

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, January 23, 2022

10 am: "God With Us"

Christ in the Old Testament

Lesson 63 | 1 Kings 8:1-11

Bill Parker

11 am: "We Are God's Building"

1 Corinthians 3:1-10

Bill Parker

Live Stream

Every Sunday 10 & 11 a.m.

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What Does Justification Mean?

What does justification mean? People do not talk about these things anymore. Religion has got to the place where the Bible is little more than a self-help book. I heard a preacher once say, "We don't talk about justification, or sanctification, or righteousness. These things upset people. We don't call people sinners because it upsets them. We talk about how they can better their lives and be better people." Listen. You can be as good as you want to be, and I hope you will, but as good as you can be is not good enough. You know how good you have to be to get to heaven? You have to be as good as God. If you are not, you cannot go. And the only way to be as good as God is to be in His Son, the Lord Jesus Christ, Who was made by God to be unto us wisdom, righteousness, sanctification and redemption.

— Pastor Tim James

The True Church of the Living God

“But if I tarry long, that thou mayest know how thou oughtest to behave thyself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth.” (1 Tim. 3:15)

The word **“church”** in the New Testament means “called out” and refers to sinners who have been effectually and invincibly called out of the unbelieving world of darkness and into the light of God’s Gospel truth in the Lord Jesus Christ. This calling is the work of God the Holy Spirit in the new birth under the preaching of the Gospel of Christ which is the Gospel of God’s free and sovereign grace wherein the righteousness of God is revealed *“from faith”* (knowledge of God in Christ revealed) *“to faith”* (knowledge of God in Christ received and believed) (*Rom. 1:16-17; cf. Col. 1:12-13*). The true *“church of the living God”* exists only where this truth is preached clearly, consistently, and without compromise. There are places in this world called “churches,” even “churches of Christ,” where *“another gospel, which is not another,”* meaning a false gospel of salvation conditioned on sinners (*Gal. 1:6-9*). These are Satan’s tares, and their god is an idol, a dead god. The living God saves sinners by His grace based on the blood of Christ alone. He is the righteous God Who justifies the ungodly based on the merits of Christ’s righteousness imputed and received by God-given faith. The true church of the living God is *“the pillar and ground of THE truth”* that glorifies God in the salvation sinners, not a false gospel that gives sinners room to glory and boast in their works and/or wills. The true church is the place where the living and true God has given spiritually dead sinners spiritual and eternal life by bringing them to Christ for all salvation and glory.

—Pastor Bill Parker

Evangelism

The Greek dictionary defines the word “evangelist” as “one who preaches the gospel.” Without the gospel that gives all the glory to God in salvation, one is not an evangelist, and it is not evangelism. It is the same as Pharisee evangelism, and Christ said of it, *“Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye compass sea and land to make one proselyte, and when he is made, ye make him twofold more the child of hell than yourselves” (Mat 23:15)*. To evangelize is to preach the gospel which is to “eulogize” or speak glad tidings, good news concerning God and His grace in Christ. Good news to sinners is that Christ has finished the work, brought in everlasting righteousness, carried out the Father’s purpose of grace, by Himself purged our sins, obtained eternal redemption for us, suffered the just for the unjust to bring us to God and freely justified us through His redemptive death. To evangelize is not to get decisions from men. It is not just to get them to “believe.” It is not to get them to reform. It is to declare to them the testimony of God in Christ! His sheep will hear His voice in this gospel and follow Christ! Paul’s instructions to Timothy and us are clear – *“Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine. 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. But watch thou in all things, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist (2 Tim. 4:2-5)*. Let our gospel be our boast and trust God to give the increase.

--Pastor Gary Shepard

Birthdays

TIM HALL - JAN. 26TH | JANET FLETCHER - JAN. 26TH

Hymns

January 23rd services

What a Wonderful Savior - 454 | My Savior - 226

Prayer Requests

Winston and Patricia Pannell, Alex Wages, Audrey Asher, Frank Dell, Cathy Robinson, Lori Ann Loosier, Leonard Qualls, and the Gospel mission in Malawi, Africa.

Lord's Supper

We will have the Lord's Supper next Sunday (Jan. 30th)

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)