

EAGER AVENUE GRACE CHURCH

That as sin hath reigned unto death, even so might grace reign through righteousness unto eternal life by Jesus Christ our Lord. Romans 5:21

Worship Services

Sunday, April 16, 2023

10am: "Christ and the Kingdom of Heaven" | Lesson 6

Matthew 5:13-16

Bill Parker

11am: "Working Out Our

Salvation" | Philippians 2:12-30

Bill Parker

Live Stream

Every Sunday 10 & 11 a.m.

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Contact

www.rofgrace.com

www.sermonaudio.com/reignofgrace

www.facebook.com/reignofgrace

[email
info@rofgrace.com](mailto:info@rofgrace.com)

[phone
229.432.6969](tel:229.432.6969)

[address
1102 Eager Drive
Albany, GA 31707](#)



“Let There Be Light”

When the Lord God created the world, all He had to do was speak His sovereign, powerful Word, and it was done – **“And God said, Let there be light: and there was light” (Genesis 1:3)**. It is the same when God, by the Holy Spirit in the new birth, gives spiritual life to spiritually dead sinners. This is a powerful and miraculous work of God in imparting the very life of Christ to His elect – sinners saved by grace. What is that light that God shines in them? It is the light of His Word of truth in the Gospel wherein the glory of God shines in the face (Person and work) of the Lord Jesus Christ (**2 Cor. 4:6**). The Gospel is the power of God unto salvation to every one who believes, and this is the Gospel as empowered by the Holy Spirit Who gives life and shines its light so that those who were spiritually blind do see the kingdom of God as it is fulfilled in and by the Lord Jesus Christ Who saves us from our sins and establishes righteousness by which God is just to justify us. Rest assured that when God says, **“Let there be light,”** there IS light, and the darkness of ignorance, deception, and unbelief are dispelled.

—Pastor Bill Parker

It came to my mind again recently that I can find no hope or consolation of any kind in anything that I have done or am. There is not a single thing about me that would commend me to God or warrant His blessing me in the least way. But then I also had this thought, I can find no hope or consolation in the fact that I see this is my case or feel it to be true! There is no hope to be found in my knowing this, acknowledging it to be true or in any feeling it might generate in me. I am nothing and this gives me no hope. I feel it to be true and any and all feeling it to be so gives me no hope. I must confess as the hymn-writer, "My hope is built on nothing less than Jesus' blood and righteousness." Honestly! The only hope for a sinner like me is a believing look at the Lord Jesus Christ! Our only hope is in the grace of God, in His covenant mercies and in His unchanging love. My hope is not even in my believing on Him but in HIM! I can only lay down my head and rest on the promises of God in Christ crucified. No one, not even myself, can lay anything to my charge if "*it is Christ that died.*" When I am under the weight of my sinful self, I thank God He gives me grace and faith so that, even then, I cannot but hope in Him who came into the world to save sinners, even me the chief of sinners! —Author Unknown

"By so much was Jesus made a surety of a better testament." (Hebrews 7:22). When one undertakes to be surety for another, then the debt is reckoned to him, and he accepts it. Our dear Saviour, our blessed Surety, stood up for us and engaged in our behalf. Our debts, our iniquities, were imputed to Him, charged upon His person. He fully satisfied and perfectly atoned justice for them. By the one sacrifice of Himself, He has taken them all away, made an end of sin, so that justice itself proclaims its own faithfulness to forgive sin (1 John 1:9). Grace reigns, mercy triumphs, sinners are pardoned, believers rejoice. Oh believer, you are blessed of your God Who is just, and therefore does not, cannot, impute sin to you. True, you have committed sins innumerable; but it is just as true, they were all laid upon Jesus. True, you do commit sins; it is equally true, Christ has borne them. You will commit sins; it is perfectly true your Saviour has atoned for them all. You have nothing to plead but guilt in yourself, but perfectly righteous in Christ. Every charge the enemy brings from the righteous law against you is just. Own it, but ever plead in your own conscience, and before the throne, Jesus has satisfied for all; there is now no condemnation. Oh believer, this is a most precious truth of God. —William Mason

"Reckon ye also yourselves to be dead indeed unto sin, but alive unto God through Jesus Christ, our Lord." (Romans 6:11)

Our sins were crucified with Christ. They were put to death when He died, for He was our covenant head, and we were legally represented by Him. The law has no more right to condemn us than it has to condemn Him. Justice is bound to deal with us as it has with our Saviour. "***He that is dead is freed***" from the sin for which He died; so are we! If we do not see this complete mortification in Him, sin will reign in us. No sin can be crucified in heart or life unless it be first pardoned in conscience. If the believer does not see HIS PERFECT DEADNESS IN CHRIST, he will open wide a door to unbelief. If a believer does not see HIS COMPLETENESS IN CHRIST, he leaves room for attacks of self-righteousness and legalism. If Christ be not all, self will feed personal merit and importance. —William Romaine

"One thing have I desired of the LORD, that will I seek after; that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the LORD, and to enquire in His temple." (Psalm 27:4)

Birthdays

Mary Abigail Payne - Apr. 18th

Prayer Requests

Winston and Patricia Pannell, Alex Wages, Audrey Asher, Kathy Robinson, Lori Ann Loosier, Leon Drake, Akimi Okada, Sue Parker, the mission in Malawi, Africa.

Hymns

April 16th services

I Am Thine, O Lord - 314

The Cleansing Wave - 227

Call to Worship

(Tune – What a Friend We Have in Jesus – p. 354)

**Precious Savior, friend of sinners;
We, as such, to Thee draw near.
Let Thy Spirit dwell within us
With that love that casts out fear.
Matchless Saviour, let us know Thee
As the Lord our Righteousness;
Cause our hearts to cleave unto Thee;
Come, and with Thy presence bless.**

**Open now Thy precious treasure;
Let Thy word here freely flow.
Give to us a gracious measure;
'Tis Thyself we long to know.
Come and claim us as Thy portion;
Let us all find rest in Thee.
Leave us not to empty notions;
We would find our hope in Thee!**