

## CALL TO WORSHIP

### Rock Of Ages # 126

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## SCRIPTURE READING

Sun- Cass H.

Wed- Bob M.

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## HYMN

### Look And Live # 195

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

- We express our sympathy to Stan Conner on the loss of his wife. I know some of you have known the Connors for a long time. A kind word extended is worth a lot!

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## CLOSING HYMN

### And Can It Be That I Should Gain? # 44

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### A GLORIOUS PARADOX

Believers on the one hand are nothing but sin, and on the other hand they have no sin. This is one of the great mysteries of the gospel that keeps God's people humble, yet hopeful. It causes them to cast all their care on the One that cares for them. It leads them to have no confidence in the flesh, yet to come boldly before the throne of grace. It is the reason they can mourn and rejoice at the same time. It shows them their inability to satisfy any part of God's law, and it frees them from the condemnation of the law. It causes them to bow in humble worship as mercy beggars, yet they hold fast the confidence and the rejoicing of the hope firm to the end. They are nothing yet have everything. They are hell deserving, yet heaven bound. They are in abject poverty, and they are infinitely and eternally rich. To the natural man, these things are a contradiction. To the child of God... they are his life.

- Greg Elmquist (Apopka, FL)

*Love As Brethren* -- "... having compassion one of another, love as brethren, be pitiful, be courteous . . ." -- 1 Peter 3:8

Blood relations, generally speaking, are very forgiving, longsuffering, and understanding with each other . . . they are brothers! "**Love as brethren.**" Brothers know each other well and realize they are just alike. "**Love as brethren.**" A brother will quickly forgive his brother just about any offense. "**Love as brethren.**" A brother does not want to believe the worst, but rather the best about his brother; believing whatever he did or said wrong, was just due to a bad day or something. "**Love as brethren.**" A brother doesn't want to believe any bad report about his brother and certainly doesn't want anyone talking about him to others. "**Love as brethren.**" A brother will never hold a lasting grudge or be bitter against his brother for too long, knowing the brother didn't deliberately hurt or offend him. "**Love as brethren.**" A brother will never talk privately about his brothers faults and failures, but rather wants others to think highly of his 'brother.' "**Love as brethren.**" A brother knows his brother is capable of doing and saying wrong things, after all, he is his brother . . . same parents, same home, same upbringing, same nature, same world, same temptations, same weaknesses, same problems. A brother realizes what his brother is made of . . . SINFUL FLESH, living in a sinful world. "**Love as brethren.**"

Does someone ask, 'Who is my brother?' That's what the Pharisees asked about their neighbor (wanting to know who they could hate rather than love). Every man is my brother in Adam and I am told by my Lord to love him, do good unto him, forgive him, and be merciful to him, . . . but especially those of the household of faith. "**Love as brethren.**" Satan is called *the accuser of the brethren*. He wants nothing more than to divide and cause discord amongst brethren. He accuses the brethren before God, before the law, to their own consciences and will even use us to bring an accusation against our brother. Brethren, resist the devil. Don't let him use you to accuse, to sew discord. God hates it. Resist the devil by calling on your Lord. Resist him by not believing the accusations about your brother. "**Love as brethren.**"

I have a friend and brother in Christ who has a very Christ-like, exemplary trait. Whenever he hears a bad report about someone, he calls that person and asks them about it; wanting to get to the truth of the matter. Don't you wish everyone would do that for you? That's what love does. "*Love rejoices not in iniquity but rejoiceth in the truth.*" I want to be a friend like that. I want to love like that.

***"Let all bitterness, and wrath, and anger, and clamour, and evil speaking, be put away from you, with all malice: and be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, EVEN AS GOD FOR CHRIST'S SAKE HATH FORGIVEN YOU. Be ye therefore followers of God, as dear children; and WALK IN LOVE, AS CHRIST ALSO HATH LOVED US, and hath given Himself for us an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweetsmelling savour."*** (Eph.4:31-5:2)

- Paul Mahan (Rocky Mount, VA)

## LIFE IS A VAPOR

Our Lord called one of our dear ladies home this past week. Norma was 103 years old. On her 100<sup>th</sup> birthday she told me that she could not believe she was 100 years old. She told me that all those years had passed so quickly. That shouldn't surprise us. Job said, *"My days are swifter than a weaver's shuttle."* (Job 7:6) James said, *"For what is your life? It is even a vapour, that appeareth for a little time, and then vanisheth away."* (James 4:14) If 103 years passed quickly for Norma, how much more quickly will my days pass?

Since we know our days will be gone so quickly, there are a few things a wise person will do.

1. Seek the Lord while He may be found in a day of grace. We think so many things are so important right now, but very soon we will see all that has ever mattered is Christ. Then seek Him now.
2. Live to serve Christ not this flesh, which will soon go back to the dust no matter how much we serve and pamper it.
3. Be generous with all the material blessings God has given you. It is all His anyway and very soon we won't be needing those material things at all.
4. Be generous with words of love and kindness. Don't leave anything unsaid that should be said to those we love. Forgive those who need forgiveness. Comfort those who are hurting. Be kind to those who need kindness. That would be a good legacy to leave behind.
5. Don't get so upset by the political and social events of the day. There is no doubt they are bringing about the demise of our society, but we will be done with it all in a few days. Let's be more concerned with the kingdom of God and His righteousness. Believers will never be done with those things which are eternal.

- Frank Tate (Ashland, 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*

**March 5th, 2023**

Service Times

Sunday - 9:30 AM

- 10:30 AM

Wednesday - 6:30 PM

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