

## CALL TO WORSHIP

### Turn Your Eyes upon Jesus #204

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#### ANNOUNCEMENTS / SCRIPTURE / PRAYER

- March birthdays: Kyle Jonilionis 5<sup>th</sup>; Sarah Vargas 21<sup>st</sup>; Mike Smith 29<sup>th</sup>
  - Pastor John Reeves is scheduled to preach here on Sunday, March 22. *“And how shall they preach, except they be sent? as it is written, How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things!” Romans 10:15*
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#### HYMN

### Nearer, My God, to Thee #357

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#### MESSAGES

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#### CLOSING HYMN

### I Am Thine, O Lord #314

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#### What About My Sin?

The believer walks by faith, not by sight. Faith believes what God says when it cannot be seen any other way. The child of God cannot see in any part of their experience that they are “dead to sin”. Romans 6:2. Sin seems to them to be very much alive. Yet God says that our “old man was crucified with Christ”. Romans 6:6. The Lord tells us to “reckon ye also yourselves to be dead indeed unto sin” Romans 6:11. Our sin nature will remain with us until we are separated from this body of death. Like an incurable disease, the believers desire and hope are to have its manifested symptoms minimized. God’s medicine for this terminal disease is faith in Christ. The only way sin will be restrained from “reigning in our mortal bodies”, Romans 6:12, is not by the works of the law or the determination of the will. We do not use carnal weapons in a spiritual war. 2 Corinthians 10:4. It is by looking through the eye of faith to the glorious person and accomplished work of the Lord Jesus Christ. We do not fight to kill sin. We believe God in reckoning it to be in Christ, already dead.

-pastor Greg Elmquist

#### There remains then a Sabbath rest for the people of God.

— *Hebrews 4:9*

The Christian Sabbath is not a day. The Christian Sabbath is resting in Christ, pure and simple. And every Christian rests in Christ. If you're not resting in Christ, you're not a Christian, whatever else you may be.

Now, the world has its own definition [of] being a Christian, and it's pretty much whoever says they're a Christian must be, you know.... But what I'm saying is [that] the Christianity described in the scriptures, [no one] has entered into that... unless he is resting, resting in Christ, having ceased from his own labors to earn or merit the blessings of God.

Anyone, no matter how zealous, [devout], moral, and any other virtue you want to put on it, no one who is not resting in Christ alone is [a] Christian. Everyone who is resting in Christ alone is a Christian despite the many faults you may find in their conduct, and even their theology. There remains a Sabbath rest....

We don't enter our rest, we enter his rest. And what is his rest? His rest is the rest of a work that is finished. God rested on the seventh day. He did not start creating again the next day. God entered his rest from his creative labors on the seventh day of the history of this universe. And he's never gone back to his labors. Why? They're done.

And in like fashion, our Lord Jesus Christ came into this world with a work to do, something to accomplish. He said, it is my meat to do the will of him who sent me. And from the moment he was conceived in the womb of Mary until he said, it is finished, he was engaged in a hard, hard labor, a labor that you and I really can't understand...

If you can lay hold of that truth, I mean really get a grip on the fact that... God views you with the same level of love, affection, approval, and acceptance as he does his only begotten Son, the Lord Jesus, you'll find rest. You say, oh, but my sins trouble me. How do they trouble you? Do they make you think you've been cut off from God? Remember, you're yoked to Christ. You're of the same kind as him. Don't ever despair of the grace of God. Don't ever try to work yourself into his favor or work yourself back into his favor.

At every point where there seems to be a conflict between you and God or something that argues against your full possession of all the blessings which are in Christ, here's what you need to do. Stop. Quit. Rest. Why? The work's done. It's finished. And that is the Christian Sabbath.

-Joe Terrell (1955-2024)

