

## CALL TO WORSHIP

**O Come All Ye Faithful # 100**

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## SCRIPTURE READING

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## HYMN

**The Solid Rock # 272**

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

- No evening service tonight.

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## CLOSING HYMN

**Come Thou Fount # 17**

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### **“Use any means if it will bring a good outcome”**

Let me begin by saying what an horrible and even a dangerous statement this title is. This has been the thinking of communist regimes, of religious organizations, and even believers can fall into this sinful thinking.

When some unscriptural means are used in God's service and God over-rules and blesses in spite of it, we may think the means we used must have been acceptable, or the means doesn't really matter, it's only the end result that counts, but it's simply not so.

The scripture says, *'Wait on the Lord, and keep his way, and he shall exalt thee to inherit the land.'* That is, use the means he tells us to use in his word. If God's blessings seem to be delayed, patiently wait on the Lord, he will exalt us in due time.

It is dangerous and dishonoring to our God to do anything with the hope that God will bless us, even though we have done it contrary to his revealed will (his word).

One man said, "The greatest possible good to the cause of God cannot justify the smallest deviation from His commands. Let the ark of God itself fall, rather than attempt to uphold it with a human hand."

- Pastor Bruce Crabtree (New Castle, IN)

*“Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end”*

Isaiah 9:7

What a joy and rejoicing is given to every child of God as the truth of this verse is experienced in themselves. It begins at the first light, when it shines into our carnal darkness. We are drawn out by grace, being summoned from prison to behold our deliverer: Jesus Christ our redeemer. Through every circumstance our Lord faithfully shows himself gracious and his wisdom to be perfect. The Lord does this that, our love for him *“may abound yet more and more in knowledge and in all judgment”* (Phil 1:9). Every trial we face, every weakness uncovered, every difficult providence we shall endure is ripe with the purpose of our God working only good for his beloved child. The amount of time the New Man is given in this natural body varies. Yet being helped by the Spirit *“with groanings which cannot be uttered”*, we learn to bless God for all his love and care to such an undeserving sinner. The more we go *“a little further”*, through each fall upon our face, we see more beauty, more strength, more sufficiency in our Savior who prayed *“nevertheless not as I will, but as thou wilt”*. Our hearts fix more and more upon our Lord who increases his government and peace within our heart through this walk of faith, till we close our eyes in sleep. And when we shall awake in that Day without the dimness of fleshly eyes, we shall know more fully, an even greater increase of our Lord's government and peace, which shall never end.

- Pastor Eric Lutter (Nixa, MO)

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We must make Christ the paramount object of our soul's pursuit or our spiritual life will decline. It was Christ yesterday, and it must be Christ today, and Christ forever.

- Scott Richardson

## I NEED A MIRACLE

The more I see of my nature that is dead in sin, the more I see that I need a miracle. I don't need to have a reformed life. I need God to give me the miracle of spiritual life in me. I don't need new and better habits. I need God to give me the miracle of a new nature. I don't need lasik surgery on my eyes so that I see better. I need God to give me the miracle of eyes of faith that see Christ. I don't need to be educated. I need God to give me the miracle of a new mind. I don't need God to give me a chance to be saved. I need God to send His Son to save me.

- Pastor Frank Tate (Ashland, KY)

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## DO NOT BE ASHAMED

If I truly believe the gospel of God's free and sovereign grace in Christ Jesus, I will not hesitate to be fully identified with those who believe and preach that gospel IN MY DAY and IN MY AREA! Paul wrote from prison to Timothy and cautioned him, "*Do not be ashamed of the testimony of our Lord, nor of me His prisoner.*" It is of no use to brag on dead preachers like Spurgeon, Pink, and Barnard nor to drive miles to meetings in other towns while I refuse to encourage, support, and identify with those who preach and believe the gospel now in my area. Those who never suffer with Him will never reign with Him, and those who wear no scars of battle will wear no crown of victory.

- Henry Mahan

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However men may wrestle and quibble with the Scriptures, one thing is certain: The atonement is no failure! God will not allow that precious and costly sacrifice to fail in accomplishing completely that which it was designed to effect. Not a drop of that Holy Blood was shed in vain. In the last great day there shall stand forth no disappointed and defeated Saviour, but One Who . . . "*shall see the travail of His soul and shall be satisfied.*"

- Arthur Pink

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[www.sandiegograce.com](http://www.sandiegograce.com)

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](http://www.freegraceradio.com)

**Sunday December 26th, 2021**



***“But we preach Christ crucified, unto the Jews a stumblingblock, and unto the Greeks foolishness; But unto them which are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God, and the wisdom of God.”***

*1Cor 1v23-24*