

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 7, 2021

10 am: "Jacob Blessing Joseph's Sons" | Christ in the Old Testament | Lesson 18
Genesis 48:8-22
Bill Parker

11 am: "Our Confirmation in Christ - 1" | 1 Corinthians 1:4-9
Bill Parker

Live Stream

Every Sunday 10 & 11 a.m.
sermonaudio.com/reignofgrace
facebook.com/eageravechurch

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There are some who regard it a great mark of spirituality to be ever looking in at their own hearts and dwelling upon what they find there, even though that be the work of the Spirit. This is a great mistake. So far from it being a proof of spirituality, it is a proof of the very reverse; for it is expressly declared of the Holy Ghost that "***He shall not speak of Himself,***" but that, on the contrary, "***He shall take of Mine and show it to you.***" Therefore, whenever one is looking inward, and building on the evidences of the Spirit's work there, he may be assured he is not led by the Spirit of God in doing so. It is by holding up Christ that the Spirit draws souls to God.

—C. H. Mackintosh

Evidence and Assurance

It is common for us as true believers to want to see some evidences within ourselves of our salvation and the blessed and powerful work of the Holy Spirit within us. We want to see genuine faith in Christ, true repentance and godly sorrow over sin, love for Christ and our brethren. We want to see a sincere desire to follow Christ in the obedience of faith as motivated by love, grace, and gratitude. But, if we are honest, when we look within ourselves, we ask, “Why isn’t my faith stronger, my sorrow over sin deeper, my love for Christ and the brethren greater, and my desire to be obedient without any rival in my flesh?” The problem is not that God by the Holy Spirit imparts these graces as sinful or imperfect. But we are aware of the imperfections of all of these graces because of the remaining contamination of our flesh (*Gal. 5:17*). This is why we must all be very careful not to try to draw our assurance of salvation from what we find within ourselves, because no work of the Spirit within us can produce the righteousness we need by which God justifies us. Such righteousness can only be found in Christ and based upon the merits of His obedience unto death which HE alone accomplished for us on the cross. What we find, then, for our assurance is a blessed and powerful reality. The faith, repentance, godly sorrow, desire for obedience, and love for Christ and our brethren, all cause us to look outside ourselves and to HIM alone for all salvation, forgiveness, righteousness, and eternal life. We find our assurance in Him alone and what He has done and is doing for us by God’s grace. The main evidence of our salvation, then, is looking to and resting in Christ for all salvation and forsaking all else – ***“Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on Thee: because he trusteth in Thee” (Isa. 26:3).***

—Pastor Bill Parker

God’s Standard of Judgment

“For we dare not make ourselves of the number, or compare ourselves with some that commend themselves: but they measuring themselves by themselves, and comparing themselves among themselves, are not wise” (2 Corinthians 10:12).

In reference to false preachers and their followers who judged or measured themselves by themselves, the Apostle Paul declared that they ***“are not wise.”*** A more literal translation would be that they were “without understanding.” What understanding do they lack? Paul spelled this out for us in his letter to the Romans as he wrote concerning his fellow kinsmen saying, ***“For I bear them record that they have a zeal of God [they are religious], but not according to knowledge” (Rom 10:2).*** That is, they too were not wise. They were without understanding. What is the understanding or knowledge they lacked? ***“For they being ignorant of God’s righteousness, and going about to establish their own righteousness, have not submitted themselves unto the righteousness of God” (Rom 10:3).***

This, ***“the righteousness of God,”*** the justice-satisfying, perfect obedience unto death of the Lord Jesus Christ, is God’s standard of judgment as the Bible so plainly declares as we read, ***“Because He hath appointed a day, in the which He will judge the world in righteousness by that man whom He hath ordained;...”*** speaking of Christ, His righteousness (*Acts 17:31*).

Let us dare not approach the Judgment based upon some comparison of that which we have done (that others have not) so as to presume to be saved. Rather, adopt as your own the standard by which God shall judge. Have you submitted yourself unto the righteousness of God – His standard of judgment?

—Brother Randy Wages

To suppose that the Lord Jesus has only half saved men, and that there is needed some work or feeling on their own part to finish His work, is wicked. What is there of ours that could be added to His blood and righteousness? *"All our righteousness's are as filthy rags" (Isaiah 64:6)*. Can these be patched on to the costly fabric of His divine righteousness? Rags and fine white linen?! Our dross and His pure gold?! It is an insult to the Saviour to dream of such a thing. We have sinned enough, without adding this to all our other offences.

—Copied

Hymns for 2.7.21

Redeemed - 475

My Savior - 226

Birthdays

Neil Jackson - Feb. 12th

Please Note

February 7, 2021 we will have in person worship services. We have taken measures to allow for social distancing. As always, if you feel more comfortable staying home - tune in to our live-stream and 10 & 11 a.m. Sunday mornings.

Livestream links:

sermonaudio.com/reignofgrace

facebook.com/eagravechurch

Call to worship

(Tune – Majestic Sweetness Sits Enthroned – p. 52)

(Words by Pastor Gary Shepard)

**O God into whose presence now,
We come as sinners low,
And trace all blessings to your throne,
Received by us below. (R)**

**O precious Christ whose blood alone,
Did put away our sin,
Whose righteous death there in our place,
Did our redemption win. (R)**

**Stir now our hearts to praise your Name,
And glory to you give.
Be this our purpose and our goal,
In all the days you give. (R)**

**Then raise us up when death has come,
To live with you above;
And with the people of your choice,
There sing your matchless love. (R)**