HYMN

Tell Me The Old, Old Story # 229

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Lord willing, Bro. Angus Fisher will be here **Wednesday**, **September 20th** and Bro. Frank Tate will be here on **Tuesday**, **September 26th**.

CLOSING HYMN What A Wonderful Savior! # 454

FINDING THE RIGHT CHRIST

I know people who go from one church (so called) to another trying to find the right one or the one they can agree with the most. I told someone not long ago that he needed to quit trying to find the right church and find the right Christ and then and then only will he find the right church.

- John Chapman (Spring Lake, NC)

Only those who have experienced the miracle of the new birth know the difference between professing Christ and possessing Christ.

- Gene Harmon

FIVE SEARCHING QUESTIONS

1.) Are my desires for a saving interest in Christ genuine and sincere? He accused some of following Him because of miracles and for loaves and fishes. I would win Christ!

2.) Are my desires for a saving interest in Christ honoring to Him? I would be saved only in that way which honors His law and satisfies His justice – the way of the cross!

3.) Are my desires for Christ permanent or only a passing fancy born of emotion? A true desire for Christ has nothing to do with health or wealth, time or trouble, feelings or flesh; it is a heart quest.

4.) Do my desires for Christ lead me to seek Him in His Word, in His house, and among His people? I am not ashamed of the gospel, those who preach it, nor those who believe it. I would be identified with Him and His.

5.) Will my desire for Christ find no full satisfaction until I awake with His likeness? If so, I may entertain a good hope that I am an object of His love.

- Henry Mahan

Philippians 2: 12: Wherefore, my beloved, as ye have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling. 13: For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of his good pleasure.

Wherever our Lord has assembled his people together, God is present (Mt 18: 20; 28: 20). It is Christ's glory as Head of the church to fill all in all. He is our God who works his will and good pleasure in each of his saints. The apostle Paul reminded the Philippians that it was not Paul's presence that should produce reverence in them but God's presence. "God is greatly to be feared in the assembly of the saints; and to be had in reverence of all them that are about him." (Ps 89: 7)

- Clay Curtis (Ewing, NJ)

DOES GOD LOVE YOU?

Men have been told over and over again that God loves them; I would ask you, what good does the love of God do you? Does it make you desire to live to His glory, or cause you to call on Him daily, or attend a place where the gospel is preached? Do you ever even think about the love of God? Does God enter your thoughts at all? When God loves a sinner, He does something effectual for that sinner; "In the time of love I passed by thee and said unto thee live, I said *live*" (Ezek.16: 5-8). He loved Jacob before he was born; he had not done any good or evil, that the purpose of God according to election might stand. As with Paul, the same will happen to God's elect, hear his words; "When it pleased God who separated me from my mother's womb, and called me by His grace to reveal His Son in me" (Gal. 1:15). "In love having predestinated us unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ to himself, according to the good pleasure of his will" (Eph.1: 4-5)

The average person absolutely doesn't care at all about the love of God, and to be told over and over again that God loves them is obscene. God loves his elect and he will manifest his love to them in time.

If you would take a close look into God's word you would see that no one told men indiscriminately that God loves them. Those to whom the love of God was manifested were overwhelmed by the truth that God loved them, and had always loved them, with an everlasting love (Jer. 31:30). Men today are not enthralled with the love of God, it is just ho-hum, so what else is new?

- Donnie Bell (Crossville, TN)

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

September 17th, 2023

<u>Service Times</u> Sunday - 9:45 AM - 10:30 AM Wednesday - 6:30 PM

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