

CALL TO WORSHIP

O God, Our Help in Ages Past #10

HYMN

Teach Me Thy Way, O Lord #337

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- We will enjoy fellowship and lunch after services this morning, all are welcome to stay.
 - Brother John Reeves is scheduled to preach here this Wednesday at 6:30 PM.
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MESSAGE - "Reverence Speaks the Gospel"

Psalm 130 - Clay Curtis

CLOSING HYMN

Jesus Paid It All #125

THE BELIEVER'S RULE OF LIFE

I left the pulpit one night and a fellow asked me, "Do you believe 'the law' to be a believer's rule of life?" He seemed surprised when I told him I did not. His very next question was, "How do you know how to live?" I told him immediately that I lived just as the Apostle Paul, "The life that I now live, I live by the faith of the Son of God," (Gal. 2:20). This was the rule of life for Abraham, Isaac and Jacob and Abel and all others who have nothing but Jesus Christ to live upon.

Someone would say, "You mean you live as you want to?" I wish I could: I'd be filled with the Spirit, I would never sin again, all my motives would be pure, I'd be delivered from this body of death. Oh, I wish I could live just like I want to. The closest thing I have found to living just like I'd like to is living by faith upon Jesus Christ the Dear and Blessed Son of God.

– Bruce Crabtree

Rooted in the Love of Christ

That Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith; that ye, being rooted and grounded in love, May be able to comprehend with all saints what is the breadth, and length, and depth, and height; And to know the love of Christ, which passeth knowledge, that ye might be filled with all the fulness of God.
(Ephesians 3:17-19)

And what was the great subject of his prayer? It was short, but comprehensive. It all centered in Christ. All Paul prayed for himself; and all he asked for the Church, was Christ. Christ and his fullness, Christ and his all-sufficiency. That Christ (said he) may dwell in your hearts by faith. Reader! do not overlook the fullness and comprehensiveness of Paul's prayer. Christ cannot dwell in the heart of the unregenerate. Christ cannot dwell in the heart of any whom the Father hath not given to his dear Son. So, that in every heart where Christ dwells, there the Lord hath given testimony, that that precious soul is a child of God, given by the Father, redeemed by the Son, and regenerated by the Holy Ghost. Reader! is it not your prayer, as it is mine, that Christ may dwell in our hearts by faith?

And where Christ dwells in the heart by faith, there all the other blessings follow. Rooted in Christ, we are one with Christ. Grounded in love, we feel all the sweet influences of love. And, though the love of Christ is unsearchable, and past finding out, yet we can in some measure comprehend, that it reacheth from one eternity to, another; and though its dimensions are infinite, in breadth and length, and depth, and height, and it is a love which passeth knowledge, yet is it a special, peculiar, free, and gracious love, and runs through all time, and to all eternity, to his people. Oh! the love of Christ, which passeth knowledge! Reader! what are your apprehensions of this love? Hath Paul's prayer been heard for you? Hath God granted you a token of this love?

-Robert Hawker

Substitution

Proverbs 17:15

“He that justifieth the wicked, and he that condemneth the just, even they both are abomination to the LORD.”

God detests and finds abominable (loathsome) any who would justify (clear, vindicate, excuse) the sin of the wicked. God equally detests and abhors any who would condemn one who is innocent of sin and evil doing. Let me tell you why that is so important to understand. God does not just flippantly forgive His people’s sin. “The Lord God will by no means clear the guilty.” (Exodus 34:6-7) He can’t do so and remain just. “The soul that sinneth, it shall die.” (Ezekiel 18:20) The guilty soul must die because a “Just God” cannot clear the guilty soul without compromising His justice.

This is what makes “substitution” so beautiful in the eyes of a believing sinner. The sin of the elect has been put on Christ. He (the Lord Jesus) who knew no sin was MADE (to be) SIN for us. (2 Corinthians 5:21) Christ who was perfectly righteous and perfectly holy in God’s sight was made to be sin for us, and God punished Christ for that sin that was found on Him. God did not just sweep our sin under a rug and pretend it did not exist. God’s justice extracted full payment for all the sin of all God’s elect throughout all time. The holy wrath, judgment, and justice of God was exhausted on the Lord Jesus Christ and payment IN FULL was made to the justice of God. God didn’t “justify the wicked.” To do so would be an abomination. Christ became guilty with the sin of those that the Father gave Him to redeem before the foundation of the world. The sin of the elect was paid for, put away and done away with. It does not exist. (Ephesians 1:4)

At the same time, God didn’t unjustly condemn Christ the “Just One.” He really was made guilty by the taking of His people’s sin upon Himself. Our Lord was condemned because Christ truly was guilty. Therefore God was “just and righteous” in punishing Christ for sin. The sin of God’s chosen was really put upon Him, and is no longer found on the elect sinner. God is not unjust in sparing the chosen sinner. Why? They have no sin. Christ took it and in return made His people the righteousness of God in Him. Because of that God is both “Just and Justifier” of them which believe in Jesus Christ. (Romans 3:26) God is both a “just God and a Savior.” (Isaiah 45:21) Truly in Christ, God did for His people what they could not do for themselves. That is why Christ and Him crucified is our Gospel message! - David Eddmenson

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 15, 2024

Service Times

Sunday - 10:30 AM

Wednesday - 6:30 PM

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Pastor

"Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls."

Matthew 11:29