

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, February 4, 2024

10 am: "God's Chosen Servant"

Matthew 12:9-21

Matthew Series | Lesson 44

Bill Parker

11 am: "Resurrection of God's

Witnesses" | Revelation 11:5-14

Bill Parker

Live Stream

Every Sunday 10 & 11 a.m.

-[Sermon Audio](#)

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Uncompromising Love

"The love of God for His chosen people never compromises His glory and honor as revealed in the glorious Person and finished work of Christ for the salvation of His people – "Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us, and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins" (1 John 4:10). It was God's love that sent His Son into the world to satisfy His law and justice as their Surety, Substitute, and Redeemer. It is upon the ground of Christ blood (His righteousness imputed to His people) that God is both a just God AND a Savior.

The love of God's people for Him never compromises His glory and honor as revealed in Christ. Christ said, **"If a man love Me, he will keep My words: and My Father will love him, and We will come unto him, and make Our abode with him" (John 14:23)**. To keep His Word is to believe in and follow Him in our testimony and life as He reveals Himself in Christ by His Word of truth. If we have truly been brought by the Holy Spirit to believe and love the Lord, we will also believe and love His Word. Whatever God's Word says of Him, His people who love Him will love that truth. Their love for God is not some obscure notion of God that is natural to the unregenerate mind. God's love for them and their love for God has been **"shed abroad in [their] hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto [them]" (Rom. 5:5)**. And the Spirit does this by applying the truth to their hearts. So, when the Spirit reveals from the Word how God is the God of sovereign, electing love and grace, as the God of sovereign mercy Who saves whom He wills to save, and the God of redemption Who sent His Son into the world to secure the salvation of all whom He chose and gave to His Son before the world began, His people who love Him also love these truths that glorify and honor Him. They will not compromise God's truth to please others.

—Pastor Bill Parker

The Sinners God Loves

Does the Bible make this statement, “God loves sinners”? What about, “God loves you”? I could not find them. What it does say is that God loved a people that He chose and gave to Christ in the covenant of grace before the foundation of the world. It does say that He “in love . . . predestinated them unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the good pleasure of His will.” It does say that He loved them and “sent His Son to be the propitiation for their sins.” It does say that the “love of God is in Christ Jesus.” In other words, God’s love is not spoken of toward any sinner who is not in the covenant. It is never spoken of to any sinner outside of Jesus Christ. God loves those sinners whom He chose in eternal election according to His own sovereign will and pleasure. God loves those sinners that Christ stands for as their Surety and Mediator. God loves those sinners whose sins Christ bore in His own body on the tree and fully satisfied the law’s demands. God loves those sinners to whom He imputes the righteousness of Christ. He loves those sinners to whom He gives faith, who by that faith do trust Christ as all their righteousness and standing before God. The truth is that God’s love toward these sinners is eternal, unchanging, and undeserved. His love to His people is always spoken of in the past tense – He “loved” us. He presently loves those sinners who are in Christ because He has always loved them in Christ. That is the only way a holy and just God could love a sinner! ***“But God commendeth His love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us” (Romans 5:8).*** These are the sinners God loves and this is how He has manifested His love to them particularly in sending His Son to die in their place and establish for them a perfect righteousness. You see, a blanket statement such as “God loves sinners” standing alone does not reveal the true love of God at all. God’s love is distinguished by what He does for those He loves through the life and death of Christ. Without the declaration of those things which God has done in Christ for those He loves, the love of God becomes nothing more than sentiment and emotion. Let all believers sing “Hail Sovereign Love” alone!

—Pastor Gary Shepard

Some may ask, “If people are spiritually dead by nature, then why preach to them?” The answer is that Christ sends the Holy Spirit to give spiritual life to dead sinners by means of the Word – ***“Of His own will begat He us with the word of truth ...” (James 1:18).***

—Copied

“The LORD is my strength and my shield; my heart trusted in Him, and I am helped: therefore my heart greatly rejoiceth; and with my song will I praise Him. The LORD is their strength, and He is the saving strength of His anointed.” (Psalm 28:7-8)

Prayer Requests

Patricia Pannell, Alex Wages, Audrey Asher, Kathy Robinson, Lori Ann Loosier, Leon Drake, Akemi Okada, Sue Parker, Melissa Riggins, Todd Wiley, Banks Margeson, the mission in Malawi, Africa.

Birthdays

Rosa Jones - Feb. 4th

Hymns

February 4th services

-The Church's One Foundation - 186

-O For a Thousand Tongues - 46

Call to Worship

(Tune – Leave It There – p. 353)

Lord, we gather round your throne,
Seeking grace in Christ alone;
And we trust Him for our soul's eternal care.

As we see our sinfulness,
And appeal for Him to bless;
At the throne of mercy, Christ pleads for us there.

(REFRAIN) Christ our Lord, Christ our Lord;
Christ our Lord has bought salvation full and free;
He for sins atonement made,
All the debt we owed He paid;
Christ our Lord has bought salvation full and free.

As we rest in Christ our King,
And His praises we do sing,
As we glory in His righteousness complete.
In our songs His glory raise;
Our great Savior we do praise,
And we worship Him as round His throne we meet.

(REPEAT REFRAIN)