

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 18, 2018

10 am: Who is Jesus Christ?
Romans Series | Lesson 2
Romans 1
Bill Parker

11 am: The Witness of God
1 John 5:6-13
Bill Parker

Wednesday Service

No Service on March 14, 2018
March 21, 2018 | 6:30 p.m.

Live Stream

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

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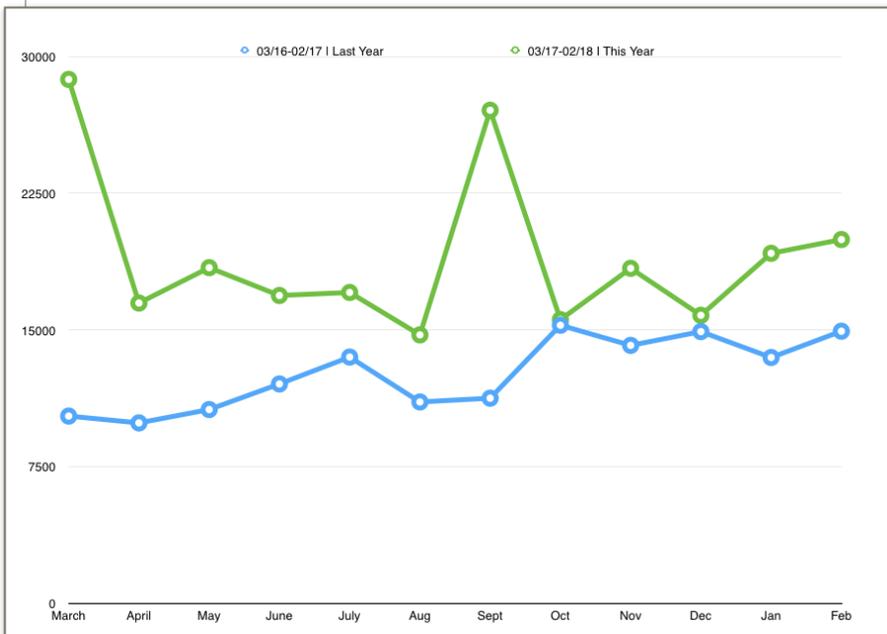
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Nothing Better Than Christ

If we could peer into heaven and see that great number of departed and glorified saints, I think we would see Abraham and his nephew Lot, Joshua and Rahab the harlot, Samuel and Samson, the penitent thief and the glorious Apostle Paul, ALL dressed in the very same raiment — that beautiful garment of salvation, the righteousness of the Lord Jesus Christ which was freely given them (*Isa. 61:10*). After all, nothing less will make a sinner acceptable in God's sight and qualified for heaven! What more is there? Can anything be added to the righteousness of Christ? Can anything make a sinner more approved of God? The Lord Jesus Christ is ALL the believer's justifying righteousness (*1 Cor. 1:30; 2 Cor. 5:21*).

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Why is God's Election of Grace Necessary?

Did God before the foundation of the world choose a people to save in and by the Lord Jesus Christ? The Bible says that He did (*Eph. 1:1-11*). Why is God's sovereign election of grace necessary for the salvation of sinners? Consider the following reasons:

(1) God's election of grace is necessary because God is holy and just, and He must punish all to whom sin is imputed. We are all sinners who deserve nothing from God but condemnation and death. The only way we can stand before God and not be charged with and condemned for our sins

is to be found in a God-appointed, able and willing substitute who can satisfy the demands of God's justice against us and work righteousness for us. The only God-appointed, able, and willing substitute is God's Son, the Lord Jesus Christ. God's election of grace is His wise and sovereign choice of sinners in Christ who became the surety of God's people before the foundation of the world (*Eph. 1:1-11; 2 Tim. 1:8-10; 1 Pet. 1:1-2*). It was upon the basis of the righteousness that Christ would come in time and accomplish in His obedience unto death as the Substitute of all the elect whom the Father had given to Christ. God imputed their sins to Christ, and He imputed Christ's righteousness to them. God is just to justify them (the ungodly) by His grace in Christ!

(2) The next reason that God's election of grace is necessary for the salvation of sinners is because the Bible teaches us that if God had not chosen us in Christ unto salvation before the foundation of the world, none of us would choose God and believe in the Lord Jesus Christ. If salvation (or any part of it) were conditioned on our choice of good over evil according to God's standard revealed in Christ, then we would always choose evil over good (*Psa. 14:1-2; Eccl. 7:20; Jer. 13:23; Rom. 3:10-12*). This includes man at his best and most religious. Christ said, "*No man can come to Me, except the Father which hath sent Me draw him: and I will raise him up at the last day*" (*John 6:44*). God's election of grace in Christ insures that He will draw His elect to Him through Christ by the invincible power of the Holy Spirit in the preaching of the Gospel (*John 6:37-40,45*). God does not force us against our wills. He makes us willing as He draws us with cords of love. He does this when He show us our sinfulness and the greatness and power of Christ to redeem us from our sins and produce righteousness for us. —Pastor Bill Parker

www.rofgrace.com

The graph above shows our website visits from last year (average 12,000 visitors a month shown in blue) compared to this year (average 18,000 visitors a month shown in green). We've seen a good bit of growth in the number of listeners we are reaching!

By Jim Byrd

Due to Adam's disobedience, I was legally considered and constituted by God to be a sinner. Due to Christ's obedience unto death, I was legally considered and constituted by God to be a saint. I was made unrighteous in the one and I was made righteous in the Other (*Romans 5:19*). I am a sinner due to the fall of Adam; I am a saint due to the sacrifice of the past Adam. —Pastor Jim Byrd

Hymns

March 18th services

I Love to Tell the Story - p. 431
My Faith Looks Up to Thee-p. 359

Call To Worship

(Tune – Rock of Ages – p. 126)

(Words written by Augustus Toplady , 1759)

**Surely Christ thy griefs hath borne,
Weeping soul, no longer mourn;
View Him bleeding on the tree,
Pouring out His life for thee;
There thy ev'ry sin He bore,
Weeping soul, lament no more.**

**Cast thy guilty soul on Him,
Find Him mighty to redeem;
At His feet thy burden lay,
Look thy doubts and cares away;
Now by faith the Son embrace,
Plead His promise, trust His grace.**

**Lord, Thy arm must be revealed,
Ere I can by faith be healed;
Since I scarce can look to Thee,
Cast a gracious eye on me;
At Thy feet myself I lay,
Shine, oh shine my fears away!**

The purpose and will of God is unchanging, the love of God everlasting, and the power of God unstoppable. Thus, He shall find and bring to Christ all His people. None can stop Him and nothing can hinder His carrying out of His purpose of grace which was given them in Christ before the world began. He will gather His Abrahams out of the idolatrous Urs of the Chaldees. He will gather His Pauls from the multitudes of the Pharisees. He will gather His fallen by the many Samaritan wells of this world and find them like Zaccheus in the trees of time. He will find them in the prisons like Onesimus, as the guards of the prisons like the Philippian jailor. As the great Shepherd He will seek and save all His lost ones. What a glorious thought, what a glorious God!

--Pastor Gary Shepard