

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, March 13, 2022

10 am: "Pleasing God In and By Christ"

Christ in the Old Testament
Lesson 70 | 1 Chron. 13:1-14
Bill Parker

11 am: "What is My Faith?"

Luke 7:50
Bill Parker

Live Stream

Every Sunday 10 & 11 a.m.

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“Now before the feast of the passover, when Jesus knew that His hour was come that He should depart out of this world unto the Father, having loved His own which were in the world, He loved them unto the end.” (John 13:1)

Sweet thought, my soul, for thee everlastingly to cherish; thy Jesus is the same, and His love the same, AMIDST ALL THY CHANGINGS: YET HE ABIDETH FAITHFUL. His love, AND NOT THY MERIT, was the first cause of thy salvation; and the same love, AND NOT THY UNDESERVINGS, is the final cause WHEREFORE THOU ART NOT LOST.

—Robert Hawker

Something to Think About

Many sincere, religious people imagine that God will save them on the basis of some response or decision they make to accept or follow Jesus, a response that those who perish fail to make. That thinking suggests that the saved sinner outperforms the lost sinner by doing that which the lost refuse to do, as if God grades on the curve so to speak. But as someone once said, “God grades on the cross, not the curve.” Do you know about the strict standard of the cross, the righteousness of God established there, by which God declares He will grade or judge us all? In *Acts 17:31*, God says, **“He hath appointed a day, in the which He will judge the world in righteousness by that man whom He hath ordained; whereof He hath given assurance unto all men, in that He hath raised Him from the dead.”** You see, Christ’s perfect Righteousness, the Righteousness that He alone established by His perfect obedience to God’s Holy Law and justice is God’s standard of judgement. The question is do you have this righteousness whereby every man will be judged. If you say you do, I ask, where did you get it? Was it by your works of law, by your law keeping, or do you have a righteousness that God has legally imputed, or charged to your account? All of these questions should be the concern of every man and woman, and they should not rest until they know for certain the answers.

—Elder Randy Wages

“Only the Humble May Apply”?

I heard this quote on the internet from a segment of a so-called “Christian” movie. A man speaking to some young people said the following – “The Lord Jesus is looking for followers who realize that they are sinners and need a savior. These are his terms, and I can’t change them. Only the humble may apply.” I realize that most people who call themselves “Christians” see nothing wrong with this statement. And I realize that many, if not most, would scorn and disparage me and others who would challenge such a statement and expose it as being wrong, even heretical. But the questions we should all ask are – Is this statement right according to what God’s Word, the Holy Scriptures, reveal? Is this a correct portrayal of the Gospel of God’s grace in Christ? The answer is an emphatic “NO!” Let me show you why.

The Lord Jesus is NOT “looking for followers who realize that they are sinners and need a savior.” The Lord Jesus came **“to seek and to save that which was lost” (Luke 19:10)**. God’s Word tells us that even though the majority of people will admit to some degree of sinfulness and imperfection, none of us by nature know the reality of our sin and depravity to the degree that God’s Word reveals (*Rom. 3:9-20*). No unregenerate sinner is humble before God. By nature, we as sinful, spiritually dead people are full of pride and self-righteousness. That is why **“the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him” (1 Cor. 2:14)**. That is why **“there is none that understandeth, there is none that seeketh after God. They are all gone out of the way, they are together become unprofitable; there is none that doeth good, no, not one” (Rom. 3:11-12)**. This is why we must be born again else we cannot see the reality of our sin and depravity. The fact that so many people believe that they have enough goodness within so that they can of their own “free-wills” choose Christ is the height of religious pride.

Christ did not come into the world seeking humble sinners. He came to die for His sheep and redeem them to insure their salvation. He is seeking His sheep to give them life and make them humble by the power of the Spirit in bringing them to see their sinfulness and their need of a righteousness that they cannot produce. He not only came to call sinners to repentance but also to give repentance to His people. By nature, we do not see our depravity until Christ humbles us by the power of the Spirit in the preaching of the Gospel. It is then that Christ brings us down in godly humility and brings us to beg for mercy and to submit to His way of salvation all of grace based on the righteousness of Christ alone.

—Pastor Bill Parker

Birthdays

LEON DRAKE - MAR 14TH

Hymns

March 13th services

My Faith Looks Up to Thee - 359

My faith Has Found a Resting Place - 228

Prayer Requests

Winston and Patricia Pannell, Alex Wages, Audrey Asher, Frank Dell, Cathy Robinson, Lori Ann Loosier, Leonard Qualls, Cassie Broxton, Nancy Byrd, James Mwali and the mission in Malawi, Africa.

Call to Worship

(Tune – This Is My Father’s World – p. 39)

(Words by Horatius Bonar, 1861)

**Not what my hands have done, can save my guilty soul;
Not what my toiling flesh has borne can make my spirit whole.
Not what I feel or do, can give me peace with God;
Not all my prayers and sighs and tears can bear the awful load.**

**Thy work alone, O Christ, can ease this weight of sin;
Thy blood alone, O Lamb of God, can give me peace within;
Thy love to me, O God, not mine, O Lord, to Thee,
Can rid me of this dark unrest and set my spirit free.**

**Thy grace alone O God, to me can pardon speak;
Thy pow’r alone O Son of God, can this sore bondage break.
No other work save Thine, no other blood will do;
No strength save that which is divine can bear me safely through.**

“For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast. For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.” (Ephesians 2:8-10)