

## CALL TO WORSHIP

### Crown Him with Many Crowns #62

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#### ANNOUNCEMENTS / SCRIPTURE / PRAYER

- April birthdays: Mark Iverson - 8<sup>th</sup>
  - We are listening to the messages which pastor Gabe Stalnaker preached at Kingsport Sovereign Grace Church in Kingsport, Tennessee this morning.
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#### HYMN

### Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart #171

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#### MESSAGES

– pastor Gabe Stalnaker

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#### CLOSING HYMN

### Jesus Paid It All #125

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#### *Again - John 21:1*

O what a word of mercy, longsuffering and patience is revealed concerning the Lord's love toward His sheep. When we consider how justly He could leave us to ourselves and allow us to go on our merry way until we leave this world and Then face Him in judgment... thanks be to Him who has been eternally pleased to show Himself AGAIN, and AGAIN, and AGAIN to the objects of His blessed and everlasting affection.

– pastor Marvin Stalnaker

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The believer's eternal union with Christ is a subject that few seem to grasp, though it is written as with a sunbeam upon the pages of Holy Scripture. We are *"accepted in the Beloved,"* and have been from eternity. That union of our souls with our Savior was made by the triune God himself before the world began, and can never be dissolved or even altered. The Lord God sees us in his Son, as one with his Son, and as his Son, because we really are in his Son. Therefore, it is written, *"as he is, so are we."* As no spot, blemish, or any such thing is in Christ, but only perfection, his Father is well pleased in him, and with all who are in him. The Book of God declares, *"He hath not beheld iniquity in Jacob, neither hath he seen perverseness in Israel."* Therefore, we shall *"have boldness in the day of judgment: because as he is, so are we in this world."*

– Don Fortner

## The Last Adam

*"And so it is written, The first Adam was made a living soul; the last Adam was made a quickening spirit" (1 Cor. 15:45).*

Jesus is the federal head of His elect. As in Adam, every heir of flesh and blood has a personal interest, because he is the covenant head and representative of the race as considered under the law of works; so, under the law of grace, every redeemed soul is one with the Lord from heaven, since He is the Second Adam, the Sponsor and Substitute of the elect in the new covenant of love. The apostle Paul declares that Levi was in the loins of Abraham when Melchizedek met him: it is certain truth that the believer was in the loins of Jesus Christ, the Mediator, when in old eternity the covenant settlements of grace were decreed, ratified, and made sure forever. Thus, whatever Christ hath done, He hath wrought for the whole body of His Church. We were crucified in Him and buried with Him (Col. 2:10-13), and to make it still more wonderful, we are risen with Him and even ascended with Him to the seats on high (Eph. 2:6). It is thus that the Church has fulfilled the law, and is "accepted in the Beloved" (Eph. 1:6). It is thus that she is regarded with complacency (satisfaction) by the just Jehovah, for He views her in Jesus, and does not look upon her as separate from her covenant Head. As the Anointed Redeemer of Israel, Christ Jesus has nothing distinct from His Church, but all that He has He holds for her. Adam's righteousness was ours so long as he maintained it, and his sin was ours the moment that he committed it; and in the same manner, all that the Second Adam is or does, is ours as well as His, seeing that He is our Representative. Here is the foundation of the covenant of grace. This gracious system of representation and substitution, moved Justin Martyr to cry out, "Oh blessed change, O sweet permutation (substitution)!" This is the very groundwork of the gospel of our salvation, and is to be received with strong faith and rapturous joy.

– C. H. Spurgeon

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"Salvation is of the Lord!"

It was purposed by God the Father for those he chose in Christ before this world was created. It was accomplished by the perfect redeeming work of Christ our Savior, the eternal Son of God, when he died on that cross in our room and stead 2,000 years ago. This unspeakable gift, this glorious salvation, is revealed to God's chosen people by the sovereign, life-giving power of God the Holy Spirit under the preaching of his gospel.

– pastor Gene Harmon

