to the gospel at: www.freegraceradio.com

Sunday November 29th, 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*