#### CALL TO WORSHIP

Alas And Did My Savior Bleed #110

# SCRIPTURE READING

# HYMN

Pass Me Not #235

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Lord willing, I will be preaching at the conference in New Caney, TX this Friday and Saturday. I plan to return Saturday night. Brother David Pledger will be speaking as well. Pray for us and all those that proclaim the Gospel of Christ, as our Great God enables you.

# CLOSING HYMN And Can It Be #44

# **Perseverance And Preservation**

Though few men can see it, the Bible plainly teaches both the perseverance of the saints and the preservation of the saints. It is true that, "He that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved" (Matthew 24:13). And it is also true that Christ gives unto his sheep "eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of" his hand (John 10:28). Perseverance is the believer continuing in the faith. Preservation is God keeping his people in faith. Perseverance is the believer holding Christ by the hand of faith. Preservation is Christ holding the believer by the hand of his grace. All of God's elect shall persevere in faith, because all are preserved in grace.

# In Our Latter Years

*In our latter years* . . . there is a keener sense of sin! Older believers are more aware of the NATURE of sin than the acts and deeds of sin. Attitude and spirit occupy the mind more than the acts and deeds.

*In our latter years* . . . our prayers begin to change. There is less *asking* and more *thanksgiving* . . . less *petition* and more *praise*. We do, however, ask things for our children, but our needs are different than theirs.

*In our latter years* . . . there is a clearer understanding of the FRAILTY OF LIFE. It is more difficult to think of death when we are young, but when this flesh begins to crumble and the *keepers of the house tremble, the strong men bow themselves,* we begin to think more and more of *our house not made with hands.* 

- Henry Mahan

#### **Christ Is Our All And In All** "...Christ is all, and in all." (Col 3v11)

Friend, you and I will never be able to value the Lord's righteousness until we have been fully convinced that we have no righteousness of our own! Then, once convinced by the Holy Spirit, Christ will be revealed to be our all and in all—when we feel, and know, and are convinced of our utter and complete poverty before the Lord—then and only then, if God be pleased, of God in Christ, we will be made to know, ever so blessedly, that He has been made unto us to be all our *wisdom, and righteousness, and sanctification, and redemption, That, according as it is written, He that glorieth, let him glory in the LORD* (1 Cor 1:30-31).

#### THE PROMISE OF GOD TO EVERY BELIEVER

"But go thou thy way till the end be: for thou shalt rest, and stand in thy lot at the end of the days" (Dan. 12:13).

This promise was given to Daniel in his old age. He was taken captive at a very young age and carried into Babylon (Dan.1:3-4). He served God faithfully for seventy years in captivity. All that Daniel put his hand to the Lord prospered him (Dan.2:48; 5:29; 6:28). Daniel now faces the prospect and reality of dying, but even in this God made him to realize this would be a blessing not a penalty. "*But go thou thy way till the end be.*" Several comforting and calming thoughts are found here for believers.

**1). The time of our life on the earth is determined of God**, "*go thou thy way till the end be.*" Surely our days are determined of the Lord (Job 14:5). We shall definitely leave this place, but not until our work is finished. Not until God is pleased to take us home (2 Cor. 5:6-9).

**2). When a believer departs from this life we enter into rest**, "*for thou shalt rest*," rest from all toil and labor and rest from the weariness of this sinful flesh (Rom. 7:24-25; 2Cor.5:1-2). The Lord told the dying thief that He would be in paradise soon, to enjoy eternal rest for his soul (Luke 23:43). Every believer can say with Paul, "For I am in a strait betwixt two, having a desire to depart, and to be with Christ; which is far better: (Phil. 1:23).

**3).** Our soul will be at rest with the Lord and our body will be asleep in the grave waiting for the glorious resurrection morning, "*till the end of days*" (Dan. 12:2). Often death is referred to as sleep because of the inactivity of the body (John 11:11). But our soul is never said to sleep, it ascribed to being at rest in the Lord (Rev.6:9).

**4). We shall everyone stand in judgment at the end of days**, "*and stand in thy lot at the end of the days.*" The believer's allotment is to stand in the blessed merit and righteousness of the Lord Jesus Christ and hear Him say, "*Come ye blessed of my Father*" (Matt. 25:34; Eph.1:6). The unbeliever will stand in the merit of their unrighteousness and hear Him say, "*Depart from me, ye cursed*" (Matt. 25:41).

**5). Until the end of our days on this earth be**, "*go thy way*." Like Daniel, we continue in faithfulness unto the Lord, waiting with great expectation and comfort, "*to be absent from this body and to be present with the Lord*" (2 Cor. 5:8). God in His grace will furnish us with living comforts along the way (2Thes. 2:16), and in the end dying grace (2 Cor. 12:9-10).

- Pastor Tom Harding (Pikeville, KY)

# San Diego Grace Fellowship

"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

# February 20th, 2022

Sunday - 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM Wednesday - 6:30 PM

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