

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 7, 2024

10 am: "The Lord Will Save His People" | Matthew 13:47-58
Matthew Series | Lesson 53
Bill Parker

11 am: "The Harvest in the End"
Revelation 14:14-20
Bill Parker

Live Stream

Every Sunday 10 & 11 a.m.

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Itching Ears

“For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears; And they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables.” (2 Timothy 4:3-4)

I don't think that there is any doubt that this time has come. I am amazed at the things that naturally bright and intelligent men and women will sit and listen to today. People will flock to hear a man who claims to have gone to heaven and returned with stories to tell after being revived on the operating table. Men and women are simply fascinated by such sensationalism but are not interested in the plain and simple teaching of redemption in and by the perfect righteousness of Christ. They will not endure sound doctrine. Men and women will fill auditoriums to heap to themselves teachers who tell them how God desires for all to be healthy and wealthy but they have turned away their ears from the truth to hear these fables. Paul tells us this is caused by their own lusts. Men want God to be who and what they desire but they do not desire God to be who and what He is. I speak of those who have nothing but itching ears.

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“He that walketh in his uprightness feareth the LORD: but he that is perverse in his ways despiseth Him.” (Proverbs 14:2)

Those who walk in uprightness are those who walk in faith. The walk of faith is the way of righteousness in Christ alone. Those who do so reverence the Lord, delight in that gospel wherein His righteousness is revealed, and ascribe all their salvation to Him. Those who trust themselves and their own works of self-righteousness despise Christ, and therefore all their ways are perverse! Christ is the Way, the Way of righteousness, and all who trust Him walk in uprightness, not theirs but His!

—Pastor Gary Shepard

The Lamb of God, once upon the cross, is now the Lamb upon the throne, possessing and exercising all power in heaven and in earth. Yet He is still mindful of those for whom He suffered; His heart is made of tenderness; His bowels melt with love; He appears in the presence of God for them, as their great High Priest, Advocate, and Intercessor.

—John Newton

“O give thanks unto the LORD, for He is good: for His mercy endureth for ever. Let the redeemed of the LORD say so, whom He hath redeemed from the hand of the enemy;” (Psalm 107:1-2)

In Jesus Christ, God has reconciled me to Himself, imputing my trespasses to Him and His obedience to me. God by Jesus Christ takes away all my sins, His own wrath, and my deserved condemnation! All good things are treasured up in Christ, were procured for me by Christ, flow to me through Christ, and are conferred on me for the sake of Christ!

—James Smith

The Motive of God’s Grace

Any claim of believing, or any personal view of, the doctrine of God’s free and sovereign in the salvation of sinners by Jesus Christ alone that gives a person an excuse not to fight sin in the warfare of the flesh and the Spirit is not of God. The glorious truth of salvation conditioned totally and solely upon the Lord Jesus Who by Himself fulfilled all the conditions is in no way a motivation for sinners to lives of sin and disobedience. The Bible shows how it is the only honorable and right way to motivated believing sinners to obedience that glorifies God and exalts Christ. Many conclude that if the works of men do not contribute in some way or some degree to our salvation and the establishment of our righteousness before God, then there is no reason to try to obey God at all. This only proves their spiritual deadness because the only power of motivation in their unregenerate hearts is legal fear of punishment and mercenary promises of earned rewards.

When God the Holy Spirit brings a sinner to see his utter depravity and brings that sinner to Jesus Christ for all salvation, forgiveness, righteousness, eternal life and glory, He gives that sinner a new heart and new spirit. One of the main evidences of that new heart and new spirit is the motivation to obedience and to be engaged in the warfare of the flesh and the Spirit as motivated by grace, gratitude, and love to God for all that He has freely given us in and by the Lord Jesus Christ. As the apostle wrote, ***“For the love of Christ constraineth us; because we thus judge, that if one died for all, then were all dead: and that He died for all, that they which live should not henceforth live unto themselves, but unto Him which died for them, and rose again” (2 Cor. 5:14-15).*** —Pastor Bill Parker

Prayer Requests

Patricia Pannell, Alex Wages, Audrey Asher, Kathy Robinson, Lori Ann Loosier, Leon Drake, Akemi Okada, Sue Parker, Judy Fletcher, David Tennyson, Banks Margeson, the mission in Malawi, Africa.

Birthdays

Tammy Hall - Apr. 13th

Hymns

April 7th services

-Look Ye Saints! - 141

-Praise the Savior - 51

Call to Worship

(Tune – Immortal Invisible – p. 34)

Words by Gary Shepard

**Sweet mercies of Jesus, I find my delight.
My hope in the morning, my song in the night.
Whatever He sends me, I know it's from Him.
Both sorrow and joy, till this life shall end.**

**Sweet grace of the Savior, I find my delight.
The grace of the Sovereign, to give is His right.
The grace that now reigneth, in righteousness true.
The grace everlasting, the covenant new.**

**Sweet peace of the GodMan, whose blood has prevailed;
And reconciled fully, when to the cross nailed.
Sin now made an end of, salvation so free.
Sweet blessings, sweet prospect, sweet Gospel to me.**