

## CALL TO WORSHIP

**Holy, Holy, Holy #70**

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS / SCRIPTURE / PRAYER

- April birthdays: Mark Iverson - 8<sup>th</sup>
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## HYMN

**Beneath the Cross of Jesus #309**

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## MESSAGES

-pastor Gabe Stalnaker

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## CLOSING HYMN

**Hallelujah, What a Savior! #127**

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“I know that there are some things that are important to us; there are some people that are important to us. However, in light of our great need of Christ nothing else is that important. We need Him. As the woman with the issue of blood said, *‘If I can but touch the hem of his garment, I shall be made whole.’* Without Him we are lost, undone, and unaccepted by the Father. There is no material thing or human relationship that can supply my spiritual need; however, in Christ we are complete. In Christ we have all that we need to stand in God’s presence accepted. I cannot express how important it is to know Christ; all material things will burn up, and all fleshly relationships will be dissolved. However, our relationship with Christ will never be dissolved nor diminished, and it will only grow sweeter. Judge the importance of everything in light of Him.”

- pastor John Chapman

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**“Out of the depths have I cried unto thee, O Lord.” -Psalm 130:1**

There is a difference between knowing that I need to cry out for mercy, and actually crying out for mercy. There is a difference between knowing that Christ came to save sinners, and actually being a sinner who desperately needs and desires to be saved by the Lord Jesus Christ. The difference is: the head and the heart! Knowing that I need to be saved is in the head, but the actual cry for mercy can only come from God giving a new heart that believes, loves, and sees its only hope to be in the Christ who purges sinners from all their sins!

-pastor Gabe Stalnaker

## Lawful Use of the Law

The law is lawfully used as a means of conviction of sin: for this purpose it was promulgated (established) at Sinai. The law entered, that sin might abound: not to make men more wicked, though occasionally and by abuse it has that effect, but to make them sensible how wicked they are. Having God's law in our hands, we are no longer to form our judgments by the maxims and customs of the world, where evil is called good, and good evil; but are to try every principle, temper, and practice, by this standard. Could men be prevailed upon to do this, they would soon listen to the Gospel with attention. On some the Spirit of God does thus prevail: then they earnestly make the jailer's inquiry, "What must I do to be saved?" Here the work of grace begins; and the sinner, condemned in his own conscience, is brought to Jesus for life.

When we use the law as a glass to behold the glory of God, we use it lawfully. His glory is eminently revealed in Christ; but much of it is with a special reference to the law, and cannot be otherwise discerned. We see the perfection and excellence of the law in his life. God was glorified by his obedience as a man. What a perfect character did he exhibit! Yet it is no other than a transcript of the law. Such would have been the character of Adam and all his race, had the law been duly obeyed. It appears therefore a wise and holy institution, fully capable of displaying that perfection of conduct by which man would have answered the end of his creation. And we see the inviolable strictness of the law in his death, There the glory of God in the law is manifested. Though he was the beloved Son, and had yielded personal obedience in the utmost perfection, yet, when he stood in our place to make atonement for sin, he was not spared. From what he endured in Gethsemane and upon the cross, we learn the meaning of that awful sentence, "The soul that sinneth shall die."

-John Newton

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## As Far as the East is from the West

If there were some precise point of distance from the East to the West, it must follow that there is some place where our sins may be found (Psalm 103:12), they are not really taken away, they may yet be found by God and charged to us, Christ is a failure, redemption is a hoax, and the gospel we preach is a delusion.

Rejoice, O my soul, rejoice! There is no place where my sins are found. The Lord Jesus Christ purged them, removed them, took them all away. Children of God, rejoice! Your Savior’s precious blood washed away our sins. Jehovah has cast them behind his back. He who knows all things and forgets nothing has forgotten them forever. And in that great day when he searches the books, they shall not be found (Jeremiah 50:20).

- Don Fortner

